

OCN 399: Introduction to GES Thesis/Project
Fall & Spring Terms

Instructor: Dr. Michael Cooney (956 7337; mcooney@hawaii.edu). Office hours @ POST 104B by appointment.

Course Description. This course will prepare students to propose, formulate, and execute thesis projects. Students will develop skills in reading, writing, and critical thinking through formulation of a research/project proposal that is submitted to internal or external funding programs. All students will be guided through the selection of a research/project mentor and the development, in collaboration with their selected mentor, of the required GES Thesis Memo (first) and a formal research/project proposal (second). It is expected that the course will greatly enhance their undergraduate research experience.

Structure: One (one-hour) class lecture/discussion per week.

Grading: Letter, based upon active participation and completion of diary log or research project memo.

Class	Topic
8/25	Guidelines and expectation for GES thesis/project
9/1	Approaching and selecting potential mentors
9/8	Reviewing and selecting research project
9/15	Defining project goals, specific tasks, intellectual merit and broader impacts
9/22	Preparing a literature review/introduction
9/29	Developing Hypothesis/driving question
10/6	Reference styling
10/13	Applying for external funding
10/20	Safety: certifications and conduct of research in labs
10/27	Lab notebooks and documenting research
11/3	Project Presentations
11/10	Veteran's day
11/17	Project Presentations
11/24	Thanksgiving
12/1	Wrap up