

Valdosta State University  
Department of Biology  
BIOL 7900, Section A: Graduate Seminar  
Course Syllabus, Fall 2023

---

**Instructor:** Dr. Erin Grabarczyk

**Office:** Bailey Science Center (BSC) 2216

**Office Phone:** 229.333.7380

**E-mail:** [egrabarczyk@valdosta.edu](mailto:egrabarczyk@valdosta.edu)

**In-person office hours:** Monday 9-10AM, Wednesday 3:30-4:30PM, or by appointment.

**Virtual office hours:** Thursday 9AM-12PM on TEAMS, or by appointment.

**Lecture:** Wednesday, 5-6:50PM in BSC 1202

**Course description:** This is a graduate seminar course meant to introduce students to the graduate program, provide tips and tools for success, as well as an introduction to R program software and R studio. Educational outcomes associated with this course include numbers 1 and 2 as specified by the VSU Biology Department for its Master's program, and general outcomes numbers 3, 4, 5, and 7 as specified by the University.

**Required book:** R for Data Science (2e) by Hadley Wickham, Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel, & Garrett Grolemund.

**AVAILABLE FOR FREE ONLINE:** <https://r4ds.hadley.nz/>

### Class Policies

**Classroom etiquette:** Please be on time. Please turn off your cell phone. Be respectful of yourself, your classmates, and your instructor. If you are disrupting the class, I will ask you to leave.

**Ask questions:** If you have any questions, please contact me at [egrabarczyk@valdosta.edu](mailto:egrabarczyk@valdosta.edu).

believe you are not responsible, you will have the opportunity for a hearing. You should consult with your instructor if you are uncertain about an issue of academic honesty prior to the submission of an assignment or test. All forms of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to collusion, fabrication, cheating and plagiarism are worthy of punishment according to the policy set forth by Valdosta State University. This includes doing your own work on lab assignments. While you are allowed to brainstorm with each other, it is expected that your answers are your own. **I will not tolerate any form of cheating.**

**Assignments:**

Participation (65 points)

Schedule (10 points)

Progress report (10 points)

CV (10 points)

Manuscript review (20 points)

Literature cited (20 points)

ggplots figure (10 points)

R package discussion (10 points)

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

Week	Date	Tentative topic(s)
------	------	--------------------