

Explora!

New Spring 2019 Course: Communicating Science **Sign Up for Nano-Science and Micro Systems course NSMS595 Section 009** **(Also offered as BME598-005 and CBE515-006)**

Work with Explora! to learn research-based communication strategies through a series of professional learning classes focused on building skills to effectively engage public audiences, non-scientists, and professional colleagues. Effective communication can be employed to write a compelling grant, deliver an engaging presentation, build lasting relationships, develop mentorship abilities, and many other skills



required of professional scientists. In this course, communication strategies will be focused on informal science education and how these skills translate to the academic world.

Activities and discussion will set the stage for understanding how people learn and the implications for setting up a successful learning experience. We will practice appropriate communication strategies, identify and develop core concepts to share with the public, and use physical materials to engage the learner by introducing phenomena in ways that are surprising or paradoxical. We will identify and practice successful facilitation strategies. Then

we'll move into understanding how to recognize elements of a program that are successful and objectively evaluate these elements. What does it look like to successfully lead an activity, program, or presentation?

The goals of this course will be:

- To understand the relationship between science communication and other academic and professional endeavors
- To become comfortable engaging with different audiences in a variety of settings
- To develop and practice public speaking skills
- To facilitate a table-top activity that effectively communicates your research/skills

Explora! staff will lead this course providing expertise, guidance, and support. Students will have the opportunity to engage with public audiences in Explora! programs including Science Fiesta, Meet a Scientist, Teen Science Café, Science on Tap, and others.