

Professional Skills for Careers in Biosciences (PSCB) Certificate Program Syllabus

Purpose:

The PSCB course is intended for graduate students and postdocs to broaden their experience in critical areas such as leadership, communication, budgeting, marketing, and more. We plan to cover a different topic over each of the 12 lunch workshops, concluding with a capstone project. Each session will meet from 12–1PM.

Course Completion Requirements:

Participants must attend 9 out of 12 sessions (75%) and the MANDATORY capstone event to obtain a certificate of completion. Makeup work can be done for one session at most. No homework will be required.

All classes will meet in person, room 612 on the concourse level of IGB.

2023-2024 Schedule:

Date	Session	Guest Speaker(s)	Location
Thursday, 9/14/23	Week 1: Career Panel	Career Panel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eva Fischer, <i>Assistant Professor (UIUC)</i> • Stephen Fleming, <i>Co-Founder/CEO (Traverse Science)</i> • Dawnne LePretre, <i>Director of Programs (C2ST)</i> • Jamie Scott, <i>Account Manager (ZEISS)</i> • Jinelle Sperry, <i>Wildlife Biologist (CERL)</i> 	IGB 612
Thursday, 9/28/23	Week 2: Writing a Compelling Resume and CV	<p style="text-align: center;">Mike Firmand <i>Associate Director for Career and Professional Development</i> UIUC Graduate College</p>	IGB 612
Thursday, 10/5/23	Week 3: Design Principles for Scientists	<p style="text-align: center;">Isaac Mitchell <i>Graphic Communications Designer</i> <i>Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology</i></p>	IGB 612
Thursday, 10/19/23	Week 4: Interviewing and Networking	<p style="text-align: center;">Patricia Simpson <i>Director, Academic Advising & Career Services</i> UIUC School of Chemical Sciences</p>	IGB 612
Thursday, 11/2/23	Week 5: Improving Data Visualization	<p style="text-align: center;">Danielle Ruffatto <i>Strategic Content Coordinator</i> <i>Prairie Research Institute</i></p>	IGB 612

Thursday, 11/16/23	Week 6: Mastering the Art of Negotiations	Heejin Kim <i>Teaching Assistant Professor</i> <i>Gies College of Business</i>	IGB 612
Thursday, 11/30/23	Week 7: Entrepreneurship	Gerald Wilson <i>President and CEO, Automatic Material, Inc.</i> <i>Clinical Assistant Professor</i> <i>UIUC Grainger College of Engineering</i>	IGB 612
Thursday, 1/25/24	Week 8: Government & Policy	Marissa Brewer <i>Director of Advocacy</i> <i>External Relations and Communications</i> <i>University of Illinois System</i>	IGB 612
Thursday, 2/8/24	Week 9: Invention Disclosures and Patenting	Hannah Darcy <i>Associate Technology Director</i> <i>UIUC Office of Technology Management</i>	IGB 612
Thursday, 2/22/24	Week 10: Funding in Bioscience	Jonathan Sweedler <i>James R. Eiszner Family Endowed Chair in Chemistry</i> <i>UIUC Department of Chemistry</i>	IGB 612
Thursday, 3/7/24	Week 11: Career Paths and Lifelong Learning	Lisan Smith <i>Teaching Assistant Professor</i> <i>Medical Education Facilitator</i> <i>UIUC Department of Biomedical and Translational Sciences</i>	IGB 612
Thursday, 3/21/24	Week 12: Information Resources and Career Highlights	Kelli Trei <i>Biosciences Librarian and Associate Professor</i> <i>University of Illinois Library</i>	IGB 612
Saturday, 4/6/24	Mandatory Capstone Event	Story Collider Workshop 9 AM – 4 PM	I-Hotel

For any questions, please email Dan Urban (djurban2@illinois.edu) or Sarah Choi (schoi44@illinois.edu).

*****Please note that the final Capstone training will take place from 9 AM to 4 PM on Saturday, 4/6/24.*****

About The Story Collider:

The Story Collider's mission is to reveal the vibrant role that science plays in all of our lives through the art of personal storytelling. They are dedicated to telling true, personal stories about science to empower scientists and nonscientists alike. They share these through live shows and podcasts to explore the human side of science and broaden the perspective and understanding of the research and researchers doing the work. We found Story Collider's mission aligned with our endeavors in connecting science and scientists with society, and their network and audience will boost our reach.

The Story Collider's weekly podcast, which started in October 2010, has generated over nine million downloads and has worked with various partners to produce one-off shows and podcasts. Past and current partnerships include public radio's Studio 360 with Kurt Andersen, St. Louis Public Radio, Springer Nature, Scientific American, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative's Rare as One Project, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Fermilab, and universities such as Yale, Cambridge, and many more.

We are excited to offer their training to you all as part of this course.