

# IS 451 Syllabus Fall 2019

Dr. Jennifer L. Ison

IS individual meetings in RWW 284:

IS group meeting in RWW 189: Fridays 2-3 pm

Research group check-in meetings:

Flight cage group check-in Fridays 1pm in RWW 276

Molecular group check-in Fridays 3pm in RWW 276

Welcome to Senior Independent Study! I am very excited to work with you this year. You are each well underway with an exciting research project. Time will pass quickly, and IS Monday will be here before you know it. The key to this year-long project is to make incremental progress every week. Therefore, we will be using the structure and schedule below as a framework to assist you with making that progress. We will meet individually and as a group throughout both semesters. Research is a collaborative process, and as a lab group, we are all working on similar questions. I encourage you to talk and share drafts with your fellow lab mates to get valuable feedback as you progress on your project.

Your IS is made up of three parts: 1) the process, 2) your final written IS, and 3) your oral exam. The process portion incorporates designing and executing your research AND the process of writing up your findings. We will use the structure below to help quantify 'the process' component of your IS project.

## Required text:

Heard, S.B. 2016. The Scientist's Guide to Writing, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition;

## Weekly goals and progress

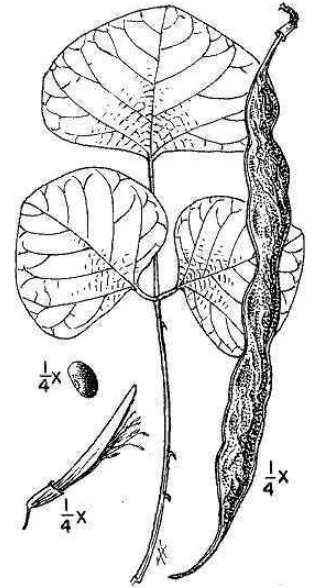
**Before** each weekly meeting, update the 'WeeklyProgressINT' file\* with the following information:

- 1) Draft a list of goals for the upcoming week.
- 2) Annotate the goals from the previous week. (Use the 'New Comment' tool in Word to do this.)
- 3) Write a brief self-reflection on the previous week (appropriately a paragraph). This reflection is open-ended, but I suggest discussing what you found to be the most challenging and how you overcame those challenges, what went well, and notes to yourself on what you would do differently in the upcoming weeks. You should also have notes on what you would like to discuss with me during our meeting.
- 4) Conclude by giving yourself a 'weekly progress score' (see below) for the current week.

**After** each weekly meeting, update the 'WeeklyProgressINT' file\* with the following information:

- 1) Update your upcoming week's goals based on our discussion.
- 2) Update your 'weekly progress score' based on our discussion.

**'Weekly progress score' is on a 0-3 point scale:** A '0' equates to no progress made during that week, while a '3' is excellent progress made during the week. Most weeks will likely be a '2.' If you are consistently getting 0's and 1's you are not on-track to complete your IS. We will discuss your 'weekly progress score' during our meeting.



## Written IS feedback and submissions

For each IS section, we will give you two rounds of interim feedback plus a final round of feedback on the complete IS. Due dates for the drafts are on the schedule below. Please turn in the drafts via your Dropbox folder\*.

### First drafts are scored on a 0-3 point scale:

A score of '3' means the submission was on time and complete; a '2' means the submission was a day late *or* not a full draft; a '1' means the submission was a day late *and* not a full draft; and a '0' means the submission was multiple days late and/or only a partial draft.

### Second or Third drafts are scored on a 0-6 point scale:

A score of '6' means the submission was on time, complete, and fully incorporated feedback from the first draft. A score of '0' means the draft was multiple days late, incomplete, and with no feedback incorporated from the first draft.

### Please name your drafts using the following method:

File names: 'section, draft number, \_ last name' (e.g. IntroductionDraft1\_Ison). Once I comment on your file, I'll add the extension '\_comments' (e.g. IntroductionDraft1\_Ison\_comments)

### General information on IS feedback:

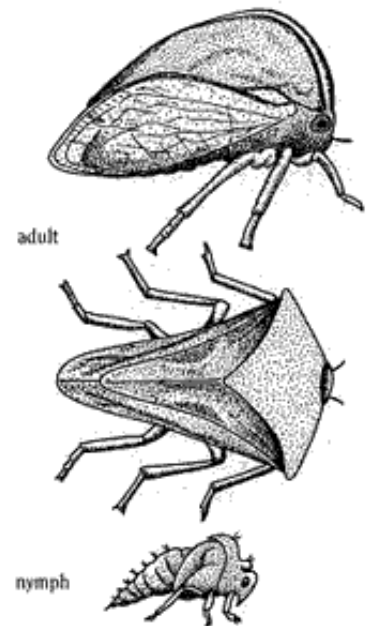
My goal is to provide you with feedback on your interpretation of the results, your biological argument as well as the concepts, flow, and structure of your IS. To this end, I typically provide either written comments or use the 'New Comment' tool in Word. For sentence structure and grammar, I encourage you to take your drafts to the Writing Center and may even require this as part of your revisions process.

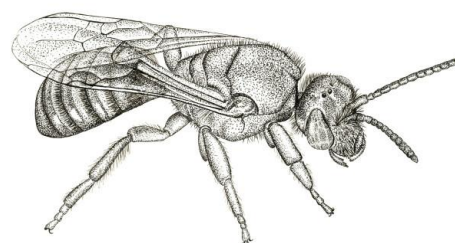
**Your weekly progress and draft scores will be used to quantify the 'Process' portion of your IS. Weekly progress and written drafts will each be approximately 50% of your IS Process grade. In addition, they will be used to determine if you are making 'satisfactory progress' at the end of 451.**

\*Each of you has a Dropbox folder shared with us and another folder shared with the whole lab group. In these folders, you will update your weekly progress file by 5 pm Thursday during the fall semester. Spring semester due date and time TBD. You will also use these folders to submit your IS drafts, research poster, and peer-reviews.

### **451 is evaluated as either 'SP' for satisfactory progress of 'NC' for no credit.**

To earn an 'SP', you should have approximately a 2 average for your weekly progress scores and should have turned in all assignments. The IS section drafts should be far enough along that you have a reasonable amount of work for 452 (at least a 3 or 4 on the second draft score).





**Academic integrity:** Strict adherence to the highest standards of academic integrity will be expected of you throughout your IS. Any violations of the Code of Academic Integrity, regardless of intent, will be reported to the college. If there are any questions about how the standards of academic integrity apply to your IS, please do not hesitate to speak with me for clarification. Uncertainty about the application of these principles will not excuse a violation. The general principle is that you should always submit work that is entirely your own. Here are some specific *examples* (not an exhaustive list!) of academic dishonesty:

- Copying another student's written work – either a current or past student.
- Collaborating with another student on an IS writing assignment to the extent where the words are no longer entirely your own.
- Paraphrasing/copying any text from any resource without providing a reference.
- Extensive paraphrasing/copying of text from any resource (even if you provide a reference).

### IS 451 Schedule

Dates	Assigned Heard reading (include a reflection of each week's reading in your self-reflection)	Assignments (Due by 5pm the day before your individual IS meeting. Please use your Dropbox folder)	Topic of individual IS meeting Mon. or Wed.	Topic of group IS meeting Fri.
Aug. 21-24			No individual meetings	451 structure and lab member introductions
Aug. 25-31	Chapters 1 & 2	Self-reflection & goals	Self-reflection on strengths and weaknesses.	-Setting yourself up for a successful IS -Science Cafe
Sept. 1-7	Chapters 7, 8, & 11	Self-reflection & goals	IS progress and methods section	<u>ABT mini presentations</u>
Sept. 8-14	Chapters 3 & 4	<b>Draft 1 of the methods due</b> Self-reflection & goals	IS progress and introduction section	Reflection on writing the methods section
Sept. 15-21	Chapters 5 & 6	Self-reflection & goals	Feedback on methods draft 1	<u>Mini individual updates</u>
Sept. 22-28	Chapters 9 & 10	Self-reflection & goals	IS progress and introduction section	-Peer-peer discussion of intro sections -Poster session information
Sept 29- Oct. 5		<b>Draft 1 of the introduction</b>	IS progress	No meeting
Oct. 6-12		FALL BREAK (no meetings)		

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Oct. 13-19	Chapters 17 & 18	<b>Draft poster due</b> Self-reflection & goals	Feedback on draft poster	<b>Revised poster due before group meeting</b> Peer review of posters
Oct. 20-26	Chapters 19 & 20	<b>Final poster to due (see departmental instructions)</b> Self-reflection & goals	Feedback on introduction draft 1	Department work-in-progress poster session, no meeting
Oct. 27- Nov. 2	Chapter 21 & 22	Self-reflection & goals	IS progress	<u>Mini individual updates</u>
Nov. 3-9	Chapters 12 & 13	<b>Potential Draft 1b of methods or intro</b> Self-reflection & goals	IS progress	Discussion of Heard Individual writing tips
Nov. 10-16	Chapters 14 & 15	<b>Draft 1 of results plan</b> Self-reflection & goals	Feedback on draft 1b (if needed)	
Nov. 17-23	Chapters 26 & 26	Self-reflection & goals	Feedback on results plan	<u>Mini individual updates</u>
Nov. 24-29	Chapters 27 & 28	Self-reflection & goals	Draft 2 discussion	Thanksgiving break, no meeting
Dec. 1-7		<b>Draft 2 of introduction, methods and results due (Please submit as one document.)</b> Self-reflection and goals		IS and winter break discussion
Dec. 8-14		EXAM DAYS (no meetings)		

