**Bio 572**  
**Plant Biology Journal Club**

**Class Details:**  
SP2011: Alternating Fridays from 9 – 11 AM  
Location TBD  
1 unit

**Coursemaster:** Liz Haswell  
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**Discussion Leaders:**  
Tuan-hua David Ho, Joe Jez, Ken Olsen, Oliver Yu, Ram Dixit, Bob Kranz and others.

**Course description:**  
A biweekly discussion of modern and classic research in plant biology, including topics in molecular genetics, development, biochemistry, physiology, population dynamics and plant-pathogen interactions. Credit will be contingent on regular attendance and active and informed participation in group discussions and in written format.

**Goals:**  
1. To develop students’ critical reading skills and prepare them for the peer review process.  
2. To provide an in depth discussion of both classic and important new papers in the area of plant biology.  
3. To give students experience in explaining scientific concepts in a casual atmosphere.

**Course Format:**  
Faculty advisors will select a recent or classic paper for discussion, and distribute questions meant to stimulate discussion in advance of class. Students will submit answers to the questions as well as comment on each other’s contributions before class. During class, students will take turns leading a discussion of each paper. Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss any aspect of the assigned readings. The focus will be both on big-picture themes as well as technical details of each of the figures in the research paper.

**Required Reading:**  
Papers for discussion and any relevant background material will be distributed well in advance of each class meeting.

**Academic Integrity:**  
Students are expected to abide by the Washington University Polices on Academic Integrity:  
Graduate Students: http://artsci.wustl.edu/GSAS/Policies/ACINTEG03.pdf

Please also observe standard classroom etiquette: turn off your cell phone, no email or texting during class, and listen to other students’ ideas with respect and without interruption.