

Genetics and Genomics Academy (GGA)

GGA 201 Biotechnology & Bioengineered Foods (1 credit hours)

Sustainable agriculture. Genetically modified organisms. Social justice. Organic food. Biotechnology. You've heard these buzzwords, but what do they mean? Does sustainable mean organic? What does biotechnology have to do with social justice? Should I eat GMOs? Should I avoid them? This course will explore how biotechnology can be used to engineer foods, and how food biotechnology can be used to work toward sustainability and social justice. We will have to not only learn some science but also grapple with the definitions of terms that are used to mean different things by different people. Together, we will practice dissecting scientific claims, discussing sometimes controversial topics, and thinking about how we approach wicked problems related to our foods.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer

GGA 202 Behind the Genes: Exploring Stories of Genetic Discoveries (1 credit hours)

From Mendel's peas to CRISPR, this course will explore tales of perseverance, ingenuity, and serendipity that have shaped our understanding of genetics. We will explore personal journeys of pioneering scientists, the ethical dilemmas inherent in genetic research, and the profound implications of genetic discoveries on society. Students will also explore the power of storytelling including the elements and tools that are used to create narratives. There will be opportunities to collaborate with the NC State University Libraries and the Digital Media Studio.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer

GGA 295 Special Topics in Genetics and Genomics (1-3 credit hours)

An introduction to topical problems in genetics and genomics. GGA 295 provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to work in a small group setting with a faculty member to explore a topic within the faculty member's area of expertise. These courses will provide students practice at active participation, communication, discussion, and critical thinking. Emphasis will be on fostering curiosity and understanding of contemporary issues in genetics and genomics, while illustrating the tangible influences on our daily lives. Specific topics and instructors will vary from section to section and from semester to semester.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer