SCIE 113: First-Year Seminar in Science

Will Welch

January 4, 2012

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SCI 113 Teaching Team for Section 203

- Instructor: Will Welch
- TA: Romy Friedman

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About Me

- B.Sc in Management Sciences, Loughborough University, England
- M.Sc, PhD in Statistics, Imperial College, University of London
- Prof at UBC (Commerce), University of Waterloo (Statistics), then UBC again (Statistics).
- Researcher in statistical methods for nearly 30 years (mainly design and analysis of experiments via computer models)
- I spend a lot of time writing (course materials, research papers, etc.)
- I spend a lot of time reviewing and editing other people's scientific writing (as supervisor of PhD students, Associate Editor of a statistical journal, etc.).
- Writing is hard!
- But not so hard if you think like a scientist first before writing.
- My hobbies include photography.

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Next Few Classes

- Today we will work on what we think science is.
- THURSDAY is the first guest lecture (Dr Jaymie Matthews, 12:30, ChemB250).
- You need to put some information on the Evidence Worksheet BEFORE the guest lecture.
- Your Evidence Worksheet sheet is handed in at the end.
- NO CLASS FRIDAY, Jan 6 (Friday classes are cancelled WHEN THERE IS A GUEST LECTURE.)
- Monday, Wednesday, Jan 9 / 11: Nature of Science (hand in paragraph at end of second class).

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Participation in SCIE 113

- 15% of the course grade
- Be here!
- On time!
- Prepared!
- Respectful discussion with your classmates.
- Please help me to remember your names (name tags, etc.).

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Today

- Goal: Writing practice
  - What do you think science means?
  - Write one page
  - Discuss with someone else. Agree? Different views?
  - Hand in your page (please name).
- Homework: Watch Why is Science Important
  `http://whyscience.co.uk/the-film` (this link is at the course VISTA page)

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