Project Proposal and Scientific Discourse in Biochemical Sciences									
Identification number		Workload	Credit points	Term of studying		Frequency of occurence		Duration	
MN-BC-PP		180 h	6 CP	1st to 4th term of studying		All year round		in sum 10 weeks	
1	Type of lessons			Contact times	Self-study times		Intended group size*		
	a) Interactive Tutorials*			approx. 30 h	approx. 125 h		max. 15		
	b) Seminar*			approx. 15 h					
	c) Project Proposal			approx. 10 h					

2 Aims of the module and acquired skills

Students who successfully completed this module ...

- have learned to search the literature, to identify papers with important impact in the field and to extract relevant information
- are able to examine the results and conclusions of a given research topic /scientific publications
- have learned to reflect the findings in a given scientific publication/presentation and communicate them to others
- are able to critically discuss a scientific publication/presentation on a professional level
- have learned to write small research proposals to get funding

3 Contents of the module

The module consists of two parts and may be supervised by any member of staff qualified under the University Regulation § 65 HG.

1) Project Proposal:

The scientific topic of the Project Proposal is developed with the supervising tutor of the future Master thesis in agreement with the student. It should cover the main parts of a research grant proposal for a fellowship which could be addressed to a funding agency.

Development of a research grant proposal based on a provided template. This template covers
the subjects project description, objectives, timed work program, data handling, and funding

The project proposal is considered as preparation for the Master Thesis and thus may deal with the same scientific subject. It does not involve practical work.

2) Scientific Discourse:

- Students will attend in total ten scientific presentations (over one to four terms) given by external scientists and discuss the presented results afterwards with the scientists.
- Prior to the seminar, students read scientific literature about the given topic and discuss the
 results, used methods, drawn conclusions and remaining open questions in an interactive tutorial.

4 Teaching/Learning methods

Interactive tutorials, guidance to scientific reading and scientific discourse; literature research. Training on preparation of research proposals to apply for funding.

Continued:

5	Dequirements for participation						
3	Requirements for participation						
	Enrollment in the Master's degree course "Biochemistry".						
	Part 1: Project Proposal - successful completion of four advanced modules and two specialization modules.						
	Part 2: Attendance of seminars - none						
6	Type of module examinations						
	The final examination consists of the project proposal report (based on the template), which has to be evaluated by the supervisor.						
7	Requisites for the allocation of credits						
	Regular and active participation.						
	Total module mark at least "sufficient" (see appendix of the examination regulations for details).						
8	Compatibility with other Curricula*						
	None						
9	Significance of the module mark for the overall grade						
	5 % of the overall grade (see also appendix of the examination regulations)						
10	Module coordinator						
	Prof. Dr. Jan Riemer, phone 7306; e-mail: jan.riemer@uni-koeln.de						
11	Additional information						
	Compulsory Specialization Module of the Master´s degree course "Biochemistry",						
	Note: The module does not contain hand-on laboratory work.						
	Information to the module: Detailed information and a guidance for students as well as templates and forms are provided on the website: http://www.bc.uni-koeln.de/16219.html						