New Class: ISG 5095 Special Topics Fall 2022

At Home, or Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing

Science or Science Fiction?
Safe or Scary?
What does “ELSI” have to say?
How does diversity play a pivotal role?

With an emphasis on self-directed inquiry and professional presentations, graduate students and health professionals will be guided through an examination of the history, future, science, science-fiction, applications, adverse circumstances, and the ethical, legal, and social implications of direct-to-consumer genetic testing.

At the conclusion of the class, students will be able to
1. Discuss historical context and hypothesize future applications of direct-to-consumer genetic tests from the viewpoints of varied stakeholders using supporting evidence from primary and professional literature
2. Track patterns of heritability for types of genetic variants detectable on direct-to-consumer testing platforms
3. Compare the methodology, reporting, clinical utility, and analytical validity for direct-to-consumer tests in comparison to clinically ordered genetic tests on platforms advertising genetic variation for health, entertainment, or ancestry applications.
4. Support ethical, legal, and social issue discussions about direct-to-consumer genetic testing companies/platforms from viewpoints of the consumer, company scientists, and health care professionals
5. Interpret peer-reviewed publications for discussion of research question, methodologies applied, and results attained
6. Provide examples of how direct-to-consumer genetic testing is influenced or impacted by the multiple facets of diversity

ISG 5095 - 001  Investigation of Special Topics: Consumer Genetics
University of Connecticut | Fall 2022 | Class #17869 | 3 credits
Dr. Judy Brown, CG, MB (ASCP), School of Nursing and Institute for Systems Genomics
Space limited! Email judy.brown@uconn.edu for a permission number today
Pre-requisite: basic principles of human genetics
Syllabus Link on Google Drive

Online asynchronous class with a
Virtual Discussion via Zoom on Tuesdays 6:00 -7:30 pm