

**A familiar(ity) problem:
Assessing the impact of prerequisites and content
familiarity on student learning**

Monday, October 10, 2016

Light refreshments will be served at 12:15 PM

12:30-1:30 PM

A roundtable discussion with Dr. Sato will take place at 1:30 PM

NSB 1205 (Auditorium)



Brian Sato, Ph.D.

Associate Teaching Professor, Molecular
Biology and Biochemistry
School of Biological Sciences
UC Irvine

Abstract: The use of empirical data in course and program evaluation is an important component in the drive to improve STEM education. We assessed the purported benefits of prerequisites using a novel familiarity scale, allowing us to examine the impact of these courses on a more fine-grained scale than is typically viewed. Additionally, we took a close look at assessments in order to determine the degree to which they are measuring understanding of course material. Both of these studies uncovered results that may conflict with our assumptions of these essential aspects of higher education.

Hosted by: Ella Tour (etour@ucsd.edu), 4-0913
For information about upcoming seminars, visit:

<http://biology.ucsd.edu/about/events/lecture-series/science-of-teaching>