

# BIO 431: TELOMERES AND TELOMERASE

## SPRING 2017

### *Does size matter?*

JANIS SHAMPAY

It has almost become cliché to say that telomeres must solve the end replication problem and distinguish normal chromosome ends from chromosome breaks. This statement is as true today as it was 30 years ago; however, the details and the subtleties of the questions have advanced considerably.

This course will use primary literature to explore contemporary questions regarding the structure, function, and metabolism of chromosome ends. In particular, we will investigate the evidence for the role of telomeres in cellular/organismal aging, critiqueing both the foundational papers in the telomere field as well as contemporary research directions.

Previous molecular or cellular coursework is required.

Evaluation will be based on participation, presentation(s), and a written paper.

When / Where: Mondays, 6:10-8 pm in B215

First meeting: Monday, Jan. 23, 2017