

**AMS280B-01: Seminars in Statistics for Oct-29th (Monday 4pm at BE 156)**

**Speaker:** Robert Weiss, Department of Biostatistics, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

**Title:** Meta-Analysis and Hierarchical Models in Prior Construction

**Abstract:** Meta-Analysis is among the simplest of hierarchical models. Among the uses for meta-analysis and meta-analytic ideas is in prior construction. Even when one is only analyzing a single data set, meta-analytic ideas can be used for prior construction. In a pharmaceutical example estimating the ratio of two probabilities, proper priors give better frequentist behavior than the frequentist analysis.