This quarter marks the launch of a new thematic seminar and forum in the area of Marine Microbial Biology designed for PhD and MS graduate students conducting research broadly in the area of marine microbiology. There will be one speaker and one moderator per week. The format of the seminar follows that of a standard research talk of approximately 45 minutes that describes some aspect of the thesis research. Rather than give a research talk, students may elect to give a more formal lecture or tutorial in a subject area of relevance to their research (e.g. technique or analysis method). Speakers should provide the moderator an abstract of approximately 200 words on or before the Friday prior to their talk and the moderator will distribute this to the students enrolled in the course. Speakers should provide the moderator with a CV and other relevant information needed for an effective introduction. Moderators will introduce the speaker and oversee a question and answer period immediately following the talk. Following the Q&A session, which includes faculty, post-docs, and others interested in the field, the students enrolled in the course will meet privately with the speaker for the remainder of the class period. The goal of this more informal session is for students to provide feedback to the speaker on the quality of the talk and to dive more deeply into topics that may not be familiar to all students. This seminar is designed to engage the marine microbiology community at SIO so come share your enthusiasm and hear the amazing science being conducted by your friends and colleagues!