

SCHEDULE FOR WEEKLY MEETINGS – Fall 2008
Friday 1:00 pm, room 163

- Aug. 29 **Literature Search: how to effectively search out pertinent articles, make interlibrary loan requests, etc.**

- Sept. 5 **Informal presentations: brief background, hypothesis underlying your research, experimental design.**
[by now, you should have some idea of how you will approach your research problem]

- Sept. 12 **Informal presentations: materials and methods.**
[for presentation: you should be able to explain your methods clearly enough that someone could then conduct your experiment(s) without further assistance]
Written assignment: point-form outline introduction
[for outline: write a point-form *framework* of your introduction, to develop flow of logic. Work from the general (i.e., general background) to the specific, finishing with the purpose underlying your research]

- Sept. 19 **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: point-form outline of materials and methods

- Sept. 26 **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: rough draft of introduction

- Oct. 3 **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: rough draft of materials and methods

- Oct. 10 **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: point-form outline of abstract

- Oct. 17 **NO MEETING - FALL BREAK**

- Oct. 24 **Informal Presentations: results to-date.**
 [this is the time to define what needs to be done to complete your research]
Written assignment: point-form outline of results

- Oct. 31 **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: rough draft of abstract, point-form outline of discussion

- Nov. 7 **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: rough draft of results

- Nov. 14 **Informal presentations: first draft of oral presentation**
 If there have been any delays in data gathering, then in this practice you can at least go over the introduction, materials and methods, predicted results, and discussion.
Written assignment: rough draft of discussion
 [NOTE for Junior Research: you are expected to continue regularly practising your talk prior to the final practice on Dec 5.]

- Nov. 21 **NO MEETING** [hand in written assignment before leaving campus]
Written assignment: first complete draft of research paper
 Several drafts of the research paper is *essential*: the majority of your mark depends on the written presentation, and you must expect to go through several revisions - I will carefully read over your drafts and offer constructive advice on how to improve your paper]

- Nov. 28 **NO MEETING - THANKSGIVING**
 [as a guideline, you should have finished gathering any data before Thanksgiving break in order to allow sufficient time to prepare your oral and written reports]

- Dec. 5 **Formal presentations: final practice of oral presentation**
Written assignment: intermediate draft of research paper
 [the deadline for this final practice is critical: being prepared will greatly reduce the stress of talking in front of an audience, as well as improving your mark]

- Dec. 8 **oral presentations to department** (Biol-40200 Honors Research only)

- Dec. 9-11 **oral presentations to department** (Biol-30200 Junior Research only)

- Dec. 12 **deadline for submitting final copy of research paper**

WARNING: There will be a full letter grade penalty for not practising your oral presentation in front of me at least a couple of days before the departmental presentation. Similarly, a full letter grade penalty for not giving me at least one draft for constructive comments at least 1 week prior to the final deadline for submission. I regret having to do this, some previous students have ignored deadlines regardless of warnings of grade reductions.