

**Course Syllabus: Fall 2004, B. Smith Lab
Research: 303-21000, 303-30200, 303-40000**

**SCHEDULE FOR WEEKLY MEETINGS
Friday 9:00 am, room 163**

- Sept. 3 - **Informal presentations: brief background, hypothesis underlying your research**
[in preparation, should look up and read research papers relevant to your research]
- Sept. 10 - **Informal presentations: experimental design.**
[by now, you should have some idea of how you will approach your research problem]
- Sept. 17 - **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. 24 - **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: point-form outline of materials and methods
- Oct 1 - **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: rough draft of introduction
- Oct. 8 - **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: rough draft of materials and methods
- Oct. 15 - **FALL BREAK - NO MEETING**
Written assignment: point-form outline of abstract
- Oct. 22 - **General discussion: 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. 29 - **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: rough draft of abstract
- Nov. 5 - **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: rough draft of results, point-form outline of discussion
- Nov. 12 - **General discussion: results to-date.**
Written assignment: rough draft of discussion
[as a guideline for Junior Research, you should have finished gathering any data by this date in order to allow sufficient time to prepare your oral and written reports; for others, you should be finished by Dec.3rd]

- Nov. 19 - **Informal presentations: first practice oral presentation of research** *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: first complete draft of research paper
[NOTE for Junior Research: you are expected to continue regularly practising your talk prior to the final practice on Dec. 3rd. 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. 26 - **THANKSGIVING - NO MEETING**
- Dec. 3 - **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. 7-9 - **oral presentations to department** (303-30200 Junior Research only)
- Dec 13 - **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.

Return to Bruce Smith's research requirements home page.

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Page maintained and updated by Nancy Pierce and Bruce Smith.

9/04