

Biology 371/372 – Readings in Biology – 1 credit

Course Requirements include:

Philosophy: to explore a specific topic in biology and delve into current research.

Contact hours: Each 1 credit course requires 14 direct contact hours and an additional 14 hours outside of class, thus you should commit about 28-30 hours of work to Bil371/372.

An analogy: You are a 3rd year medical student going on your first clinical rounds with the resident. He turns to you and says “This patient has Fanconi’s Anemia. What is that?” (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000334.htm>). You reply, “I don’t know.” He responds, “Well, tomorrow I want you to brief the entire 3rd year group on the etiology and prognosis of this disease in patients along with a treatment protocol.” So you spend the night in the library reading about Fanconi’s Anemia.

Strategy: Select a topic
- not too broad: “AIDS”
- not too narrow: “the cd6 amino sequence of the HIV viral protein”
Let Mallery know what your topic is before you begin reading.

Time frame: Spend ⅓ of the semester selecting a topic...
search your text book, the library journals, the Web
spend ⅓ of the semester reading about the topic
1 review article-text chapter & 3 peer-reviewed journal article
spend ⅓ of the semester drafting a written report
Mallery will review your draft, if you would like.

Paper Requirements:

1. You must submit a written report about your reading experience.
2. Should be in personal journal format, i.e., your own words. No need for an abstract, materials and methods, etc..., but you should be able to pick up your report 5 years from today and bring yourself back up to speed on what Fanconi’s Anemia was today.
3. Report should be about 5 to 7 pages long (4,000 words if you want Writing Credit), with a bibliography.
4. Final version report is due on the last day of Final Exams.