# BI530 Presentation Details

You are required to make a 20 minute in-class presentation (using a computer presentation format, eg. Powerpoint) on a topic from the list below. You may choose something not on this list, but please clear it with me first. Please let me know your top 3 choices by Friday January 18th. Choose a partner who is also presenting—you will get feedback from each other prior to your class presentation as part of the assignment (see below).

## General guidelines:
Choose 2 or 3 research papers (should be research and not review) from the current literature that use techniques described below. Please confirm the papers you plan to present with me.

In your presentation you should provide a background for the problems addressed by the papers (usually found in the introduction to the paper, or in references cited by the paper), and a background for the technique(s) of interest. You should then be able to explain key experiments in the paper and what the results mean.

## There are three components to the grading:
(15%) An abstract/outline due <u>one week</u> before your presentation
(20%) Your partner's comments due 2 days before your presentation
(65%) The presentation, which will be graded as follows:

**A)** Background information and significance of topic (15%)
Be sure to tell us about the biology. What is the technique and why is it useful for the problem being investigated, what big picture does it fit into? This should be covered both in the introduction and in the conclusions

**B)** Explanations of data/figures (20%)
Essentially, what is "new" in the paper you chose? Try not to get too bogged down in the details of the technique if they are not necessary to the big picture. Be able to explain the most important parts of the technique (in terms your parents could understand).

**C)** Overall organization and coherence of presentation (15%)
Your presentation should have a beginning (background and significance), a middle (this should be the bulk of what you talk about, and should include a restatement of the main points you covered, what new information the technique gives, and also, very importantly, what information it does not give.

**D)** Appearance of presentation--slide set up, figures (10%)
Avoid too much text, it is difficult to read a wordy slide and listen at the same time.

**E)** Timing (5%)
You should practice your talk at least twice to make sure that your timing is within the limit (20 min.). A couple of practice talks will also GREATLY improve your presentation, since you will be able to identify and work on problems before class. Practice will also help increase your confidence.

Possible topics—make sure papers on the topic you choose have been published recently, ie. within the last few of years:

DNA sequencing—whole genomes
Genomics—monitoring whole genomes
Modifying the genetic code
Animal cloning
Human Stem Cells and Cloning
Bioinformatics
Transgenics: plants
Transgenics: animals
DNA nanostructures and nanomachines
Molecular archaeology
Microbial metabolic engineering
Gene therapy
RNA interference in medicine/biotechnology
Therapeutic drug design
Antimicrobial (antibiotic) design and engineering
Gene or genome shuffling (combinatorial PCR)
proteomics (eg. maps of protein/protein interactions)

You may also choose topics not on this list, but please check with me first.

# Assessment of presentation dry run
### Please share assessment/comments with presenter

Name of presenter:_____

Name of reviewer: _____

Date of review:       _____

The presentation is:
____Ready to go
____Almost finished
____Still needs some work
____Basically in outline form
____Nonexistent

The length of the presentation was (or is likely to be):
____Too long
____Just right (~15 –20 minutes, or approximately 10-15 slides)
____Too short

I had:
____No trouble following the subject matter
____Major problems understanding most of the presentation
____Some difficulty with a few of the concepts/figures/slides (listed below)


General comments, questions, words of encouragement for the presenter




Please give the completed form to Justin Courcelle (432 SB2), or leave in it in his mailbox in the Bio office. Thanks!