

Requirements for Lab Write-ups

Advanced Biology

The purpose of keeping a lab notebook is to keep a record of the activities that are done in lab in case you need to reproduce it later or work with the data again in the future.

Basics

- Make a table of contents in the beginning of the Notebook. Add to it as you go. Make links to the title (use Heading 1) and the conclusion (use Heading 2) of each lab.
- Number pages
- Date things. Mark dates like this YYYY/MM/DD (e.g., 2011/12/25)

Experiment Write-up

Title

Objective: Why you are doing the activity.

Background information: What you already know about the subject. Quick research about what is already known in the literature. Cite source.

Procedure: Specific enough that someone can reproduce it. Equipment used. Can use picture or drawings to help describe set up.

Data: include title, table with labeled columns and units of measurement

Calculations: includes a section with graphs that are properly labeled

Conclusion:

1. What the lab was about- a purpose statement
2. What can be concluded from your results
3. Description of how the results do/do not support the scientific theory behind the activity and purpose of the lab
4. Your results
5. Sources of error and how that may have affected the results

The Procedure needs to be completed for each lab prior to beginning the lab.

This Conclusion will be graded separately for each lab.

The whole notebook will be graded each semester.

Conclusion:

Section	High Level	Lower
What the lab was about- a purpose statement	Includes explanation of the science that was suppose to be learned	
What can be concluded from your results		
Description of how the results do/do not support the scientific theory behind the activity and purpose of the lab		
Your results	Includes data graph.	
Sources of error and now that may have affected the results	Explains how results would have changed if error was accounted for.	

Conclusion:

Section	High Level	Lower
What the lab was about- a purpose statement	Includes explanation of the science that was suppose to be learned	
What can be concluded from your results		
Description of how the results do/do not support the scientific theory behind the activity and purpose of the lab		
Your results	Includes data graph.	
Sources of error and now that may have affected the results	Explains how results would have changed if error was accounted for.	

Conclusion:

Section	High Level	Lower
What the lab was about- a purpose statement	Includes explanation of the science that was suppose to be learned	
What can be concluded from your results		
Description of how the results do/do not support the scientific theory behind the activity and purpose of the lab		
Your results	Includes data graph.	
Sources of error and now that may have affected the results	Explains how results would have changed if error was accounted for.	