

Bi1x Spring 2010

16S Portfolio

Over the past weeks, little by little, we have been working on the big project of the course: collecting 16S sequences of the bacteria in the pond to answer an important question: who is in the pond?

The goal of your portfolio is to construct a narrative that captures the logic, the methods and the results of the work we have done this term and how this has gotten us these sequences. We want you to cover the entire 16S project in the portfolio, step by step, with pictures and summaries of your methods, and have you make a clear description what you have done in this course. This includes, but is not limited to, the collection of your samples, processing, PCR, purifications, gel electrophoresis, TOPO transformation, growth, sequencing and analysis. If you find yourself mixed up by the different things we did in class, try first reviewing your lab notebook, which should have dates and more information on what you did. Additionally, copies of the protocols handed out in class are available on the website.

Concretely, we are expecting you to turn in a written portfolio of 8-10 pages in length that uses your results from the term to capture the logic and methods we have used. This means that you need to use your microscopy images, graphs, pictures, etc... as tools to build up your overall story. You will be graded on the quality of your narrative and the evidence you use to illustrate it. This report should include an introduction and conclusion, as well as the final sequence analysis report from the final week of class. All figures need detailed captions and you will likely need sections and subsections as well as text that provides a guide to the reader of the overall flow of the project.

Good luck!