

# 7.18 Day 6 Agenda

- Project outline
- Journal club
- Student presentations

# 7.18 Project Outline

- Introductory paragraph: an abstract of your project
  - Context and justification
  - Hypothesis or overall goal
- Outline
  - Main headings (at least 3): Subgoals of your project, e.g. identification/analysis of a gene, establishment of an essay
  - Subheadings: Experiments performed to accomplish goals

# An example

The bacteriophage Mu is unique among transposons because it performs not one but two types of transposition reactions during its life cycle. Nonreplicative transposition allows the initial insertion of the mu genome into the host chromosome; replicative transposition enables Mu to make many copies of itself during lytic growth. While the mechanism of replicative transposition has been well characterized for phage Mu, comparatively little is known about the molecular events of nonreplicative transposition. The following approaches will be used to understand how Mu transposes nonreplicatively at the time of infection:

A. Isolation and characterization of the DNA intermediates during infection.

B. Establishment of an in vitro assay for nonreplicative transposition.

C. Determination of the role of MuN in transposition

# Journal Club

10 minute presentation on the article:

- brief introduction to the topic
- statement of the goal of the authors, and method(s) they use
- analysis and critique of the key figures in the paper, e.g. not all the figures
- conclusion and future directions of the work
- questions to lead 30 minute discussion on paper

# Article critique

One-page critique (~500 words) for EACH paper:

- A brief summary of the field when the experiments were conducted.
- One or two sentences describing the major findings of the paper
- Assessment of whether the experimental methods used were appropriate.
- Assessment of whether the data presented support the conclusions drawn.
- Proposal of experiments for improving the study and/or for further studies.