In addition to presenting research in publications, scientists often present their work in seminars, panel discussions, and at poster sessions. In these settings, scientists are required to orally present their studies and address questions about their work. To help build these skills, you will write a research term paper on a topic in modern Biochemistry and you will present your findings orally to the class in a short scientific presentation.

On Thursday, October 4th, we will go to the library as a class and you will learn about the various search possibilities to find reference articles in scientific journals. You are to select a topic for your paper and presentation based on the information available in these on-line search indexes.

The topic that you choose should be one in which you have found a minimum of two reference articles in primary reference sources as discussed in the library session. This topic should address either a current area of research in Biochemistry as it relates to drug development or should discuss the biomedical causes of a specific disease or disorder. Some examples of possible topics include:

1. The Biochemical Mechanism of Tay-Sachs Disease
2. Using RNA Nanotechnology to Treat Cancers and Viral Infections
3. Scientists Create Potent Molecules Aimed at Treating Muscular Dystrophy
4. New Enzyme to Fight Alzheimer’s Disease Identified

The topic should be discussed with (and approved by) your professor prior to beginning any work. Your topic is to be chosen and approved no later than October 22nd.

After selecting your topic, you will return to the primary research literature and learn more about the topic. During the lab session on Thursday, December 6th, you will orally present your topic during a 15 minute talk. This Mini-symposium provides an opportunity for you to dig deeper into a topic of your choice and also allows for the rest of the class to learn about a variety of topics.

Please note that you are required to use primary reference articles from peer-reviewed scientific journals as your sources of information. This means that you will NOT be able to “google” as “research”.

The research paper is due at the time of your oral presentations, Thursday, December 6th.
ACS (American Chemical Society) Style Guide

How to Format In-Text Citations

At the end of the cited information:
Fluoridated water as well as various fluoride products such as toothpaste provide fluoride ions necessary for remineralization (Rakita, 2004).

Within the cited information:
Rakita states that fluoridated water as well as various fluoride products such as toothpaste provide fluoride ions necessary for remineralization (2004).

Note: for two authors use "and": Rakita and Smith. For more than two authors use "et al.": Rakita et al.

How to Format Reference Lists

Books

Single author

Edited Book

Book in Series

Article from a reference book

Articles

Article in a scientific journal

Article in a popular/non-scientific magazine

Article from an online journal

Web/Online

Note: Different web browsers break the text in different places of a URL. The URL should begin on the same line as the rest of the citation information, with a break inserted after a slash, if needed.

Web page

Article from an online journal

Article from full text database

Article published online in advance