Bio 1B Research Skills Assignment: Overview

This assignment will guide you through the process of finding, evaluating and citing different types of information sources on a given research topic. Using these essential research skills, you will then create an annotated bibliography. These skills will also be useful in finding resources in any future research at Berkeley and beyond.

The assignment is an online training module through edX Edge, and has two parts:

1. **Tutorials:**
   Presented as 3-5 minute videos and as web pages (you can view either or both), the tutorials will show you how to:
   - develop search terms from a topic
   - search for scientific journal articles in a database (BIOSIS Previews)
   - access the full text of articles online using UC-eLinks
   - identify primary research articles and literature reviews
   - cite articles in a scientific citation style (BioScience)
   - locate books using the Library’s “Start Your Search”
   - evaluate information resources

2. **Graded questions:**
   Each question relates to information in the tutorials and in the assignment itself.

**How will I get the Research Skills assignment?** A link to the Research Skills assignment will be sent to your bCourses Inbox and a librarian will visit your lab section to review the assignment with the class.

**What is the annotated bibliography component?** An annotated bibliography is a list of citations to resources. Each citation is followed by a brief summary that describes and evaluates the content of the resource. Information about the annotated bibliography will be posted on bCourses and discussed in lab. It’s a good idea to start working on the Research Skills assignment - so you can track down your annotation resources - before trying to create your bibliography.

**When is it due?** Both the Research Skills and the annotated bibliography assignments are due by the start of your lab section the week of September 16-19. Please contact your lab instructor with any questions about the due date.

**Where should I go for help?** If you have questions you will be able to get support via:

- links in the assignment
- in-person help in the library:
  - reference hours (extended around the time the assignment is due)
  - a drop-in session in the Library Training Room
- e-mailing a librarian.

More information about these help options will be given during the librarian visit to your lab section.