

7.342 How to Build an Animal: Cell Fate and Identity in Development and Disease Week One

Introductions

-Write on the notecards your name, email address, course, year, previous relevant biology classes, whether you've had experience with primary literature, and any extracurricular activities, hobbies, or interests.

Course Expectations

-The primary objective of this course is to learn how to read, analyze, and discuss primary scientific literature.

-Attendance and participation in each week's discussion is mandatory.

-There will be two assigned papers to read for each week's class.

-Each week, you should come to class having read both papers and be prepared to discuss and critique each paper. This could entail articulating the paper's main question(s) and hypothesis, presenting figures from the paper, and/or commenting on whether the paper's data sufficiently supports its claims.

- In addition to the mandatory weekly reading, there will be one written assignment due Week 8, and one final oral presentation during our last class meeting (Week 15).

- More details on these assignments are within the syllabus.

-This course is graded pass/fail. Attendance and participation, the written assignment, and the final presentation will all be components of your final grade.

Resources for Primary Research Articles

-PubMed

-Google Scholar

-Web of Science

-Assigned readings will be posted on the course website

MIT OpenCourseWare
<https://ocw.mit.edu>

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