

Name _____ Date _____

**Biology I Honors
Research Project: Choice #2
Modern Biological Concept**

Overall Directions

1. Choose a modern biological topic that has been discovered or revised within the last 50 years and is beyond the scope of the basic biology course. Research this topic.
2. Prepare a tri-fold display that presents what you learned.
3. This project will count for half of your semester exam grade
 - Required of honors biology students.
 - Optional for non-honors biology students.
4. This is an individual assignment.
5. Evidence of plagiarism (any copying of text longer than a short phrase or copying short phrases without quotations) will result in a score of zero and possibly additional disciplinary action.

Specifics

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Historical Information (2-4 paragraphs)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Who made the discovery○ When was the discovery made○ Where was the discovery made○ Why was it discovered (what circumstances contributed to its discovery)<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific Description (2-4 paragraphs)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Detailed description of the scientific idea, theory, or concept.○ Explanation of how it relates to basic biology content from this class.○ In-depth explanation for why it is important (how it impacted society or other scientific fields).<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Style<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Paragraph form○ Complete sentences○ No grammatical or spelling errors<input type="checkbox"/> Visuals<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Picture of historical people or places that contributed to the discovery○ Pictures, graphics, or illustrations of what your concept means.○ Only relevant images (no distracting or random images). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Format<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Title and your name○ All writing is typed:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Arial or Times-New Roman Font▪ Main text font 24-36▪ Header text font 36-48○ Organized, with clear headers○ Attractive and neat:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Edges are straight, level, and clean (not jagged or crooked)▪ Tape or glue is used cleanly▪ Elements are arranged evenly (no huge areas of blank space)<input type="checkbox"/> Citations<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Published by a trustworthy organization<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Domain names such as .gov or .edu <u>or</u>▪ Well-known/respected/unbiased .com or .org website○ At least 2 sources of information○ Reported using MLA or APA format (not just copying a website url) |
|---|---|

This project is due
Tuesday, January 22-23, 2018

See reverse side for rubric and scoring guide.



Rubric

	0	2	4	6	8
Historical Information (20%)	None	1/4 pieces of info (see above) or major errors; narrative of discovery is lacking in interest	2/4 pieces of info (see above) or minor errors; narrative of discovery is lacking in interest	3/4 pieces of info (see above) and no errors; tells the story of the discovery in an interesting way	4/4 pieces of info (see above) and no errors; tells the story of the discovery in an interesting way
Reason for Fame (20%)	None	1/3 pieces of info included (see above) some significant errors or missing many details	2/3 pieces of info included (see above) some moderate errors or missing significant detail	3/3 pieces of info included (see above); some minor errors or missing some detail	3/3 pieces of info included (see above), no errors, and sufficient description and explanation
Writing Style (20%)	None	Writing is not in paragraph form or in complete sentences	Paragraph form and complete sentences, but major mechanical errors	Paragraph form and complete sentences, but minor mechanical errors	3/3 elements listed (see above)
Visuals (10%)	None	1/3 elements listed (see above), 1 image	1/3 elements listed (see above), 2 images	2/3 elements listed (see above), 3 images	3/3 elements listed (see above), at least 4 images
Format (20%)	Cannot be displayed due to poor quality	1/3 elements listed (see above), poster is not attractive and looks poorly done	1/3 elements listed (see above), poster quality is lacking in several areas but is not embarrassing	2/3 elements listed (see above), display is well done with a few unattractive details	3/3 elements listed (see above), display appears professionally done with care
Citations (10%)	No citations	1 citation, not credible <u>or</u> not MLA/APA	1 credible citation, reported in MLA or APA format	2 sources, but only 1 is credible <u>or</u> not MLA/APA	2 credible sources, reported in MLA or APA format

Scoring

- Biographical Information _____ /8 x 20 = _____
 - Reason for Fame _____ /8 x 20 = _____
 - Writing Style _____ /8 x 20 = _____
 - Visuals _____ /8 x 10 = _____
 - Format _____ /8 x 20 = _____
 - Citations _____ /8 x 10 = _____
- Total _____

*Explanation of Impact on Grade and Honors Requirement

- The “honors” designation in a high school course entitles the student to a 1.0 GPA addition because the designation implies an increased level of rigor. Therefore, it is appropriate to ask honors students to complete additional assignments or perform at higher standards beyond the baseline requirements of the general biology course.
- By making this assignment worth half of the semester exam grade, it essentially accounts for 5% of the final grade in the course. Honors students will have an extra assignment for their final exam grade that will be weighted in the same way, so the combined honors assignments account for 10% of their grade. If honors students do not complete the honors assignments, their final exam grade will drop by 10%, essentially dropping their final grade by 1 letter, and thus negate the 1.0 GPA addition.
- If any honors student does not wish to complete these extra requirements, he/she may settle for a lower final grade, or have the counselor remove his/her honors designation for the course.
- Any “non-honors” student has the option of completing this project. This will reduce the weight of their semester exam on their overall grade from 10% to 5%.