

Microbiology Research Paper Rubric

Student Name:

Class: MIBO

Term:

Mentor Name:

Date:

MAJOR ELEMENTS					
Category	Meets or exceeds standard 1.6-2.0 points	Nearly meets standard 1.2-1.5 points	Below standard 0.8-1.1 points	Well below standard 0-0.7 points	Score
Introduction	Engaging, states main topic clearly, summarizes relevant existing knowledge, previews current studies	States main topic, summarizes most existing knowledge, and previews current studies	States main topic but does not adequately summarize existing knowledge / preview current studies	Main topic not clear; poorly summarizes existing knowledge or previews current studies	
Experimental Methods	All steps clearly described in full detail to enable replication easily	All steps described in some detail	Some steps lack significant detail or are omitted	All steps lack sufficient detail and many steps omitted	
Results / Figures and Tables	All data clearly described; figures / tables clearly organized with complete legends	Most data clearly described; figures / tables largely well organized, clear, and complete	Most data poorly presented; figures / tables poorly organized and incomplete	Little evidence of data or observations; figures and tables absent or useless	
Discussion	Engaging and addresses the interpretations and problems uncovered from the results; places results in context of existing literature and considers possible future work	Adequately addresses interpretation of results and their context relative to existing literature; limited consideration of future work	Poorly addresses the interpretation of results, their context relative to existing scientific literature, and / or possible future work	Incomplete and/or unfocused discussion	
MINOR ELEMENTS					
Category	Meets or exceeds standard 0.5 points	Nearly meets standard 0.4 points	Below standard 0.3 points	Well below standard 0-0.2 points	Score
Title Page	Includes all elements with no errors	Lacks one element	Lacks some elements	Lacks most elements	
Abstract	Clearly and concisely states paper's purpose	States the paper's purpose	Poorly states the paper's purpose	Incomplete and unfocused	
Mechanics	No errors in punctuation, spelling, or grammar	Almost no errors in punctuation, spelling, or grammar	Many errors in punctuation, spelling, and grammar	Numerous and distracting errors in punctuation, spelling, and grammar	
References	References are complete and include at least 10 relevant sources (journal articles, reviews, and books, but excluding internet sites) covering Introduction, Methods, and Discussion, (journals available on-line are not considered internet sites)	References are complete, largely relevant, and appropriate	References are mostly complete but some may be only marginally relevant or appropriate	References are incomplete and many are only marginally relevant or appropriate	

TOTAL SCORE