

I. Basic Information

- A. Your name

II. Progress on Topic

- A. What research *area* have you decided on?
If you haven't decided, then what candidates have you considered?
- B. What research *questions* have you considered?
(A question is distinguished from an area in that it can be addressed directly by an experiment or tight family of experiments)
How are they related to *molecular biology*, i.e. an exploration of how something works at the molecular level?
- C. What *articles* have you found that are useful in your search for a research question?
(Provide specific references and links if possible)
Have you looked at advice on [How To Find Research Articles](#)?

III. Progress on Finding a Mentor

- A. Has a member of the VCU research community agreed to mentor you for the purposes of guiding you through a research proposal?
1. If so, who? Why her/him?
 2. If not, then who have you considered?
Why her/him/them?
Have you looked at advice on [How To Find a Mentor](#)?
- B. What contacts have you made with your mentor or prospective mentor?
1. If you have sent out an e-mail proposing the mentorship, please paste in the text, if you didn't already copy me on it.
 2. If you have not yet sent out such an e-mail, then provide the text of an e-mail that you're working on.
If there are holes in your message that you need to fill, indicate them with brackets, e.g. "[Got to find an article on mandibular pariphrasis]"
Have you looked at advice on [How To Contact a Prospective Mentor](#)?
- C. What responses have you gotten? (Paste in the text of a pertinent e-mail, if I wasn't already copied on it)

IV. Path towards success (if you haven't yet lined up a mentor)

- A. What do you believe you need to do to come up with a research question and mentor in a timely fashion? Why not do it?
- B. What can Elaina, Gus, and I do to facilitate your journey?

V. Any other comments, questions, suggestions, or concerns?