Thought piece

For the second lecture period each week, we will discuss the current literature of host associated microbiomes. You will be asked to read assigned journal articles from the primary literature. You will also have a written assignment on the article(s) due before the discussion. These readings will provide examples of concepts/patterns we cover in lecture and demonstrate how microbiome research is practiced.

Goal: This thought piece will serve three purposes: 1) encourage careful reading of the literature; 2) allow the students to pose questions to the discussion facilitator; and 3) apply ideas from the core papers to other areas of research.

Assignment

You will be required to generate a “thought piece”, consisting of:

1. A brief summary of the assigned paper(s).
2. Two to three questions that the discussion facilitator might consider addressing when guiding discussion.
3. Two ideas of how future studies described in core papers could branch into other dimensions of microbiome research (ecology, evolution, genetics, microbiology, immunology, behavior, etc.).

Your thought piece should be shared on the course Blackboard website with the instructor and the discussion facilitator. Although the thought piece should be carefully written, it is sufficient to send this assignment as text; please do not attach as a separate file (e.g., Word document).

Due dates:

5 PM on the Wednesday before discussion

Science Outreach assignment

There is a need to communicate beyond the ivory towers of our institutions. It is a worthy go

Microbiome research project overview

Across many labs in this course, you will be collecting microbiome data from yourself and your classmates. These lab modules provide a hands on introduction to the methods in common use for data collection and analysis of host-associated microbiomes. To finish the class, we'll host a mini-symposium, the Microbiome Under the Midnight Sun (MUMS). During this research symposium, each class member will present their own research findings based on their lab work on skin microbiome sampling.

Goal: This research project will serve three purposes: 1) collect new data on the skin microbiome; 2) perform novel analysis; and 3) address a specific research question comparing your data to previou

2.2. Data mi

Symposium presentation

To finish the class, we'll host a mini-symposium, the Microbiome Under the Midnight Sun (MUMS). During this research symposium, each class member will present their own research findings based on their lab work on skin microbiome sampling.

Goal

In order to keep the symposium on schedule, we will enforce strict time keeping. Below is a rundown of timing marks