

## Class 01: Getting Started

**Held:** Thursday, 25 August 2011

**Summary:** We start the class by considering the subject matter of the course and by starting to learn to use our computer tools.

### Related Pages:

- EBoard.
- Reading: Ratliff 2009.

### Notes:

- Introductory Survey assigned, due Tuesday.
- Please fill out the RISC Survey asap.
- Three readings from *Science* distributed (links on Pioneerweb). Read and respond for Tuesday's class. See the notes on response papers for information on writing responses

### Overview:

- Survey.
- Introductions.
- What is Bioinformatics?
- About the Course.
- Discussion of *Wired* Dinosaur DNA Reading.
- Getting Started with the Linux Network.
- Getting Started with Python.

## Survey

- We begin with a short survey about the course.

## Introductions

- We introduce ourselves to each other.

## What is Bioinformatics?

- We'd like to hear your opinions on this.
- Then we'll provide our own opinions.
- Bioinformatics: A topic somewhere at the intersection of biology and computer science

## About the Course

- Multiple approaches
  - For CS students vs. For Biology students vs. For both students
  - Using tools vs. Building tools
  - ...
- Experimental course
  - While we've each studied the other field, we will be learning some things with you.
  - We expect to change (and add to) the syllabus as time goes on.
  - We may over-prepare and under-prepare for some days.
- Primary work
  - Lots of readings from the primary literature
  - Some lecture on biology topics to extend the book
  - Some use of tools
  - Lots of programming (some in class, some outside of class)
  - Fun with lab!

## Discussion of *Wired Dinosaur* DNA Reading

- What does the reading tell you about bioinformatics?
- What does the reading tell you about the roles of computer science and biology in bioinformatics?
- What did you find troubling about the reading?
- ...

## Getting Started with the Linux Network

- Do the lab.
- Experienced students will have done something similar already
  - Please help the other students.
  - Follow the instructions for adding a link to the Python idle environment.
- Ask questions!

## Getting Started with Python

- Do the lab.

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