

**Assignment # 1 Quantitative Thinking in the Life Sciences
(Assigned on August 29th. Due on September 5th)**

Student background:

Part 1. Program of study background:

1. What is your area of study (genetics, etc.)?
2. What is your project ecosystem?
3. Have you developed specific questions or hypotheses?

Part 2. Student history and direction:

1. What is your statistics/mathematics history
2. What kind of computing experience do you have (e.g., Any programming experience, familiarity with Excel, Word, Powerpoint? Are you comfortable online? Do you tweet?)
3. What are you hoping to get out of this class?
4. What are you hoping to get out of your graduate program (e.g., an academic job)?
5. What effort constraints do you have this term? That is, do you have a time management system set up?
6. Describe your ideal job

Introduction to R

The more you use R the more comfortable you will be with this program. Even though we have gone through much of this material in the classroom, I urge you to make sure that you have a full understanding of this material. Try out the different components. This will not be graded but I urge you to spend some serious time getting to know the R environment and going through this tutorial.

Complete the tutorial:

An Introductory Tutorial: Learning R for Quantitative Thinking in the Life Sciences found at:
<http://www.uvm.edu/%7Escmerril/Assignment1.pdf>