

Research Rotation Expectations

These are general guidelines provided to the lab mentor and the student. Please refer to your lab manager/rotation supervisor for specific rules and regulations.

Purpose of the rotation	During the rotation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Evaluate philosophy & atmosphere of lab •Learn experimental strategies & techniques •Broaden exposure to different research areas & approaches •Allow mentor to evaluate you as potential student <p><i>The rotation is not primarily to complete a specific project.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Keep a proper notebook •Interact with & seek feedback from mentor •Keep a regular daily schedule •Attend lab meetings (unless there is a conflict with your scheduled courses) •Be prepared to present a written report and preferably a lab presentation at end of rotation
Don't	Lab Notebook Content
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Read newspapers or play computer games •Constantly mention "we didn't do it this way in my other lab" •Use telephone or copy machine excessively for personal reasons •Disappear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Date of start of experiment (including year) •Brief title of experiment •Brief statement of purpose •Description of the experiment including original & amended protocol •Brief summation of results <p><i>The lab notebook belongs to the laboratory, not the labworker.</i></p>
Survival Rules (attitude)	Survival Rules (bench courtesy)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Treat other lab members with courtesy •Take notes when someone is giving you instructions •Ask for appointments or request time with people who can help you •Don't discuss a fellow lab member's results with others not in the lab 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Do clean up your own mess •Don't use reagents or buffers of others except with permission •Don't put an empty bottle back •Don't ignore broken equipment •Don't change the location of lab material •If you make an error, confess
You will be evaluated on	Lab Notebook Rules
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Effort & attitude •Initiative & creativity •Aptitude & laboratory skills •Improvement over the course of the rotation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Find out what format the lab uses •Use pen instead of pencil •Write the date & experiment on all pieces of data •Write so anyone can pick up the notebook & duplicate the experiment and results