

Marine Biogeochemistry 2018

Journals

Justification:

Marine biogeochemistry is rapidly evolving and exciting field. The best way to learn to “*think like a biogeochemist*” and to learn this field is to get into the literature and read often and broadly. This will be hard at first, but like anything, the more you read and write about it the easier it will get. This semester you’ll be training your reading and synthesizing brain muscles. Here you also have the freedom to read more in areas you are most interested in.

In class I will ask you randomly to talk about a recent paper you have read.

Feeling Stuck?

Remember the goal is for you to flip back and have a nice succinct summary of what the paper was about. It helps if you start by asking and answering the question – *why am I reading this?* We read for different reasons – maybe you’re interested in the methods, maybe in this a review paper and you just want a broader understanding, maybe you are looking for specific rates? Whatever the reason – state it up front first. Then dive in. Other questions to keep in mind that might be helpful:

- Why did they conduct this study? What’s their motivation?
- What method(s) did they use?
- What are the major findings and implications?
- What are the next steps?
- What questions did this paper leave unanswered or open up for future work?

Directions:

- Each week you must summarize two primary literature papers under the subject area of marine biogeochemistry.
- You choose the topic – you can keep it lined up w/ the themes we cover in class that week or choose a different topic. As long as it’s under the umbrella of marine biogeochemistry – then it counts.
- You must handwrite these journal entries in your notebook of choice. The summary should be between 250 – 300 words long (i.e., other requested info doesn’t count toward word choice).
- For each entry include the following information:
 - The date of your entry
 - Author list (if more than three just write first three and then et al.)
 - Year of publication
 - Journal info (e.g., journal name, volume, page numbers)
 - Paper Title
 - A brief statement answering the question – why am I reading this?
 - Your Summary
- Please write as neatly as possible as I’ll be reading these too!

Due Dates: Please bring your journals to class on the following days: March 1st, April 3rd, May 1st