

Prelab Assignment for Module 1

What goes into a Prelab? The prelab is very similar to the introduction of your lab report. It should begin at a very general level and then become more specific as you lead up to the experiments that you will run and the results you expect to see. A good prelab will generally be around 3-4 pages long, but length is not as important as quality.

Begin the prelab with a few paragraphs describing the theoretical principles behind the experiments. Go on to describe the experiments you will run. Finally, explain based on the theory you presented what you predict will be the outcomes of your experiments (these are your hypotheses).

For Module 1, use the following questions to help guide your Prelab, but remember that your prelab shouldn't just be a list of answers to these questions.

- What are the primary passive properties of neurons?
- What features of the neuron determine these passive properties?
- What are the theoretical/mathematical laws that determine the effects of the passive properties? Explain them.
- Why are these passive properties important for neural function?
- What experiments will you run during this module?
- What do you expect your data should look like, and why?

Once you have written a good prelab, you will be able to modify it into the introduction of your lab report. It is important to remember that the prelab will be written in future tense (you are describing what you are going to do) but you will need to convert this to past tense for your lab report (you will be describing what you did).

Submit your prelab assignment as a Microsoft Word document through Blackboard