**Bio 203 Term Paper instructions & checklist**

Choose a topic based on an area of microbiology of interest to you.  The topic can be a specific bacterium (e.g. *E. coli* O157:H7), an area of applied microbiology (e.g. Symbiosis between bacteria and termites), a specific technique (e.g. new methods for water testing), or any other related topic of current interest.

Your paper should be 5 - 10 pages of text in length = **minimum** **1500 words**(not counting diagrams, bibliography); be word-processed, double-spaced, 1" margins all around, using a 12-pt legible font; Be free of spelling and grammatical mistakes; and Include an introduction, body, conclusion, and list of references

**Introduction**: Catch the reader's attention; explain what you will discuss in your paper. Relevant statistics, personal stories, case studies etc

**Body**: Divide this up into your main points (~ 1 page per main point as a suggestion). These main points may include: Physical description of the organism(s), biochemical traits, growth & life cycle, disease symptoms, pathogenesis, treatments, prevention, diagnosis of disease, transmission of disease, social/political/economic considerations, environmental impact, personal experiences, practical applications, and current research.

**Conclusion**: Do not repeat or restate what you wrote about; rather, indicate future directions, if any; draw your own conclusions, reflections

**References**: Use appropriate format, e.g. Johnson, A. & Johnson, B. Detection of earwax in chronically asleep students. *Journal of Sleep Sciences* 87: 120 - 155, 2001. Don't forget to use **in-text citations** of your sources. The preferred format for these is: ....................(author, year).

**Research:** Your paper must make use of at least **two** scientific research articles published within the last 5 years.  The article must be from peer-reviewed scientific journals, and a photocopy of the articles must be included with the paper. You may make use of internet sources, textbooks, or other source material provided your sources are properly cited in your paper and included in your reference list.

Checklist:

\_\_\_\_\_ topic submitted (due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ resource sheet turned in (due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ meeting with professor completed

\_\_\_\_\_ paper is at least 1,500 words in length (excl. references; use word count)

\_\_\_\_\_ proofread your paper for spelling and grammatical errors (use spell-check)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2 research articles used (must have Materials & Methods and Results)

\_\_\_\_\_ research articles are 5 years old or less

\_\_\_\_\_ plagiarism policy acknowledged (Moodle)

\_\_\_\_\_ electronic copy (.doc, .docx or .rtf) submitted via email

\_\_\_\_\_ in-text citations complete and in correct format (author, year)

\_\_\_\_\_ bibliography complete and correctly formatted

\_\_\_\_\_ printed copy of 2 research articles included with paper