

Project Stages
October 2, 2010

Scientific and Engineering Projects Class

Choose A Project

- (This is specific to the Science Forum)
- Pick something you find interesting
- Make sure you have sufficient background to have a reasonable chance of success
- If you work with a partner, choose carefully
 - Work with someone that will contribute equally
 - Make sure you're able to meet with your partner on a regular basis

Background Research

- Basically, just learn what you need to know to do the project
 - May include learning new skills, techniques

Scientific/Engineering Method

- Execute the steps of the Scientific Method
- Execute the steps of the Engineering Method

See the Scientific Method/Engineering Method handout

Documentation

- Project Notebook
 - Keep track of the work you do
 - Keep enough detail so that you or someone else could duplicate your work
- Final Report
 - Describe the project
 - State main results
 - Describe why the project is important (context)
 - Point to areas of future research

Presentation

- Describe what you did
- Summarize main results
- Include graphics, charts, pictures, videos
- Keep to time constraints
 - Allocate time for questions
- Address key questions
 - What did you learn?
 - How could you have improved the project?
 - What would you do next?

Tips

- Do something interesting
- You're not expected to know all about your topic beforehand, but you should have the appropriate background
- Work hard, but have fun
- Start Early and avoid the stress of trying to finish on time