Please choose one of the following two for a final project:

1. **Research project**: Write a brief paper (two to four pages in Physical Review format) about a topic of your choice at the interface of Statistical Physics and Biology. It should be formatted as a regular article with title, abstract, and bibliography. The main text should contain introductory and concluding paragraphs (whether or not they appear as subsections is not important). The ideal project will involve a combination of literature review, discussion of an analytical or computational model, and application/analysis of biological data.

   Students can collaborate in groups provided that the respective contributions of the author of the joint paper is clearly specified in a footnote. (The length of the paper may be proportionately longer in such collaborations.) Clearly the initial hurdle is coming up with an interesting project that is doable in a short time. We would thus like you to think about potential projects, and consult with the course staff about the choice of topic (preferably as soon as possible, but no later than beginning of April).

   You can see examples of such Final projects from previous years on the web at: https://web.mit.edu/8.592/www/grades/projects/.

   Some potential projects, clearly in need of refinement and elaboration, are suggested in the following pages.

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2. **Teaching site**: Design a web-site that can be used to teach a topic at the interface of Statistical Physics and Biology to non-specialists. For example, imagine that a high school teacher would use a one hour class to teach the material to an honor science class the material using your web-page. As such, you should include introductory materials, references that interested students can pursue on their own. The presentation must also be colorful and dynamic (e.g. by including figures, animations, applets, etc.) to engage and maintain the interests of a diverse non-specialist audience.

   The rules for collaborations, as well as timeline, are the same as for a Research Projects. You can see examples of such Final projects prepared before, on the same website: https://web.mit.edu/8.592/www/grades/projects/.

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