

Project Group size: 3-4 students

Project Topic: A biomechanics topic from two types of source: (1) popular science books (貓掌與彈弓、學蜘蛛人趴趴走、飛行的奧秘), or (2) science and technology news.

How to begin & pursue your project:

- (1) Begin by reading suggested sources, and pick one most interesting topic to your group.
- (2) Go further in depth for literature research on original articles (SCI papers), and, if necessary, for books on special topics. **Project topic** is due on **11/19**, and the **reading list** is due on **12/3**. [Take advantage of the databases provided by our library. If the journal required for your project is not available, please let me know first.]
- (3) You will read at least **two original research articles**, which we will discuss during the meeting on **12/17**. You have to read through the paper (you may use the Paper Reading/Discussion Worksheet as a guide); preparation for discussion counts for your (individual) scores.

** After the discussion meetings, you will have one week (no class on 12/24) to work on your project.

How to prepare for your oral presentations (project & defense):

- (1) At the end of this semester, each group will first deliver a 20-minute oral presentation on **12/31** about your project that includes:
 - (a) General Background— a brief introduction of the biological system and the biomechanical challenge(s) encountered by the organism.
 - (b) Biomechanical question(s) of interest to you.
 - (c) Previous Research— relevant hypotheses proposed by previous researchers, and briefly summarizing previous studies (including methods, results, discussion, conclusions).
 - (d) Discussion and critiques on previous research (or news)— for example, what questions were answered and what remain unanswered or unexplored, your comments on previous studies, alternative interpretation on previous results, your suggestions for future studies (e.g. proposing a research project), etc.
- (2) On **1/7/2008**, you will have another class meeting to refine your project.
- (3) On **1/14/2008**, each group will have another 20 minutes to deliver a refined presentation, which is expected to improve and to incorporate responses to audience's feedbacks from the first presentation.