

Friendfeed Peer Mentor FAQ

Careers:

<http://biosciencecareers.wordpress.com/>

How do I install the Friendfeed bookmarklet?

Watch this: <http://friendfeed.com/share/bookmarklet> You can do this on CFS or on your own computer.

How do I subscribe to an RSS feed in Friendfeed?

Click on your name on Friendfeed, click add/edit, then click Blog and add the URL of the RSS feed.

How do I decide who to follow ("Subscribe to") on Friendfeed?

It's up to you, but don't try to follow everyone on the course (see the list on Blackboard). Aim to subscribe to between 30-60 people, e.g. people you already know (but remember this isn't Facebook) and especially people on the same degree course as you. Make sure you follow the teaching staff (drcann | drxxxx | drxxxx) and at least some of the Peer Mentors from the list on Blackboard - they will help you get the best out of Friendfeed.

How much do I have to write each week?

As much as you want. Marks will be awarded as follows for your activity over the entire term:

An average of four or more contributions each week with suitable reflective content: 100%

An average of three contributions week each with suitable reflective content: 75%

An average of two contributions week each with suitable reflective content: 50%

An average of one contribution each week with suitable reflective content: 25%

An average of less than one contribution each week and/or no suitable reflective content: 0%

What do Friendfeed Peer Mentors do?

The School of Biological Sciences runs a successful peer mentoring scheme in which students help and support more junior students. This year we are introducing a parallel scheme which will run entirely on Friendfeed. In 2010, we will be introducing first year students to Friendfeed via BS1010 at the start of the academic year rather than in January on BS1011 as last year. Based on your previous participation on Friendfeed, we would like to invite you to help to support first year students via Friendfeed. There is no payment for participating in this scheme, but those who successfully complete a full year's activity will receive recognition in the form of a letter from the Director of Studies which can be added to your CV. Participating in the scheme will involve:

- Subscribing to the list of first year students on BS1010 so that you can see their contributions.
- Regular monitoring of Friendfeed to check for questions. The best way to do this is little and often, e.g. a few minutes a day at a time to suit you rather than a long session once a week. Participating in this scheme should not be particularly time consuming, nor should it interfere with your own studies.
- Offering support to first year students based on your own experience of the course and the University.

- Encourage students to use appropriately professional behaviour on Friendfeed. We don't expect you to be a police force - encourage students by commenting on good practices and use your own experience to support students who need help or who are struggling to understand Friendfeed.
- Be positive and encouraging in supporting students in using appropriate learning tools, resources and study practices.

Mentors will have access to a private Friendfeed support group (<http://friendfeed.com/peer-mentors>) where they receive announcements and are able to discuss any issues with participating staff. If you have any questions, the private Peer Mentors group is the place to ask. If you would like to participate as a mentor, please go to the Friendfeed Peer Mentors support group and request a subscription: <http://friendfeed.com/peer-mentors>