

S2 Supplemental Material

Questions on student/expert questionnaire. Questions 1-31 were asked of both students and experts. Questions 32-41 were only asked of students after completing the module. Questions where experts achieved “consensus” (more than 66.7% of answers were answered either as 1 or 2, or as 4 or 5) are italicized.

Student and expert questions:

- 1. My curiosity about the living world led me to study at least some molecular biology.*
- 2. I think about and make connections between the molecular biology I learn in class with situations in everyday life.*
3. After I study an aspect of biology that requires computational approaches to solve and feel that I understand it, I have difficulty applying that information to answer questions on similar aspects of biology.
4. Knowledge in computationally intensive aspects of biology consists of many disconnected topics.
5. When I am answering a question that contains aspects of bioinformatics or computationally intensive biology, I find it difficult to put what I know into my own words.
6. To understand bioinformatics, I sometimes think about my personal experiences and relate them to the topic being analyzed.
7. If I get stuck on answering a question in biology that involves a computational approach on my first try, I usually try to figure out a way that doesn't involve much computation.
- 8. I want to study biology because I want to make a contribution to society.*
9. If I want to apply a method or idea used for understanding one bioinformatics problem to another problem, the problems must involve very similar situations.
10. I enjoy figuring out answers to biology questions that require bioinformatics.
11. To learn bioinformatics, I mostly need to follow software commands and procedures.
- 12. Reasoning skills used to understand bioinformatics can be helpful to my everyday life.*
- 13. It is a valuable use of my time to study some fundamental concepts in computer science that I may apply to computational analysis of biological data in the future.*

14. *If I had plenty of time, I would take a computer science class outside of my major requirements just for fun.*
15. *If I had plenty of time, I would take a bioinformatics class outside of my major requirements just for fun.*
16. *The subject of bioinformatics has little relation to what I experience in the real world.*
17. *There are times I think about or solve a biology question in more than one way to help my understanding.*
18. *If I get stuck on a biology question that involves the use of bioinformatics or computational biology, there is no chance I'll figure it out on my own.*
19. *There is usually only one correct approach to solving a problem involving bioinformatics and large genomic data sets.*
20. *When I am not pressed for time, I will employ additional analytical/mathematical/statistical/computational methods on a biology problem until I feel like I have the best answer as to why something works the way it does.*
21. *Learning computational approaches that are not directly relevant or applicable to human health is not something I would prefer to invest much time in.*
22. *Mathematical skills are important for understanding biology.*
23. *Computer science skills are important for understanding biology.*
24. *I enjoy explaining biological ideas or concepts to others whose study requires intensive computational analysis (using bioinformatics or statistics).*
25. *This statement is used to discard the survey of people who are not reading the questions. Please select agree (not "strongly agree") for this question to preserve all your answers.*
26. *The general public misunderstands many biological ideas that require statistics, bioinformatics, or computational biology.*
27. *Nearly everyone is capable of understanding bioinformatics if they work at it.*
28. *I do not spend more than a few minutes stuck on a biology question that requires a lot of computation, bioinformatics or statistics before giving up or seeking help from someone else.*
29. *Biological principles are just to be memorized.*

30. I study bioinformatics/biocomputing to learn knowledge that will be useful in my life outside of school.

31. For me, knowledge of how scientists use bioinformatics is primarily important so I understand facts that are based on such analyses as opposed to using bioinformatics myself to investigate the unknown.

Student-only questions:

32. My curiosity about learning more bioinformatics has increased as a result of the module used in class.

33. The module provided new insights to me about the uses of computer sciences in biology.

34. I found the computer work during this module downright enjoyable.

35. Only answer if you don't particularly enjoy computational analyses (otherwise leave blank): Although I don't particularly enjoy computational analyses I think that this module gave me a good idea of what scientists do with genome-size data sets.

36. As a result of this module I am now considering taking a (or another) computer science course in the future.

37. I much prefer wet-lab or field-work experimentation to projects that require lots of computational analysis.

38. I don't mind using the computer for statistical analyses but I don't enjoy Unix-based computation.

39. I like bioinformatics when using tools with user-friendly web-interfaces but do not like command-line style analysis.

40. I might not like command-line style analysis of large data sets but I am glad I got to learn some of it.

41. Basic knowledge of command-line style bioinformatics/computational biology is likely important for my future career (whether I like it or not).