# Outline for “Best Practices” session of BISI648b

Arlin Stoltzfus, 9 December 2012

## Resources

* Grace system – course dir has public/Lab14 with materials
* Camel12:~/Education/Teaching/BISI648b
* course syllabus from Steve Mount
* specific lesson plans in BISI648b folder (above)
  + cvs\_lesson.html
  + stamp\_output\_lesson.html
  + perldoc\_lesson.html
  + getopt\_lesson.html

ssh grace.umd.edu

cd /afs/[glue.umd.edu/class/fall2012/cbmg/688p/0101](http://glue.umd.edu/class/fall2010/cbmg/688p/0101)

cd instructors/arlin

## Lecture (20 min): Best practices for scientific programmers

Discussion: What makes one biological software product better than another?

## Best practices for scientific programmers - exercises

1. Use version control (CVS)
2. Stamp output
3. Use standard interfaces (Getopt)
4. Write documentation (PerlDoc)

### CVS lesson

Go to blackboard, open up instructions. Proceed from there. Be sure to run the “stamp output” program before changing it.

### Stamp output lesson

Use the slide to guide this. If time allows, modularize this.

### Getopt lesson

Go to blackboard, open up instructions. Proceed from there.

### Perldoc lesson

Go to blackboard, open up instructions. Proceed from there.