

TIPS FOR FACILITATING EFFECTIVE LABS

Before the Lab
<p><i>Ask yourself these questions before you get started with your lab duties:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will I be able to do the lab myself before class? • Am I familiar with the materials and equipment? • What are the safety considerations? • Would it help if I give my students a handout highlighting key theoretical, procedural, and safety points? • Who do I report to? Where will this person be during the lab?
During the Lab
<p><i>Answering these questions will help your students get the most out of their lab experiences:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would it be helpful if I demonstrated techniques to the students? What tips can I share? • How will I monitor student progress in the lab? • Where might my students run into difficulties? How will I help? • How can I help the lab partners/groups work together well?
After the Lab
<p><i>These questions will help you to support student success in the course:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I link this lab to the professor's lecture? • What kinds of questions should I ask my students to stimulate their thinking and to encourage deeper understanding of the experiment? • How can I clearly communicate the criteria used in grading the lab reports?