The science of biology frequently makes headlines. To help you see how the topics in our class help make news, you need to bring in a “newspaper article” published since 1 September 2015 that discusses a current event focused on a biological topic in the areas we have (or will have) covered this semester. This assignment also will allow you to evaluate how science is portrayed in the popular press by focusing on whether the article you select is biased. To earn all 30 points you must answer some questions (see below) about the article, and attach the actual article (2 pts). Newspaper articles can be from local, national, or international papers, and can either be cut out from ‘actual’ newspapers or printed from websites for individual newspapers. Newspaper articles must be at least 15 paragraphs long.

Answers must be typed and a printed copy turned in by the due date to receive full credit. You do not need to re-type the questions; just provide the answers. Points also will be deducted for poor spelling and grammar—so proofread! Each question is worth 7 points.

The questions:

1) What are the major findings of the research discussed in this article?

2) Why do you think the article about this research was published? Why would journalists think it was important to make this research known to the general public?

3) Was either the article, or the research it may have been based on, biased? Why or why not?

4) How does the article relate to the topics in (or to be coming soon in) class?