

Field Notebook Instructions

A field notebook is an essential component of field research. Field notebooks are a place to record observations, data, ideas, and logistics to facilitate your research and learning.

Field notebooks are also personal - everyone has their own style and organization. Feel free to include sketches, interpretations of observations, ideas for new studies, etc. But, be sure to keep your field notebooks functional and organized - you will need to refer back to them to extract ideas or data. See the rubric below for information on how you will be graded on your notebooks.

Field Notebook Rubric (20% of final mark; marked /20)

Accuracy. Is the information in your notebook accurate? (/4)

Coverage. Is your notebook comprehensive in its coverage of your field work, other work? (/4)

Depth. Do you extend beyond lists and reports to include ideas about why patterns, behaviours, etc. occur? (/4)

Creativity. How creative are you with your field notes? Do you include your own ideas about your observations? (/4)

Organization & Accessibility. Is your field book organized and accessible, or is it a disorganized mess? (/4)