

CHALLENGE ACADEMIC YEAR DECATHALON MILESTONES

- AUGUST
 - RECRUIT TEAMS
 - Remember Diversity
 - Demo and Advertise
 - BRAINSTORM PROJECTS
 - HAVE MODELING DISCUSSIONS WITH STUDENTS
- SEPTEMBER
 - REGISTER TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS
 - CONFERENCE WITH TEAMS (see conference document)
 - WHAT ARE THE TEAMS INQUISITIVE ABOUT?
 - PRELIMINARY RESEARCH ON TOPICS
 - Looking for any research like they propose to do.
 - Looking for more information on topic to expand knowledge
 - Looking for influencing variables
 - MAKE TOPIC DECISION
- OCTOBER
 - WRITE PROPOSAL
 - Proofread
 - BEGIN THINKING ABOUT PROJECT
 - How will you approach the problem
 - What other approaches might also work
 - ATTEND **KICKOFF**
 - Pick Brains of Scientists
 - Begin Search for Mentors
- NOVEMBER
 - CREATE A preliminary timeline and rough draft of plan
 - FIND MENTORS
 - DIVIDE TEAM INTO JOBS (Researcher, Writer, Programmer.)
 - MAJOR RESEARCH PUSH
 - Increase knowledge on topic
 - Discover Variables that might affect outcomes
 - Decide on an appropriate Model for the project
 - Mathematical? Agent Based?, etc.
- DECEMBER
 - DISCUSS WITH TEAM
 - Progress
 - What didn't work
 - Why new plan might work
 - Other variables that might affect work
 - What needs revamping

- WRITE AND SUBMIT **INTERIM REPORT**
 - Proofread
 - Be clear and concise
 - Make It long enough to truly represent what you now know about the topic, what you have discovered, and what will be critical to pay attention to.
 - Include a timeline plan if possible.
- CONTINUE WORKING ON ALL ASPECTS OF PROJECT
- CODING RAMPS UP
- CONSULT MENTORS
- SAVE REVIEWERS COMMENTS
- JANUARY
 - RECHECK PROGRESS ON MILESTONE CHART
 - CODING
 - **PUT REVIEWERS COMMENTS INTO ACTION**
 - WRITING/REVIEWING
 - CONSULT MENTORS
 - WORK ON FINAL REPORT
- FEBRUARY
 - PREPARE REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS FOR **PROJECT EVALUATIONS**
 - TEAM MEMBERS CONTINUE WORK
 - REEVALUATE PROGRESS ON MILESTONE CHART
 - CONSULT MENTORS
 - CONTINUE WORK ON CODING
 - TAKE REPORT REVIEWERS COMMENTS INTO PLAY
 - GENERATE RESEARCH DATA, PAYING ATTENDTION TO OBSERVABLE PATTERNS
 - CONTINUE WORKING ON PROJECT AND CODING
 - ASSESS WHETHER PROJECT IS TESTING WHAT YOU THINK IT IS TESTING
 - Gather Proof how you know that it is (Use in Final Report)
 - ASSESS WHETHER PROJECT IS REPRESENTATIVE OF HOW IT WOULD REACT IN THE REAL WORLD
 - Gather Proof how you know that it is (Use in Final Report)
 - WORK ON FINAL REPORT
 - REEVALUATE PROGRESS ON MILESTONE CHART
- APRIL
 - FINISH WORK AND UPLOAD FINAL REPORT
 - CONTINUE REFINING WORK
 - POLISH REPORT AND PRESENTATION
 - PROOFREAD
 - **EXPO**