

Prompt:

If your high school was allowed to have an iGEM team participating in the International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition, what would your project be? The idea behind iGEM is to utilize research and development in synthetic biology and engineering to solve real world problems and critical global challenges. Come up with an idea that is innovative, creative and practical. While creativity and innovation will set your idea apart, make sure that it depends on existing technology and can be completed in a period of 6 to 8 months. The idea should fall under any of the iGEM tracks and must address one of the major problems faced by your region, country or the whole world. We encourage participants to look at the projects that the past iGEM teams have done for inspiration.

The competition will consist of two rounds:

1. **First Round:** Interested teams should sign up here and submit a document no longer than 500 words (excluding citations) describing the proposed idea, scientific methods and relevant previous work BEFORE THE 28TH OF OCTOBER 11.59 P.M. Link for submission:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1g1atkWdY5L4LgBwlamfnFniDW6wKlhddRN-Z28XTiQw/edit>  
Make sure files are in PDF Format !
2. **Final Round:** Top ten teams will be selected and will be asked to present their idea in 5 minutes at the final event NYUAD's Saadiyat Island Campus.

Awards:

- The three winning teams will get certificates and prizes (medals with stickers of iGEM)
- The winning teams will get an opportunity to choose and shadow in one of our Primary Instructors' labs
- They will be mentored by the iGEM NYUAD team, if they decide to form their own iGEM teams
- All shortlisted teams will receive participation certificates

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

- What is the advised team size?
  - Each team should consist of 2 to 4 members
- What should the proposal contain ?
  - The proposal must contain an introduction, scientific methods to accomplish the idea and research to back up the idea should be mentioned in detail and citations
- Should we wait until notified to make a presentation ?
  - The selected teams will have around 4 to 5 days to make their presentations. It is up to you to decide when you want to make it.

- What is the judgement criteria?
  - Creativity, knowledge of existing sciences, extent of biology and engineering combination, validity of the question in hand and the importance given to the process of design thinking.

More information about the labs:

- Professor Rafael Song's lab: <https://www.mnbe-lab.com/>
- Professor Andras Gyorgy's lab: <http://netb.io/>
- Professor Mazin Magzoub's lab: <https://www.magzoub-lab.com/>

Feel free to reach out to [dm3900@nyu.edu](mailto:dm3900@nyu.edu) or [mhm431@nyu.edu](mailto:mhm431@nyu.edu) if you have any questions or concerns.