

Guidelines and Policies Concerning Biology 403 Undergraduate Research (3-4 hours)

1. Biology 403 allows undergraduate students to have research experience in Biology. The student will define a biological problem, write a hypothesis, and design a research protocol to test the hypothesis. The project will culminate with the writing of a formal paper. The research experience will be conducted under the supervision of one of the faculty members of the Biology Department.

2. **Registration Requirements:**

- A. A major in Biology is required, with 20 semester hours completed.
- B. A "B" average in all Biology courses
- C. An unofficial copy of transcripts must be attached
- D. Special cases may be considered **if** a student and participating faculty member petition the Chairman of the Biology Department with a formal request which includes experimental protocol.

3. **Enrollment Procedures:**

Students should plan the project during the semester prior to enrollment. The project should be discussed with a faculty member, and the literature reviewed early during the semester. A formal proposal reviewing the literature, presenting the hypothesis, and presenting the experimental design should be reviewed by the faculty member.

The signed contract and the proposal must be submitted to the Biology Office prior to enrolling. Students may enroll during the regular registration period, during delayed registration, or during "Drop and Add". A signed contract must be on file in the Biology Office prior to registration. If registration is after the regular registration period, an "Add" card must be obtained from the Biology Department Office.

4. **Course Description:**

Undergraduate research should be an experience which involves (over a period of 1 or 2 semesters):

- A. Definition of a problem with a specific hypothesis or objective to which valid research methods can be applied.
- B. Review of the appropriate literature.
- C. Development of a specific experimental design and/or experimental method(s).
- D. Interpretation and analysis of data.
- E. Presentation of a formal paper which follows the format of a recognized scientific journal. This paper will remain on file in the Biology Office.

Biology 403 Contract

I understand and agree to the above policies and meet the requirements for participation in Biology 403. The proposed title of my undergraduate research project is:

Projected Date of Completion

Credit (3-4 Semester hours)

Student Signature

Date

Professor's Signature

Date

Distribution: Copy 1 - Biology Department
Copy 2 - Student
Copy 3 - Participating Faculty

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