

BIO 397 (Independent Research in Microbiology) Research Contract



Student instructions

Students completing the Microbiology Minor are the primary intended BIO 397 participants. Participants should be above average students making substantial progress towards a degree. In order to receive credit for BIO 397, students and their research mentors must complete this contract. Research mentors may be any research-active life-sciences faculty member at the University of Kentucky. If a contract is not completed each semester before the add/drop date, **YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REGISTER FOR THE COURSE**. If the contract is NOT approved, we will contact you and/or your research mentor. Unapproved projects are often more appropriate for EXP 396 (Experiential Education: 257-3632).

Submission of completed contract

Contracts must be submitted to Dr. Ruth Beattie: rebeat1@email.uky.edu (submit only PDF files; PLEASE RENAME YOUR FILE AS: **BIO397_F21_lastname_firstname.pdf**; change semester and year as needed: F for Fall, S for Spring, Su for Summer)

DEADLINE: BEFORE NOON on the add/drop date.

DIGITAL SUBMISSION IS PREFERRED

You will receive email confirmation and instructions for registration if your project is approved. At that time, you will need to register for the course in myUK. If the contract is not approved, we will contact you or your research mentor.

Note: *Completion of 6 hours of BIO 395/397/398 research is one of the requirements for the Biology Scholars program. To determine your eligibility, please see the Biology Scholars document for a description of other requirements.*

For additional information, please contact Dr. Ruth Beattie: rebeat1@email.uky.edu

To be completed by the student:

Student name: _____ **Student ID #:** _____ **UK email:** _____

Academic session in which research will take place (Check one)

Fall Spring Summer Year: _____

Credit Hours* (Check one):

*Note: During the Fall and Spring semesters, students are generally expected to work on their projects at least three hours per week for every one credit hour earned. Discuss specific time commitments with your mentor. Time commitment during Summer semesters must be discussed with your mentor.

Please enter grades for the following courses if completed:

BIO 308: BIO 309: Current GPA: _____

Answer the following three questions in consultation with your mentor.

1. What is the main question your project will address? What is your hypothesis or driving principle?

2. What types of experiments will you perform? Include brief technical details.

3. What might the results of your experiments be? How could these results support or refute your hypothesis or contribute to knowledge in the field?

Student signature: _____

To be completed by the research mentor:

Mentor name: _____ **Department:** _____ **UK email:** _____

Please indicate what activities (and their weighting) will be used in the determination of the student's grade.
(ex: Attendance 25%, oral presentation 25%, final paper 50%, etc).

Research mentors agree to provide lab space, resources and guidance. Guidance includes safety training as well as training in skills required to complete the project. Mentors will be asked to grade the student's work based on the activities above. By signing below, you acknowledge that you have reviewed and approve of the project description.

Mentor signature: _____