

**BIOL 2000**  
**INDEPENDENT RESEARCH**

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**Course Number:** BIOL 2000  
**Semester:**  
**Credit Hours:**  
**Classroom:**

**Instructor:**  
**E-mail:**  
**Office:**  
**Office Phone:**  
**Office Hours:**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

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This is a general elective science course intended for students majoring in the sciences. This course is designed to introduce students to the basic principles of conducting scientific research. Students will be taught experimental design and allowed to conduct independent research in conjunction with a class project. Students will be responsible for collecting, analyzing and interpreting their own data; and incorporating their results into the larger framework of the class project. In addition, students will be required to write a scientific paper following appropriate format and present their findings to an open forum. Research projects will be under the supervision of faculty.

**Prerequisite(s):** Instructor permission

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

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**The main objectives of this course are to...**

- gain first-hand experience conducting scientific research.
- gain experience in experimental design and data analysis.
- gain experience in both scientific writing and oral presentations.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

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**CLASS ATTENDANCE IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY SO BE VIGILANT.**

Please make every attempt to meet our mutually agreed upon schedule. If you are absent contact me immediately to check about alternative times to make up your hours. Students that are earning 1 hour credit must log 6.5 hours in the lab per week. Deviations from this agreement must be cleared with the instructor.

*If for any reason you need to withdraw from the course during the semester, you will need to inform the instructor. Please note that you will need to visit the financial aid office (if you are currently receiving financial aid) and the records office to properly withdraw from the course. Failure to follow the proper procedure for withdrawal will result in a WF or a grade based upon the accumulated percentages/points, depending on the situation.*

**GRADING POLICY:**

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100 – 90: A  
89 – 80: B  
79 – 70: C  
69 – 60: D  
59 – 0: F

There are 300 total possible points in this course.

- Weekly working obligation / Data collection = 100 pts
- Scientific write-up = 100 pts
- Poster presentation = 100 pts

**TEXTBOOK:**

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Martin P and Patrick Bateson. Measuring Behaviour, New York, NY, Cambridge University Press. (**ANY EDITION**)