

Contract for Honors in Biological Sciences

DEADLINE for registration: Third Friday of each semester
Please register in person with the Director of Advising (<https://biology.rutgers.edu/advising>).

Student Name _____ RU ID# _____

Current Overall GPA _____ Bio GPA (Honors Only) _____ Student RU Email: _____

Student: Please attach a three page research proposal, written by you, to this application.

The proposal must have a description of the background information necessary to understand and justify the thesis work for the fall and spring semesters and should include a specific hypothesis to be tested, a detailed description of the data that you will collect, and a prediction about the results you will obtain.

Please see Dr. Carr-Schmid and <http://biology.rutgers.edu/biological-sciences/research> for further information.

Student: Please initial after careful reading of the requirements for fulfilling Honors in Biology

____ A minimum 3.4 Biosci GPA and 3.0 GPA overall is required to receive honors.

____ A minimum of 6 credits (3 fall/3 spring) of Honors in Biology must be completed during senior year.

____ A minimum 4-5 hours per week per credit is required (3 credits=12-15 hours/week).

____ In the fall semester, a written, graded 10 page paper (for guidelines, see <http://biology.rutgers.edu/biological-sciences/research> or course Canvas site) and that it is due, *graded* by your research mentor, by 5pm of the second (or only) reading day at the end of the fall semester.

____ A written 30-50 page thesis (according to guidelines to be provided to the student) is due mid-April.

____ A 30-60 minute thesis defense is also required and must be completed by mid-April. Students will be notified of the specific deadline and details.

____ A three member thesis defense committee, including your research mentor and at least one member of the Division of Life Sciences, must be present for the thesis defense.

____ Paid or research credit through other departments may not count toward the research requirement hours for Honors in Biology.

____ A completed contract is required each semester to register. A proposal is not required in the spring.

____ Completion of Honors in Biology may fulfill the capstone requirement for the Honors College and SAS Honors Program.

____ Students must enroll in a 1 credit course in thesis preparation that will be offered in the first half of the spring semester by the Biology department.

____ I understand the requirements for Honors in Biology and will review the specifics on the Canvas course site.

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Circle the appropriate course number:

Credits (3-6)

Honors in Biology Research Fall 408 / Spring 409 _____

Faculty Research Mentor's Name _____

Faculty Mentor's Unit & Department _____ phone # _____

Email address: _____

Faculty: Please read carefully and initial:

____ I understand that students conducting Honors in the Biological Sciences must test a specific hypothesis and must collect data. Research with human subjects and group projects are not permitted.

____ I understand that students must complete a rough draft and final 10 page research manuscript in the fall semester. I must submit a grade for this paper by email to Dr. Carr-Schmid. It is the responsibility of the student to provide me with the grading form and rubric from the course Canvas site, with the paper to review.

____ I understand that in the spring semester students are required to complete a 30-50 page thesis and 30-60 minute oral defense by early April. I understand I must be present for the oral defense. Paperwork, including a rubric for the final paper and presentation will be provided.

____ The level of honors for Honors in Biology is determined by the quality of the student's lab work, quality of the research paper, and quality of the oral thesis defense and overall GPA.

____ Students are expected to work at least 4-5 hours per week per credit and may not be paid or apply research credit through other departments toward their Honors in Biology hours requirement.

Faculty Advisor's Signature: _____ Date _____