

Global Learning Semesters

Course Syllabus

Course: BIOL-490 Senior Research Project

Department: Health and Life Sciences

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



| Course Summary | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Course Code | Course Title | Recommended Credit Hours |
| BIOL-490 | Senior Research Project | 4 |
| Semester Offered | Contact Hours | Prerequisites |
| Please contact us | 42-45 | All Major BIOL-Requirements of the 100-300 Series; Math-220 |
| Department | Level of Course | Language of Instruction |
| Health and Life Sciences | Upper Division | English |

Course Description

This course introduces the student to the procedures and practices of scientific research and the writing of a scientific proposal. The student will be expected to pose or choose a problem related to human biology, give the relevant background and literature, identify the aims and objectives of the project, suggest procedures and methodologies to be used to solve the problem and then work toward its solution under the supervision of a faculty. A final written report to include results and discussion is required.

The student will begin the process of arranging for his/her advisor and thesis topic from the first semester of the fourth year. The student will be expected to begin his/her project in the spring term, with a completion date the last week of the term.

Senior Thesis is expected to derive from the student's history of course experience, his/her interests, and the appropriateness of a particular faculty member to advise and laboratory to support his/her laboratory/field work. The thesis will require a more independent nature of work that is based on student responsibility and initiative and the students should not approach the process passively and should not consider themselves technicians. The appropriate faculty should be consulted about appropriateness or practicality of proposed ideas or if a project is chosen from the list supplied to the students. The thesis advisor will be separate from the academic advisor and need not be the same faculty member.

After approval from potential thesis advisors, the student must submit to the department a list of three names indicating, by preference, the choice of faculty advisor and topic for the thesis research by the end of the fall semester. The Department will then allocate students among the faculty taking into consideration student preferences, background to do the work, and the logistical and/or temporal considerations of the faculty advisors. The student will have to write a concise proposal of the work planned at the end of the fall semester. In summary, this process consists of the following steps:

1. Student considers interests and course background for potential areas of Senior Thesis research.
2. Student talks to at least 3 members of the Biology Department faculty about possibilities for their Senior Thesis.
3. Student submits names of 3 potential faculty thesis advisors in order of preference and with a brief statement about the topic.
4. After thesis advisor is assigned, the student writes a concise proposal of the work planned for the department
5. The student begins the proposed research in the beginning of the spring semester.

Prerequisites

All Major BIOL-Requirements of the 100-300 Series; Math-220