**BIOL 390 Contract 2023-2024**

Name:

ID # :

CCID:

Project Title (50 character only) :

BIOL 490 is a single-term, repeatable independent project \*3 course available to students that have completed at least one 300 level (\*3) course offered by the Department of Biological Sciences.

**Expectations:**

* Students can expect to spend the equivalent time or more as is required for a biological sciences course with a lecture and lab component (minimum of 6 hours per week).

* Students are expected to show up regularly to the lab according to a set schedule as discussed with their supervisor.
* Students are expected to conduct themselves according to the Code of Student Behavior, and are encouraged to avoid intentional and unintentional plagiarism, which may lead to grade of 0 in their final lab report as per University of Alberta policy.
* Successful completion of BIOL 390 requires a midterm assessment to be completed by the main supervisor and a final written report.

**Grade Breakdown for BIOL 390 projects:**

50% — Lab work/Research performance

50% – Written Papers

**Important Dates:**

* September 30- Contracts Due
* November 25 -Midterm Assessment Due
* December 20 –Final Paper Submission

**Midterm Assessment:**

It is a written document from the project supervisor that provides their student with formal commentary on their performance in the lab, which represents at least 20% of the total grade. Midterm assessments are to be given to the students by their supervisors, and the supervisors should email a copy to biougrad@ualberta.ca. The due date is **November 25** for **Fall** and **March 26** for**Winter.**

**Final Report:**

It is to follow a similar format to that of a peer-reviewed journal article. Such papers include the background introducing the study, results, supporting figures/tables/images, discussion, and references. The full report ranges from 15-20 pages. The student is responsible for discussing details of the report with their supervisor, such as formatting, style, and length (of the report and the various sections), and is responsible for following their supervisor's directions regarding the report in the same way that authors follow a journal's editorial board's directions. Final reports are to be sent to the main supervisor (and co-supervisor if applicable) and also uploaded to the Canvas site. The due date is **December 20** for **Fall**and **April 25** for **Winter**, unless the student's supervisor(s) has decided on an earlier deadline.

**Grade Evaluation:**

All assignments and examinations in this course will be given a numerical score. A cumulative course mark will be calculated from those scores, weighted as tabulated above. A final letter grade will be assigned based upon your cumulative mark and the distribution in the table below.

University of Alberta Marking and Grading Guidelines (<http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.4.html#23.4>)’.

Course Grades Obtained by Undergraduate Students:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Descriptor | Letter Grade | Final Course Mark | Grade Point Value |
| Excellent | A+ | 90-100 | 4.0 |
|   | A | 85-89 | 4.0 |
|   | A- | 80-84 | 3.7 |
| Good | B+ | 77-79 | 3.3 |
|   | B | 73-76 | 3.0 |
|   | B- | 70-72 | 2.7 |
| Satisfactory | C+ | 67-69 | 2.3 |
|   | C | 63-66 | 2.0 |
|   | C- | 60-62 | 1.7 |
| Poor | D+ | 55-59 | 1.3 |
| Minimal Pass | D | 50-54 | 1.0 |
| Failure | F | 0-49 | 0.0 |

Acceptance of Supervisor-student contract:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Co-Supervisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Co-Supervisor Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_