

# Biology Departmental Honors Agreement

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Planned graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please initial each item.

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1. \_\_\_\_\_ Departmental Honors applies to a Biology or Microbiology degree ONLY.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Coursework must include six credits of BIOL-L 490.<sup>1</sup>
3. \_\_\_\_\_ BIOL-L 490 must be taken during at least two semesters. Summer may count as one semester if registered in L490 during the entire summer (one summer session count as a semester).
4. \_\_\_\_\_ A 3.300 overall College GPA is required at the time of graduation. Even if a thesis is submitted well in advance of graduation, a 3.300 GPA at the time of graduation is a requirement.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Candidate's thesis committee must include at least three faculty members (not post-docs or graduate students). At least two members must be from the approved Biology faculty list (attached). If the third committee member is not from the Biology faculty list, that person's inclusion on the committee must be approved in writing by the Director of Undergraduate Studies. All committee members must be from the IU-Bloomington campus. The thesis committee has to be formed the semester prior to graduation.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ A meeting with the thesis committee must be held no later than the semester prior to defense of the thesis. A 3-5 page summary of the thesis project should be presented to the committee prior to the meeting and signed by the committee after the meeting. This summary will then be submitted to the Biology Undergraduate Advising Office by the committee chair.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ A physical copy of the honors thesis must be provided to the committee no later than April 15 (for May graduates) or December 1 (for December graduates).
  - a. The thesis must follow the general format of a journal article (Introduction, Material and Methods/Procedures, Results, and Discussion/Conclusions).
  - b. References to all sources must be included with format following that of a journal in the field of study relevant to the thesis topic.
  - c. While no absolute length requirement is in place, the suggested minimum length is 25 pages, double-spaced, 12 pt. font (any standard font such as Times, Arial, Helvetica), and 1" margins.
  - d. Candidates may request to see previous examples of honors thesis work by contacting the Biology Undergraduate Advising Office.

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<sup>1</sup> In some rare cases, MSCI-M 450 or CHEM-C 409 may be used in place of L490 upon written permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies. If M 450 or C 409 is approved, it may not be mixed with L490 for purposes of honors requirements. If a student is working in a Psychology Department lab, L490 is required.

8. \_\_\_\_ A public thesis defense must be held, followed by a private meeting with the committee.
- The candidate is responsible for booking a time and place for a public defense.
  - The candidate must advertise the defense. See Tammi Duzan in Jordan Hall 142 to announce the defense.
  - Following the public defense the candidate must meet with the committee to address any issues.
  - Once the defense is completed to the satisfaction of the committee, the thesis must be signed by all committee members.
9. \_\_\_\_ A signed physical copy of the honors thesis document must be turned in to the Biology Undergraduate Advising Office prior to graduation.<sup>2</sup> Please turn in your thesis by May 15<sup>th</sup> for (May graduation) and December 15<sup>th</sup> for (December graduation).
10. \_\_\_\_ Departmental honors can substitute for one advanced lab course for Biology BA and BS students as long as a candidate meets all honors requirements, including the 3.300 overall GPA requirement. However, this substitution is not encouraged.<sup>3</sup> The honors thesis does not replace any coursework for the Microbiology BA or BS or the Animal Behavior degree. If you are doing an Area of Concentration (AOC) for the BS in Biology, your Honors thesis will not count as one of the two required upper level labs.
11. \_\_\_\_ The Biology Undergraduate Advising Office must be informed as soon as a candidate is aware of changes to honors plans (including committee members, graduation date, or L490 enrollment).

**For candidates doing research in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences:**

12. \_\_\_\_ Candidates' research projects must be approved in writing by the Biology Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies during the first semester of research.
13. \_\_\_\_ It is required that a candidate take BIOL L490 credits for Departmental Honors.

Please list names of your thesis committee below:

\_\_\_\_\_

*Thesis advisor*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Committee member*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Committee member*

I have read and understand the Departmental Honors agreement, and I agree to its guidelines. I understand that failure to meet these guidelines will result in the loss of departmental honors.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>2</sup> Graduation usually occurs on the last day of the month of graduation. However, if a candidate plans to submit a thesis after the graduation ceremony has taken place, the Biology Undergraduate Advising Office should be notified as soon as possible.

<sup>3</sup> It is NOT recommended that Biology students rely on departmental honors to replace a lab course because departmental honors status is determined at graduation. If the departmental honors requirements are not met and the student does not have sufficient lab coursework, then the student will not graduate.

## Potential "Biology" Members of an Honors Thesis Committee

### Biology and Affiliated Faculty

Matthew Bachman  
Carl Bauer (MCB)  
Steve Bell  
Alan Bender  
Volker Brendel  
Yves V. Brun  
Brian Calvi  
Lingling Chen (MCB)  
Yean Chooi-Odle  
Keith Clay  
David Daleke (Med Sci)  
Pranav Danthi  
Lynda Delph  
Greg Demas  
Jim Drummond (MCB)  
Wayne Forrester (Med Sci)  
Pat Foster  
Clay Fuqua  
David Giedroc (CHEM)  
Matthew Hahn  
Spencer Hall  
Roger Hangarter  
Richard Hardy  
Peter Hollenhorst (Med Sci)  
Elizabeth Housworth (MATH)  
Ke Hu  
Heather Hundley (Med Sci)  
Laura Hurley  
Roger Innes  
Claudia Johnson (GEOL)  
Cheng Kao (MCB)  
Thomas Kaufman  
Daniel Kearns  
David Kehoe  
Julia van Kessel  
Ellen Ketterson  
Justin Kumar  
Soni Lacefield  
Jay Lennon  
Curt Lively  
Lisa Lloyd (HPSC)

Michael Lynch  
Emília Martins  
James "Jake" McKinlay  
Scott Michaels  
Anirban Mitra (Med Sci)  
Armin Moczek  
Leonie Moyle  
Tuli Mukhopadhyay  
Ken Nephew (Med Sci)  
Irene Newton  
Heather O'Hagan (Med Sci)  
Jeffrey D. Palmer  
Richard Phillips  
Flynn Picardal (SPEA)  
Craig Pikaard  
David Polly (GEOL)  
Anne Prieto (PSY)  
Elizabeth C. Raff  
Rudolf A. Raff  
Erik Ragsdale  
Heather Reynolds  
Loren H. Rieseberg  
Kimberly Rosvall  
Dean Rowe-Magnus  
Todd Royer (SPEA)  
Whitney Schlegel  
Dale Senegelaub (PSY)  
Sidney L. Shaw  
Troy Smith  
Nicholas Sokol  
SP Srinivas (Optometry)  
Stefan J. Surzycki  
Rod Suthers (Med Sci)  
Haixu Tang (Informatics)  
Michael Tansey  
William Timberlake (PSY)  
Michael J. Wade  
Claire Walczak (Med Sci)  
Meredith West (PSY)  
Malcolm E. Winkler  
Joel Ybe (MCB)  
Andrew Zelhof

Adam Zlotnick (MCB)  
Miriam E. Zolan

### Research Scientists

Farrah Bashey-Visser  
Karen Bush  
Geetanjali Chawla  
Lucy Cherbas  
Justin (Jeong-Hyeon) Choi  
Kevin Cook  
Christina Dann (CHEM)  
Don Gilbert  
Gail Hardy  
Marcy Kingsbury  
Eric Knox  
Kathy Matthews  
Colin Meiklejohn  
Keithanne Mockaitis  
David Morgan  
Gavin Murphy  
Jim Murray  
Annette Parks  
Ronald Pearson  
Ellen Popodi