

Bio 195/Independent Study in Biology: Literature Research

—2 credits. Cannot be repeated for credit. Available fall and spring semesters.

—SIGNATURES: Registration requires the signature of the department chair or research coordinator (Dr. Knowles).

—BEFORE REGISTERING: identify a subject area you wish to investigate, and speak to a professor with whom you are interested in working. Depending on faculty workloads, you might be assigned to a different faculty member.

—PREREQUISITES: minimum GPA of 2.00 in the major.

—CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An in-depth study of selected topics in biological theories, processes, and applications.

—LINKAGES TO LAB/FIELD RESEARCH AND HONORS: A thorough search and review of the literature is the recommended way to begin any scientific work. Literature research will help you learn more about your topic, identify interesting hypotheses to test, and discover methods and techniques you might use in field or lab research. Many students who do honors research in the senior year undertake literature research in the junior year.

—EXPECTATIONS: The literature review must be comprehensive. Computer literature searches and visits to other libraries are normal components of such research. Your critical evaluation of the literature is an important component as well. Work closely with your professor; meet frequently to discuss your ideas as well as your progress.

Because you earn two academic credits, you are expected to spend at least 6 hours per week on the project. By the end of the sixth week of the semester, a bibliography must be submitted to your professor. Your professor may suggest that you withdraw from the course at this time if your progress is inadequate. A rough draft of your literature review is due two weeks before classes end. Two copies of your final paper are due by the last class day of the semester.

—FORMAT FOR THE LITERATURE REVIEW: See the section below, "Literature Review and Scientific Paper Format" for requirements about format and documentation.

—PROJECT BUDGET: The biology department will reimburse you up to \$20 for expenses such as interlibrary loan fees and photocopying at other libraries. You must submit receipts to your professor.