

PETITION FOR BIOL 99 SENIOR RESEARCH AND SENIOR HONORS IN BIOLOGY

Complete, detach and return this to the Biology Office by Sept. 10, 2009

Student's Name: _____
(Print) First Last

Telephone #: _____ Mailbox #: _____

Email: _____

A. Petition to enroll in Senior Research (BIOL 99)

I will take BIOL 99 with: _____
(PRINT the Name of your Research Sponsor)

Title of research project:

Brief synopsis of proposed research:

Fill in the section below if your Sponsor is NOT a member of the Brandeis Biology Department:

Institution and Department affiliation of your Sponsor: _____

Telephone number and e-mail address of your Sponsor: _____

Name of Brandeis Biology Dept. Co-sponsor: _____

I understand that taking Senior Research (BIOL 99) **requires that I submit a written review and a senior thesis** to my Research Sponsor (and Co-Sponsor, if applicable) by the deadlines specified on the time-table for this academic year:

_____ (student signature)

Signatures of your Research Sponsor (and co-sponsor, if applicable): I/we accept this student for BIOL 99 (Senior Research) and, if applicable, as a candidate for Honors in Biology.

Research Sponsor's signature

Co-Sponsor's signature

REMINDER: in addition to completing this petition (return it to Biology office), you must enroll in **Biol 99a (Fall) or Biol 99b (Spring)**. **BIOL 99 enrollment requires two signatures:** Senior Research/Honors Coordinator & Your Biology Department Research Sponsor (or co-sponsor)

B. Petition for candidacy for Senior Honors in Biology.

Provide in Section A above your proposed sponsor, title of your research, and a research abstract.

Eligibility for Honors will not be determined until the conclusion of the senior year. In addition to laboratory performance, requirements include a written thesis, an oral presentation and defense, and a specific GPA:

You are eligible to be a candidate for Senior Honors if the final GPA of science courses offered to fulfill the Biology concentration is **3.30** or higher, **or**, if the final GPA of science courses offered to fulfill the Biology concentration is at least **3.0** **and** you have an **average of B+ or better in three Biology electives, not including BIOL99**, taken to fulfill the Biology concentration requirement for either the B.A. or B.S. degree. Although five electives are required for the B.S. degree, the best three grades will be chosen to calculate the average.

Please list the BIOL electives (and grades received, if already taken) you have taken or plan to take:

Your present total GPA is _____.

Your present *science* GPA is _____
(only count the courses that apply to the Biology major)

I have read the Senior Honors section of the Senior Research Program booklet, I understand the eligibility requirements, and I petition to be considered a *candidate* for Senior Honors.

_____ (Student's signature)

C. TO BE COMPLETED BY RESEARCH SPONSOR

You are the research sponsor for an undergraduate student conducting BIOL 99 research. If the research to be conducted by this student involves any of the potential hazards listed below, please put a check next to that hazard:

_____ radiation or radioactivity

_____ chemical hazards, e. g., drugs, poisonous or explosive materials, carcinogens

_____ physical hazards, e. g., high voltages, pressure, or temperature; intense laser sources

_____ microbiological hazards, e. g., infectious or disease-producing bacteria or viruses

_____ recombinant DNA or genetic engineering

_____ other (please specify) _____

I, the research sponsor, will provide appropriate safety instructions as required for each of the hazards that may be encountered by this student while conducting research in my laboratory.

Signature of Research Sponsor

Date

BIOL 99 SENIOR RESEARCH AND SENIOR HONORS IN BIOLOGY

TIME-TABLE FOR 2009-2010 ACADEMIC YEAR

FALL SEMESTER, 2009

BEFORE September 10, 2009 [last day to enroll in classes]:

1. Enroll in BIOL 99: turn in to the Registrar's office a BIOL 99 course enrollment form (obtained from Registrar's office) signed by **both** Dr. Press **and** your Sponsor (or Biology faculty co-sponsor if your Sponsor is not Biology faculty).

2. Return completed Senior Research/Senior Honors petition to Biology Office.

BY December 15, 2009:

All BIOL 99 students: review paper on your field of research **is due**. Submit one copy to your faculty Sponsor and one copy to Dr. Press.

SPRING SEMESTER, 2010

BEFORE Feb. 1, 2010 [last day to enroll]:

Enroll in BIOL 99 as above (two signatures are required).

BY April 30, 2010: SENIOR THESIS IS DUE

Students who are NOT doing honors: Write a Senior Research thesis (see guidelines above). *There is no oral presentation or defense of the thesis.* Give copies to your Research Sponsor (and co-sponsor) and to Dr. Press by the deadline specified.

Students who are honors candidates: Write a Senior Honors Research thesis (see guidelines above). Give one copy to each member of your Faculty Research committee by the deadline specified. You will be notified as to the faculty composition of your committee as well as the date, time, and room assignment for your oral presentation. Email the title of your research thesis to Dr. Press.

May 6, May 7, and May 10, 2010: Oral defenses for Honors candidates

Public oral presentation and defense of your research and thesis before assigned Faculty Research committee.

May 14, 2010: Honors candidates: final version of Honors thesis is due

A copy of the *final version* of your Senior Honors Research thesis, including any revisions required by your Faculty Research committee, is due in the Biology Dept. office by 4:00 pm.