



data may have been collected—then emphasis in the paper should be placed on a description and analysis of the experimental approaches used and any modifications made to the original research plan.

6. A student is normally expected to devote 10 – 20 hours/week to the project. This time should include reading, research time, meetings with research mentors, and paper preparation.
7. **A project period generally ends on the last reading day of the semester. Students should aim to submit the research paper by this deadline. However, the specific due date can be determined in consultation with the sponsor and co-sponsor and can extend past the last reading day, if necessary. Sponsors and co-sponsors should refrain from extending independent study beyond the end of the exam period.**
8. **The research paper must be submitted to both the sponsor and co-sponsor.** Grades for BIOL 399/499 will be decided in consultation with the Biology department faculty co-sponsor. A grade of “A” signifies truly outstanding work during the semester and an outstanding research paper.
9. Sponsors may not waive any of the above requirements.

**We acknowledge and agree to follow the policies outlined above.**

---

Student Signature

**Sponsors:** Please send an e-mail to the academic office ([bio-undergraduate@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:bio-undergraduate@sas.upenn.edu)) and to the project co-sponsor describing the nature of the student’s research, any reading that the student will be doing, and the frequency and nature of contact between you, other project overseers, and the student. Your email should also state whether or not you employ the student, and if so, explain how you will differentiate the work for which the student will be compensated from the student’s unpaid Biol 399 or 499 research. **Please note that credit will not be awarded if there are restrictions on the circulation of the final paper (or honors thesis) among the faculty of the Biology department.**

---

Sponsor's Name and Position/Department  
(must be Penn faculty)

---

Signature

---

Sponsor’s e-mail address

---

Co-Sponsor's Name (if applicable)

---

Signature

**This completed form, along with the project proposal, is due by the end of the day on Tuesday, September 7th.**