

BIOL 49X0R Course Description

This course is 4 (four) credit hours and affords undergraduate students the opportunity to engage in laboratory research under the direction of a faculty member at the University of Georgia. Students registered for this course may not receive payment for the research unless they have earned a fellowship stipend.

Biology majors may use this course to satisfy either their Major Laboratory requirement or one of their Major Elective requirements. Please note that only the first semester of the course (4960R) will count towards the completion of Biology major requirements and that any additional semesters (i.e. BIOL 4970R/4980R) will NOT count towards the major but rather as a General Elective. Any of these courses will also count towards UGA's Experiential Learning requirement. All R-suffix courses will also count as Honors courses for Honors students.

If you conduct research for multiple semesters in the same laboratory, you will register for BIOL 4960R, 4970R, and 4980R, respectively. If you conduct research in DIFFERENT laboratories each semester, you will register for BIOL 4960R each time.

Course Requirements

1. Research must be **biological in nature** for the course to be approved. Many disciplines may qualify and include, but are not limited to: biochemistry, bioinformatics, biology education, biomedical engineering, cellular and/or molecular biology, entomology, genetics, marine biology, microbiology, pharmaceutical sciences, and plant biology. BIOL 4960R is not a literature review course; the student must be actively involved in a research project.
2. A completed BIOL 4960R, 4970R, or 4980R form (see [Student Forms](#)) must be filled out electronically by 5:00pm on the last business day before classes begin each semester. The form has two parts: one to be completed by the student, and one to be completed by the Faculty Sponsor. Both must be fully completed before the form can be reviewed and approved.
3. Once the form has been reviewed and approved, the student will be emailed a section number (CRN) to register for the course.
4. Students must complete at least 12 hours of work per week (i.e. conducting background research, reading/writing manuscripts and reports, and conducting experiments in the laboratory) for a total of 180 hours per semester.
5. Students are required to submit a research paper via electronic submission to eLC by reading day. A hand-delivered or emailed copy will not be accepted. The Biology undergraduate degree program requires a paper even if the Faculty Research sponsor does not. Students who do not submit a paper will receive a grade of Incomplete (I). See [BIOL 49X0R Research Paper Guidelines](#) for details on the written final paper.
6. The submitted research paper must be an original paper written during and for the semester of research. Resubmitting a past research paper or copied content from past research papers qualifies as self-plagiarism, which is explicitly prohibited by the [University of Georgia's academic honesty policy](#).