

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES INTERNSHIP – BIOL 495

GENERAL INFORMATION – BIOL 495 offers practical experience in the biological sciences with an approved employer to help students with career development. The practical experience can come from working with a professional in a career track, including healthcare or industry; working with a state, federal, or private agency; or working with biology educators. The student must make initial contact with the individual, agency, or company with whom s/he will do the internship. The student arranges his/her schedule with a supervisor and is responsible for completing the work assigned by the supervisor. Forty contact hours are required per credit hour, and a report is due at the end of the term. The internship experience is graded as pass/fail (or S/U), and all requirements must be met to earn a satisfactory rating.

PREREQUISITES

- 60 s.h. and permission of Department Chair (Dr. Ranessa L. Cooper, RL-Cooper@wiu.edu)
 - Students should plan to attend the BIOL 495 information session.
 - Students are required to meet with the biology Academic Advisor and/or Department Chair to determine if the internship is appropriate for earned credit(s).
 - Students must submit an application form to the Department Chair at least two weeks in advance of the start date of the proposed internship.
 - For registration, schedule an appointment in WG 316 with the Chair's Secretary or call (309) 298-2408.
 - At the registration meeting with the Department Chair, the student will review and sign an internship agreement to accept the internship requirements as outlined below.

REQUIREMENTS*

- One to 12 hours of credit can be earned. Only three credit hours may be applied toward the major or minor in biology, but extra hours can be used for upper division requirements.
- For each semester hour of credit, the student must complete 40 hours of internship work.
- The student must arrange for the on-site supervisor to send a letter or e-mail to the Department Chair documenting the total number clock hours worked during the internship.
- A report is due to the Department Chair at the end of the term.
 - Report format
 - Title page
 - Body of paper
 - 3-5 double-spaced pages (using 12-point font and 1" margins) describing the work activities and what the student learned that s/he could not have obtained in a traditional class
 - Concluding paragraph that indicates how the experience helped develop career goals or objectives
 - If appropriate, a literature cited section

*If the requirements are not completed by the end of the term, the student will receive an incomplete (I). The "I" will become a "U" if requirements are not met by the ninth week of the following term.