

BIOL4304: Undergraduate Research in Biology

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Time and Place of Class Meetings:

BIOL 4305 is not a traditional lecture-style course. There will be a standing biweekly laboratory meeting that the student will be expected to attend. The time and place of research participation will depend on the research being performed and the availability of the student.

Description of Course Content:

Students enrolled in BIOL 4305 will gain experience in research as a member of The Watson Lab by taking a major role in a research project alongside the PI or a graduate student. Students are expected to attend the biweekly laboratory meeting and spend a minimum of three hours per week working in the laboratory. A product, such as a research poster or manuscript, will be produced by the student and may be presented at a local or regional scientific meeting.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Working as part of a team to perform biological research.
2. Designing and implementing a research plan
3. Data collection and management
4. Skills in ecological and/or physiological research techniques
5. Understanding the process of science from observation to publication.

Recommended Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

Reading materials will be assigned and distributed at laboratory meetings and/or posted on Blackboard.

Blackboard:

This class uses the learning management system Blackboard to disseminate content and information. I will post links to videos, notes, reading materials, digital supplements, and announcements from this learning platform.

Grading Policy:

Grades will be assigned based upon attendance and contribution in meetings, weekly research participation, and the quality of the poster or manuscript produced. Students start out with full credit (100%) and every missed laboratory meetings will result in a reduction of one letter grade (-10%). The research product will constitute 50% of the student's grade.