

Getting Credit for Undergraduate Research

Many students at Cornell earn academic credit for the research that they do with Cornell faculty. There are a few simple guidelines that you need to follow.

Registration for BioG 2990 and 4990 are done in the Office of Undergraduate Biology (216 Stimson Hall). Enrollment forms are available there and on the web at www.bio.cornell.edu.

You must have a faculty member in charge of your research. Many students work with graduate students or post-docs on a day-to-day basis, but only faculty can determine grades.

There are two research classes available to students:

BioG 2990

This course is intended for students who are new to undergraduate research. Students enrolled in BIOG 2990 may be reading scientific literature, learning research techniques or assisting with ongoing research. Credit hours are variable (Maximum of 2 credits is suggested) and grading is S/U only. The faculty supervisor will determine the work goals and the form of the final report.

BioG499

Prerequisite: 1 semester of BIOG 299 or equivalent. This course is for students continuing their Cornell research. Students enrolled for this credit should be doing independent work on their own project. The faculty supervisor will determine the form of the final report.

Students must register in the Office of Undergraduate Biology in 216 Stimson Hall. Applications are available in the OUB and on the web at www.bio.cornell.edu. Each student must submit a proposed research project description during course registration. Any Cornell faculty member whose research field is biological in nature may serve as a supervisor for this course. The faculty supervisor will determine the work goals and the form of the final report. Non-Cornell supervisors are not acceptable. S/U grades optional.

Students in the Arts College may not register for more than 6 credits per term with one supervisor or 8 credits per term with more than one supervisor. Students in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences may use up to 15 credits of independent study (BIOG 4990, BIOG 4980) towards graduation. Up to three credits of research may be used to complete the Programs of Study in General Biology, Genetics and Development, and Systematics and Biotic Diversity, and four credits of research in Neurobiology and Behavior.