

Applied Learning in the College of Arts & Sciences

Applied learning is a hallmark of the student experience in the College of Arts and Sciences. Each of the College's departments requires an applied learning experience as a part of the curriculum for its undergraduate majors. Examples include faculty-directed research, internships, service learning, and capstone courses and projects, all of which challenge students to integrate various strands of knowledge and to apply that knowledge to broader, real-world or real disciplinary situations. Through applied learning, students in the college gain direct hands-on experience with the skills of their major fields as an essential part of their preparation for life and career.

Biology department only requires 1 credit hour to meet the Applied Learning requirement.

BIO 291 = Introductory Research [up to 3 cr hrs]

- Freshman or sophomore standing and consent of instructor and department chair.
- Research under faculty supervision.

BIO 491 = DIS (Directed Independent Study) [up to 6 cr hrs] 6 hrs max for Biology electives

- Overall GPA of at least 2.00, jr or sr standing, and consent of instructor, department chair and dean.
- Working with a faculty member in his/her lab assisting with research.
- Contact a faculty member you've had as a professor, or if a faculty member is conducting research in an area you are interested in, email or stop by during his/her office hours to discuss a possible DIS. Refer to the Biology/MBY faculty page to see the types of research the professors are involved with:
<http://www.uncw.edu/bio/about-faculty.html>
- Faculty member completes a form to have BIO 491 put on a student's schedule; it is not something that can be registered for in Seanet.
- Course is graded.
- Cannot be paid.

BIO 498 = Internship [up to 12 cr hrs] 3 hrs max for Biology electives

- Overall GPA of at least 2.00, jr or sr standing, and consent of instructor, department chair, and dean
- Students are responsible for finding their own internship.
- Site approval/site supervisor/Permission to Enroll forms available through Melanie Canfield (canfieldm@uncw.edu).
- Sites and site supervisors need to be approved first. Some sites are already approved so if an agency is willing to have a student intern at their site, first check with Melanie Canfield to see if the site is already approved. If site is approved, then student will not need to complete the site and site supervisor approval paperwork. Once student has the Site Approval form completed and has a resume from the site supervisor then he/she submits both to Melanie.
- Next step: student must find a faculty member in Biology to be the faculty supervisor. Both student and faculty supervisor complete the Permission to Enroll form. Form is signed by site supervisor, too.
- Once Permission to Enroll form has been completed, submit it to Melanie.
- Student does not register for an internship in Seanet; it will be put on the student's schedule once all paperwork has been submitted and approved.
- Internship is a Pass/Fail; no letter grade.
- Internship can be paid or unpaid.
- For Spring/Fall: 3 hrs per/wk = 1 cr; 6 hrs per/wk = 2 cr; 9 hrs per/wk = 3 cr. (Summer hrs different)

BIO 480 = Field Studies [1-6 cr hrs] 10 hrs max for Biology electives

- Prerequisites: BIO 201, 202, and consent of instructor (BIO 366 recommended).
- Courses taken at UNCW or that transfer into UNCW from other institutions.

BIO 493 = Biology Teaching Practicum [1-4 cr hrs] 2 hrs max for Biology electives

- Junior standing, consent of instructor, and a 3.00 cumulative GPA.
- Assisting a faculty member with his/her class.

BIO 499 = Honors Work in Biology [2-6 cr hrs] 6 hrs max for Biology electives

- Independent study for honors students.