

Research-based

APPROVAL SHEET for PLS4941 PRACTICAL WORK EXPERIENCE IN PLANT SCIENCE

3 Credits S-U Grade Only

Prerequisites: **Prior arrangement with advisor and employer; approval of department chairman**

Student Name: _____

UF ID: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Grade Point Average: _____

Department Advisor: _____

PLS4941 Advisor: _____

Employer: Name of Firm: _____

 Address: _____

 Phone: _____ Fax: _____

 E-Mail: _____

Proposed Supervisor's Name: _____

Supervisor's Position or Title: _____

Students Proposed Wage: _____

Working Hours: _____

Overtime Hours Available: _____

Start and End Dates: _____

Lodging Accommodation Address: _____

Student contact info (phone # and E-mail) _____

Brief Description of Employers Operation: _____

Number of Credits: _____

Approved By:

1. Supervisor (at intern site) _____

(Signature indicates that employer accepts duties outlined in "Description of Employers Duties" line A)

2. Department or PLS4941 Advisor _____

3. Department Chairman _____

Plant Science Research Internship (PLS 4941)

CONTACT:

Amy Alexander
Office Location: 3105 McCarty Hall-B
E-Mail: amyalex@ufl.edu
Phone: 352-273-4573

COURSE OFFERED:

Every semester – as agreed by faculty mentor

TIMES:

As arranged with faculty mentor.

CREDIT HOURS:

3

PREREQUISITES:

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A research experience for students that involves carrying out activities in laboratory, field, and/or other venues that involve specific skills and techniques related to research topics. The student will gain research knowledge, skills and techniques related to their specific research topic of interest.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

There is a need for students to obtain hands-on experiential learning in plant science research. This includes involvement of the student in all aspects of the scientific process, from formulating hypotheses, designing experiments, becoming proficient at a variety of skills and techniques, collecting and analyzing data, and synthesizing results into conclusions and summaries of particular findings. Through mentorship with faculty in plant science, this course will provide opportunities for the student to participate in a substantial period of experiential learning activities and develop a variety of skills, techniques, and knowledge associated with conducting research.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The overall objectives of the course are to provide students with 1) an understanding of the use of the scientific process and the activities associated with conducting research; 2) an opportunity to interact with a faculty mentor and be involved in various facets of research by participating in new or ongoing projects; and 3) utilize science-based evidence to formulate conclusions and communicate these in both written and oral forms.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Following this course, students are expected to:

1. Describe the scientific method, and explain how it applies to the project completed.
2. Demonstrate new skills associated with conducting research in a discipline within plant science.
3. Synthesize and provide an overview of results obtained from the research they were involved with during this course.

CLASS FORMAT:

Research activities under leadership by a faculty mentor/advisor.

TEXTBOOK:

None required.

ASSIGNED READINGS:

To be determined by faculty advisor.

SPECIAL SOFTWARE:

None required.

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS:

Students will be evaluated by the faculty mentor/advisor on both competency related to their research and work place skills. Overall attendance, punctuality, and completion of a daily research activity journal, research summary, and general performance during the internship will be evaluated. Please see evaluation sheet.

The student will be required to prepare a summary of research activities and a synthesis of the important conclusions found at the end of the research activities. This summary can take the form of: a written report; an oral presentation; or a creative presentation in a variety of acceptable media forms. The presentation of this work will be determined by the faculty mentor/advisor in a venue of their choosing.

GRADING:

S/U

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE:

Students will be expected to complete the 480 total hours required.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS:

The 480 hour requirement can be completed within one or two semesters and may include both time spent in the lab and time spent in study or preparation outside of the lab. Multiple activities within the same position and/or multiple positions can be included as long as a summary (see described above) for each activity is completed.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE AND DEMEANOR:

Students are expected to arrive for assigned duties on time and to maintain courteous and professional relations with the mentor and with other lab members. Personal business (such as the use of cell phones or computers) should be conducted outside of assigned work hours, except by arrangement with the mentor.

ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP WORK:

In the case of unavoidable absences, the student is responsible for contacting the mentor as soon as possible, and making arrangements to make up assigned work. In research, there are often occasions in which a task must be completed on schedule; in these cases, the student may need to make arrangements for completion of a task in his or her absence.

Academic Honesty, Software Use, Campus Helping Resources, Services for Students with Disabilities**ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/SCCR/honorcodes/honorcode.php>.

SOFTWARE USE:

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

CAMPUS HELPING RESOURCES:

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/*
 - Counseling Services
 - Groups and Workshops
 - Outreach and Consultation
 - Self-Help Library
 - Training Programs
 - Community Provider Database
- *Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/*

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

GENERAL EVALUATION

Faculty Mentor/Advisor: _____

Length of Internship: _____

Year and Term of Internship: _____

Draw a circle around the number that corresponds with the intern's performance in the following areas:

	Poor	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Excellent
Reliable and reported to work on time	1	2	3	4	5
Accepts responsibility for all tasks assigned	1	2	3	4	5
Seeks additional tasks	1	2	3	4	5
Cooperates with others	1	2	3	4	5
Follows safety protocols	1	2	3	4	5
Has a positive attitude; is pleasant to work with	1	2	3	4	5
Is productive and completes tasks in a timely manner	1	2	3	4	5
Follows instructions	1	2	3	4	5
Gained mastery over new skills and techniques	1	2	3	4	5
Overall learning process	1	2	3	4	5

PROJECT EVALUATION

Faculty Mentor/Advisor: _____

Length of Internship: _____

Year and Term of Internship: _____

Draw a circle around the number that corresponds with the intern's performance in the following areas:

	Poor	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Excellent
Overall comprehension of project	1	2	3	4	5
Demonstrated ability to use scientific method	1	2	3	4	5
Presentation provides justification for research conducted	1	2	3	4	5
Presentation provides rationale for methods used	1	2	3	4	5
Presentation shows appropriate conclusions	1	2	3	4	5
Student's work was a valuable contribution to the lab/project	1	2	3	4	5

