**BIOL 499 Contract 2023-2024**

Name:

ID # :

CCID:

Project Title( 50 character only) :

BIOL 499 is a Fourth Year two-term, non-repeatable independent project \*6 course available to students that have completed at least one 300 level (\*3) course offered by the Department of Biological Sciences.

**Expectations:**

* Students can expect to spend the equivalent time or more as is required for a biological sciences course with a lecture and lab component (minimum of 6 hours per week).

* Students are expected to show up regularly to the lab according to a set schedule as discussed with their supervisor.
* Students are expected to conduct themselves according to the Code of Student Behaviour, and are encouraged to avoid intentional and unintentional plagiarism, which may lead to grade of 0 in their final lab report as per University of Alberta policy.
* Successful completion of BIOL 499 requires a midterm progress report, a midterm assessment to be completed by the main supervisor, an oral presentation, and a final written report.

**Grade Breakdown for BIOL 499 projects:**

40% — Lab work/Research performance

40% – Written Papers

20% – Oral Presentation ( Date: )

**Important Dates:**

* October 2- Contracts Due
* December 22- Midterm Progress Report
* January 11 -Midterm Assessment Due
* January 19-Course Withdrawal Date
* March 24-28- [BIOL 499 talks](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1lK40OAqiy5SgO3OkDCxRkya0cjNwAdan2nmAweJqaoI/edit#gid=0)
* April 16 - Final Paper Submission

**Midterm Progress Report:**

The midterm progress report is due to be handed to your supervisor on **December 22** and uploaded on the eClass site. The purpose of this report is to update what you have done so far in BIOL 499. Details of what should be included in the report is suggested by your supervisor.

**Midterm Assessment:**

The Midterm assessment is a written document from the project supervisor that provides their student with formal commentary on their performance in the lab and is accompanied by a letter grade. Midterm assessments are to be given to the students by their supervisors, and the supervisors should email a copy to biougrad@ualberta.ca. The due date is **January 11**.

**Oral Presentation:**

The presentation will be performed by the student to a group consisting of their peer group, their supervisors, and other guests. The oral presentation will be evaluated and marked by the student's supervisors and will be 15 minutes long with a 5-minute question and answer period to immediately follow.

**Final Report:**

The final written report is to follow a similar format to that of a peer-reviewed journal article. Such papers include the background introducing the study, results, supporting figures/tables/images, discussion, and references. The full report ranges from 15-20 pages. The student is responsible for discussing details of the report with their supervisor, such as formatting, style, and length (of the report and of the various sections), and is responsible for following their supervisor's directions regarding the report in the same way that authors follow a journal's editorial board's directions. Final reports are to be sent to both supervisors and also uploaded to the eClass site. The due date is **April 26**, unless the student's supervisors have decided on an earlier deadline.

**Grade Evaluation:**

All assignments and examinations in this course will be given a numerical score. A cumulative course mark will be calculated from those scores, weighted as tabulated above. A final letter grade will be assigned based upon your cumulative mark and the distribution in the table below.

University of Alberta Marking and Grading Guidelines (<http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.4.html#23.4>)’.

Course Grades Obtained by Undergraduate Students:

| Descriptor | Letter Grade | Final Course Mark | Grade Point Value |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Excellent | A+ | 90-100 | 4.0 |
|  | A | 85-89 | 4.0 |
|  | A- | 80-84 | 3.7 |
| Good | B+ | 77-79 | 3.3 |
|  | B | 73-76 | 3.0 |
|  | B- | 70-72 | 2.7 |
| Satisfactory | C+ | 67-69 | 2.3 |
|  | C | 63-66 | 2.0 |
|  | C- | 60-62 | 1.7 |
| Poor | D+ | 55-59 | 1.3 |
| Minimal Pass | D | 50-54 | 1.0 |
| Failure | F | 0-49 | 0.0 |

Acceptance of Supervisor-student contract:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Co-Supervisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Co-Supervisor Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_