

**Department of Biology – University of Mississippi
BISC 493 Syllabus**

Instructions: Complete this form with your Directed Study supervisor and then submit it to the Biology office for approval by the department chair. Prior to final grade submission your supervisor must submit to the office a copy of the required final research paper and/or presentation. See the reverse side of this form for the course descriptions.

Date _____ **Section** _____ **Semester** _____ **Credits** _____

Student Name _____ **Student ID** _____

Email address _____@go.olemiss.edu **Honors Project? Y / N**

Titles of Directed Study Project (please list previous titles, semester/year and instructor):

BISC 491 _____

Semester/Year _____ **Faculty Supervisor** _____

BISC 492 _____

Semester/Year _____ **Faculty Supervisor** _____

BISC 493 _____

One paragraph description of project:

Grading Rubric: Supervising faculty will fill in the percentages with which each of these components contribute to the student's final course grade.

Participation	_____	
Specific skills	_____	(examples: _____)
Research presentation	_____	
Research paper	_____	
Other	_____	

Total: 100%

Student Signature _____ **date** _____

Faculty Supervisor Signature _____ **date** _____

Department chair _____ **date** _____

Catalog Description of Directed Study Courses

BISC 491 Directed Study in Biological Sciences I. Independent research project of mutual student/faculty interest conducted under the supervision of biology faculty. Requirements include a research paper and/or presentation*. Students must contact a faculty sponsor before enrollment. May be repeated for up to 3 hours of cumulative credit. (Two hours per week per credit hour attempted). (1-3).

BISC 492 Directed Study in Biological Sciences II. Similar to BISC 491 except that the credit hours cannot be applied to the degree requirements of a major or minor in biology. Prerequisite: BISC 491. (1-3).

BISC 493 Capstone Directed Study. An independent research project conducted under the supervision of a faculty member with whom the student has completed 6 hours of prior research work (BISC 491 and BISC 492). Results must be reported in a research paper and an oral presentation in a public forum. A maximum of 3 credit hours can be applied to the degree requirements for a major in biology. BISC 493 is not open to students who apply Honors 401 and 402 toward their degree. (1-3)

* Note that the content and length of the final paper or presentation will vary depending on the number of course credits attempted and the grading rubric. Some Directed Study supervisors may require a summary data table with a brief written discussion, others might ask for a paper similar to a journal manuscript. Make sure that you know what is expected of you before you register for BISC 491/492/493!

For summer enrollment the requirement of hours of lab/field work per week will be adjusted upward to achieve the same total (a minimum of 28 hours of work per credit).