

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION

Guidelines for Undergraduate Research Experience Courses

DEFINITIONS:

Research Experience — A student assists and collaborates with a member of the iSchool's full time research faculty on a project directly supporting their academic research.

Students may count only a cumulative total of six credit hours of Independent Study or Research Experience courses toward their BA/BSI degree. More than that requires the consent of the Undergraduate Program Coordinator (Prerequisites: Upper-division standing and consent of the faculty member supervising the research.)

CRITERIA:

A Research Experience course should not be authorized unless it satisfies both of the following criteria:

- A. The faculty member supervising the course has an ongoing research project in which the student can contribute.
- B. Participation in the research project would constitute a valuable learning experience for the student.

GUIDELINES:

- A. A student accepted for a Research Experience should be in good academic standing.
- B. The work hours involved should be equivalent to those of an upper-division course of equivalent credit hour value, e.g., circa 125 – 150 hours for the three-credit Research Experience I 378R. Evaluation standards are comparable to those for standard class work.
- C. The product(s) and/or contribution(s) resulting from a Research Experience course must evidence a scholarly approach, demonstrate critical and/or creative thinking, and be in a style and form acceptable to the faculty sponsor.
- D. Prior to the registration period and before the registering for a Research Experience course, the student must:
 - 1. Consult with his/her undergraduate advisor to ascertain the appropriateness of such a course to the student's total program.
 - 2. Consult with the proposed faculty sponsor of the study to develop a proposal that the faculty member agrees to supervise.
 - 3. Prepare a proposal using the attached form and additional sheets as necessary; obtain your faculty sponsor's signature; and submit the completed and signed form to the iSchool Undergraduate Student Services office to complete your registration.

REGISTRATION:

- 1. The faculty sponsor must approve and sign the proposal.
- 2. Upon approval, submit this form to the iSchool Undergraduate Student Services office (undergradoffice@ischool.utexas.edu) during your next available registration access period to have the class added to your schedule.

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Proposal for Undergraduate Research Experience

Instructions: The proposal must be approved prior to the last day of registration for the semester in which the study is proposed. Most good proposals are one to two double-spaced pages long, c. 250 – 500 words. The student should secure the signature of the faculty sponsor and submit this form to the iSchool undergraduate student services office to complete the registration process.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

UT EID: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

SEMESTER: _____ YEAR: _____

COURSE (mark only one): **I 178R** (1 credit hour) **I 278R** (2 credit hours) **I 378R** (3 credit hours)

FACULTY SPONSOR: _____

BRIEF PROPOSAL TITLE: _____

PROPOSAL

State: (1) the proposed objective, (2) the methods to be employed, and (3) the expected culminating product(s). Attach additional sheet(s) as necessary.

Faculty Sponsor

Date

Distribution: 1) Student 2) Faculty Sponsor 3) Student Services Office