

# BIOL 385 – Student Options

Revised November 2021

## 1. Course Description

*Internship in Biology (0–4) F, I, S or SS.* This course is for students participating in an internship that emphasizes professional application of the concepts and principles learned as part of a Biology program. A student has responsibilities in a laboratory, office, private firm, not-for-profit organization, or government agency. The student works on a specific project under the direct supervision of an employer-supervisor and/or faculty internship coordinator. On-campus internships are to be completed under an appropriate Calvin supervisor, while off-campus internships are to be completed under the supervision of the designated faculty internship coordinator. All students must maintain an internship journal and present an oral or written report summarizing the internship experience. For off-campus internships, students will also be evaluated by their employer-supervisor. Only one from BIOL 385, 390, or 399 may be used to satisfy the requirements for the Biology major. Prerequisites: instructor, advisor, and departmental approval.

## 2. BIOL 385 may be taken for variable credit from 0–4 credit hours.

The number of credits earned for an internship should correlate with the number of hours spent at the internship. Benchmarks for internships completed during the semester are as follows:

0 credits:	< 4 hours per week	(< 50 total hours)
1 credit:	4+ hours per week	(50+ total hours)
2 credits:	8+ hours per week	(100+ total hours)
3 credits:	12+ hours per week	(150+ total hours)
4 credits:	16+ hours per week	(200+ total hours)

If doing the internship as an elective, but not in fulfillment of the Biology major, you may wish to register for fewer credit hours. This allows the internship to appear on your college transcript, while letting you fit the number of credit hours into your course load without paying tuition for an overload.

## 3. BIOL 385 has requirements for the student, supervisor, and faculty coordinator.

To receive credit for an internship, you will need to: (1) complete the enrollment request form and file it with the internship coordinator (who will file it with the registrar); (2) keep a journal during the course of your internship experience, in which you write reflections twice weekly; and (3) submit all assignments required by the faculty internship coordinator during the term of BIOL 385 enrollment. Depending on the nature of the internship, these assignments may include one or more poster presentations at designated venues, an oral presentation at a conference or departmental seminar, an annotated bibliography of primary literature, a formal manuscript summarizing research carried out during the internship, and/or a term paper covering a related topic. Your grade will be based on an assessment by your internship supervisor and evaluation of written materials by the faculty coordinator.

## 4. BIOL 385 may be taken during any term.

We expect that most internships will be done as a full-time job during the summer. You will then typically enroll in BIOL 385 during the fall semester immediately following your internship, when you will work with the faculty coordinator to complete all requirements. It is also possible to do internships on a part-time basis during the academic year, when you would register for the desired number of credit hours during the semester(s) of the internship. Registering for BIOL 385 during the summer is possible, but this requires additional tuition payment on a per credit basis (if registered for more than 0 credits).