

*The BSC 492 Contract should be completed and submitted to 2727 Bostian Hall before the experience.*

### Course Description

BSC 492 provides an opportunity for students to gain real-world experience *relevant to their academic or career interests*. A minimum of 45 hours must be completed for each credit hour earned (3 credits maximum for a given experience). The experience must be arranged by the student and approved by the Department of Biological Sciences in advance. To gain approval, students must submit the completed BSC 492 Contract, signed by their 492 supervisor and by their academic advisor. In addition to the work described in the contract, students will complete a series of reflective written assignments during and at the end of their 492 experience. Students can repeat BSC 492 for different or more advanced experiences, but there may be a limit on the number of credit hours that they can use toward graduation in their curriculum. Students must ensure that all aspects of the experience conform to the Code of Student Conduct.

### Learning Outcomes

After completing BSC 492, students will be able to:

- describe the nature of their experience and their specific role(s) in that experience
- describe the professional competencies they developed or deepened through their 492 experience
- describe the knowledge and/or skills they gained or deepened through this 492 experience
- explain how they applied their academic (in-class) experiences to their 492 experience
- describe how their 492 experience changed or strengthened their academic or career goals

### Grading

This course is offered on an S/U grading basis only. Grading will be based on:

- a series of reflective written assignments to be completed during and at the end of the experience
- a minimum of 45 hours of work for each credit hour
- an assessment completed by the supervisor at the end of the experience

### What you need to do to be enrolled (in this order)

- Consult with your advisor if you have questions about what sorts of experiences would be appropriate.
- Arrange an experience and complete the BSC 492 Contract (Sections 1-4) in consultation with the supervisor with whom you will be working.
- After you and the supervisor sign the contract (Section 5), take it to your academic advisor for their signature.
- Your advisor can indicate their approval of the experience and where on your degree audit the credits should be applied (Section 5). NOTE: BSC 492 will be moved to the appropriate place on your degree audit only after you have received an 'S' for your work.
- Return your BSC 492 Contract to 2727 Bostian Hall for departmental review and approval.
- Once your contract has been approved, the Department of Biological Sciences will add you to the course. In order to be enrolled in the current semester, you must submit a completed contract before the official university drop deadline. Academic Calendars for each semester can be found on the NC State Registration and Records website.

**1** Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Major \_\_\_\_\_ Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor's email \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's phone \_\_\_\_\_

Primary physical location of the experience \_\_\_\_\_

How many credit hours do you plan to earn? (choose one option)

- 1 credit (minimum 45 hours)
- 2 credits (minimum 90 hours)
- 3 credits (minimum 135 hours) (*You can earn 3 credits maximum for any given experience.*)

Start date \_\_\_\_\_ # of weeks \_\_\_\_\_ Approx. hrs per week (on average) \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate the semester in which you would like BSC 492 to appear on your transcript:

Fall / Spring / SS1 / SS2 (circle one) of \_\_\_\_\_ (year)

**2** Briefly describe the proposed experience.

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**3** What do you hope to gain from this experience with regard to the last four learning outcomes? (Refer to the Guidelines on page 1 or to the BSC 492 syllabus.)

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**4** Requirements - This space can be used to be more specific about work expectations and/or to include any additional requirements (e.g., paper, presentation, attending a meeting). Total work expectation (in terms of hours) remains 45 hours per credit hour. Students must also complete a series of reflective written assignments posted on Moodle.

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**5** Signatures-- all four signatures are required before we will enroll you in BSC 492.

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup>Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup>By signing, the supervisor also agrees to complete a brief online survey at the end of the experience.

<sup>2</sup>Academic Advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>2</sup>Please indicate where, on the degree audit, these credits should be applied \_\_\_\_\_

Departmental Approval \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**This section is for DBS Student Support Services use only.**

Completed contract received on (date & initials) \_\_\_\_\_

Student added to BSC 492 on (date & initials) \_\_\_\_\_

Grade of S / U reported on (date) \_\_\_\_\_ by (name) \_\_\_\_\_