

BIOC 601 (1-3 credits) Permission Request

MS Students: Please complete all fields, obtain physical or written/drawn signatures, and email form to scw10@case.edu

BIOC 601 Semester (F/Spr/Sum):

Year: 20____

A) STUDENT INFORMATION

Name:	CWRUnet ID:
-------	-------------

B) FACULTY RESEARCH MENTOR INFORMATION

(The individual in whose lab you will be working)

Name:	Title:
Department and institution:	
Phone:	Email:
Faculty signature (not fillable) and date: (to confirm agreement with attached guidelines)	

C) PROJECT INFORMATION

Project title:
Short description of research project (2-4 sentences; can be the same for multiple semesters):
Student signature (electronic acceptable) and date: (to confirm agreement with attached guidelines)

BIOC 601 (1-3 credits) GUIDELINES

The Biochemistry Department requires Ph.D. students, and provides opportunities for M.S. students, to engage in laboratory research for course credit. BIOC 601 is taken by Biochemistry Ph.D. students before they pass their qualifying exam (BIOC 641). Biochemistry M.S. students may take BIOC 601 for 1-3 credits any semester in their program with a maximum of 12 total credits.

Policies:

- BIOC 601 can be taken for 1-3 credits in a semester.
- Biochemistry Ph.D. students enrolled in BIOC 601 must arrange to work with a research mentor who has faculty or graduate trainer status in the Biochemistry Department.
- Biochemistry M.S. students enrolled in BIOC 601 must arrange to work with a research mentor who has faculty status in the School of Medicine.
- Ph.D. students enroll in BIOC 601 before they pass their qualifying exam (BIOC 641) and enroll in BIOC 701 after. Typically Ph.D. students enroll in BIOC 601 during year 1 spring semester and year 2 fall and spring semesters, then complete BIOC 641 in spring semester of year 2.
- M.S. students can enroll in BIOC 601 any semester they are in the program. Optimally students enroll in BIOC 601 starting their second semester and participate in research their first semester as a volunteer. **M.S. students enrolling in BIOC 601 during their first semester should enroll in Dr. Wang's section in the student information system (SIS).**
- M.S. students must submit a completed permission form to scw10@case.edu (the M.S. program advisor). This form may be obtained from the CWRU Biochemistry website or the program advisor.

1. **TIME COMMITMENT:** The student and their faculty research mentor should agree on a regular schedule of time devoted to the research project. (Some flexibility should be allowed for variability in course workload.) The student is expected to spend a minimum of 4 hours per week (on average) on their project to earn each credit of BIOC 601; a student enrolled in 3 credits of BIOC 601 is expected to spend a minimum of 12 hours per week engaged in research. This commitment includes time experimenting in the lab, analyzing data, and reading of relevant scientific literature.
2. **RESEARCH PROJECT:** The student should participate in a well-defined research project. They should be involved in the planning and execution of experiments, as well the interpretation of data. The student's involvement in each of these steps will increase as they gain more experience and spend more time in the lab. Beginning students may observe and focus on learning lab skills, but more senior students should perform experiments and interpret results.
3. **MEETINGS WITH MENTOR:** The student and their faculty research mentor or designated supervisor should meet on a regularly scheduled basis to ensure progress (typically at least weekly).
4. **EVALUATION:** BIOC 601 is a Pass/No Pass course. The BIOC 601 course instructor will assign a grade.

For permission to enroll in BIOC 601 at the M.S. level, the student and faculty research mentor should complete this permission form and return to the M.S. program advisor at scw10@case.edu. This form may be obtained from the CWRU Biochemistry website or the M.S. program advisor. If the faculty research mentor is a member of the Biochemistry Department and the M.S. student is in their **second** or later semester, the student should request permission to enroll in the mentor's BIOC 601 section in SIS. Students with faculty research mentors in other departments or in their first semester in the M.S. program should enroll in BIOC 601 under the M.S. program advisor in SIS. (Rev. 08/20/25)