

Biology 287/487: Field Experience  
Chaminade University of Honolulu  
Mrs. Patricia Lee-Robinson  
Fall 2002

Office: Henry Hall Room 16

Office Hours: MWF 10:30-11:00 am; TR 11:00-11:30 am and by appointment

Phone: 735-4804

email: [leerobinson@chaminade.edu](mailto:leerobinson@chaminade.edu) and  
[leerobin@hawaii.edu](mailto:leerobin@hawaii.edu)

Biology 287(for freshmen and sophomores) and 487(for juniors and seniors) provide biology majors an opportunity to do supervised work at cooperating community agencies in the life/medical science fields. Supervision is provided by an instructor at Chaminade University and by the immediate supervisor at the agency.

#### Course Goals

1. To gain experience of people working in the life/medical science careers, especially in a field which is of personal interest to the student.
2. To determine whether the student might pursue a specific life/medical science career as a result of their field experience.
3. To meet professionals involved in the life/medical sciences, who are serving our community; who may serve as resources for future jobs, graduate and/or professional schools.
4. To apply knowledge learned in school to practical work experiences.
5. To represent Chaminade University and to provide service to the larger community.
6. To learn about human relationship skills, which are required for a specific life/medical science career.

#### Course Requirements

1. With the assistance of the instructor, each student must contact a life/medical science agency or professional for their field experience.
2. To obtain 1 unit of credit, a student must complete 45 hours per semester(3 hours per week); for 2 units of credit, 90 hours per semester(6 hours per week); for 3 units of credit, 135 hours per semester (9 hours per week).
3. Students are to complete assigned duties as directed by the supervisors at the cooperating agency. In the event that the student is unable to make their weekly field experience, then she/he is **required** to phone the agency.
4. Maintain a weekly journal of activities with the life/medical science agency or profession. The

journal will be handed in to the instructor three times during the semester, at which time a meeting with the instructor will be scheduled. (see below)

5. Students are required to do two typed written reports during the semester based on their field experience and personal research. (see below)
6. The instructor will attempt to make a site visit around the middle of the semester in order to observe the student's work and to meet the field supervisors.
7. An evaluation form (see below) will be mailed to the life/medical science agency at midsemester and at the end of each semester. **If a student receives an unsatisfactory midsemester evaluation from the sponsoring agency, the student will be advised to withdraw from the class.**
8. The student will give a ten minute oral report about his/her field experience during the last week of the semester.

#### Grading

A grade:

- 1) satisfactory completion of all course requirements
- 2) excellent field evaluations and reports
- 3) completion of the volunteer hours

B grade:

- 1) satisfactory completion of all course requirements
- 2) good field evaluations and reports
- 3) completion of the volunteer hours

C grade:

- 1) satisfactory completion of all course requirements
- 2) fair field evaluations and reports
- 3) completion of fewer than required volunteer hours

F grade: failure to fulfill the "C" requirements

#### Log

1. A daily record of hours with the life/medical science agency or profession must be kept. The minimum length of each journal entry is one hand written page.
2. In the log include:
  - a) date, time spent, location
  - b) your experiences and observations
  - c) names of specific people whom you worked with
  - d) specific procedures; applications to what you have learned in school
  - e) training received or skills learned
  - f) impressions, problems encountered
  - g) if data forms are used, attach them to your book

## Written Reports

1. Each student will hand in two written reports during the semester.
2. The topic of the first report will be "career outlook" for the specific field experience where the student is volunteering during the semester.

The report should have a minimum length of 2 typed pages.

- a. The following areas should be included in the career outlook: nature of work, work conditions, training and qualifications, job outlook, and earnings.
  - b. If possible discuss the career outlook with your field supervisor. Other sources of career information are: Occupational Outlook Handbook published by the U.S. Department of Labor; Encyclopedia Of Careers and Vocational Guidance; Careers in the Environment; and other life science career publications.
3. The topic of the second report will be "synthesis" of your field experience. It should clearly summarize the log book entries for the summer. The report should have a minimum length of 4 typed pages and include the following:
    - a. Introduction
      - 1) information about the life science/medical agency
      - 2) key people associated with the agency
      - 3) time and schedule of the student work
    - b. Experiences
      - 1) skills and training received or observed
      - 2) observations: professional interactions, results
    - c. Conclusion
      - 1) personal learning experiences, insights about yourself while with the agency, impressions
      - 2) professional relationships
      - 3) future plans and personal recommendations about the field experience

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<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1	Aug 26-30	Organization/ Planning
2-3	Sept 3-13	Field Experience Placement/ Hours
7	Oct 7	<u>Log Due</u> / Progress Meeting with Instructor Midsemester evaluations mailed

8	Oct 15	<u>Report #1 Due</u>
8-11	Oct 15-Nov 8	On site visitations by instructor - TBA*
11	Nov 4	<u>Log Due/</u> Progress Meeting with Instructor
	Nov 8	Last Day to Withdraw from Classes
13	Nov 22	Field Evaluations Mailed
15	Dec 2-6	Oral Presentations : DATE : TBA <u>Log Due and Report #2 Due</u>

\*On site visit dates may vary depending upon the student volunteer's schedule