Undergraduate Directed Research Guidelines

Directed research allows a student to include an extensive research experience as part of their undergraduate degree.

In order to receive credit for your research experience, students MUST meet the following criteria.

- If you plan on participating in directed research, you will need an override in BiomedE 490. To receive the override, you need to fill out this google form.

- The project should require some creativity and/or independent work by the student. The student is not meant to be a ‘free helper’ and as such should not require excessive menial work (I.E. cleaning test tubes, etc).

- **Academic Credit:** Once a project has been agreed upon, the faculty member and student should establish the credit to be received. Typically, three to four hours per week of actual “work” time is expected for each credit hour given in a normal term.
  - Work can include, library search time, laboratory time, and final report writing.
  - Students can earn between 1-4 credits of BiomedE 490 per semester.
  - **Students can only earn 8 credits total throughout their entire undergraduate program.**

- **Final Report:** A final report must be written by the student to complete the project. If the course is taken for more than one term, a written report is due at the end of each term. The report format can be found here (Appendix A).

- **Course Grade:** BiomedE 490 is letter graded and cannot be taken P/F. The grade is based on the elements agreed to by the student & Principle Investigator (PI) or faculty advisor. The faculty member should not issue a final grade until the final report has been submitted.

- **Students cannot be paid for work they have completed as part of BiomedE 490 credit.**

- **Non-BME Faculty Principle Investigator:** Students may wish to work with principle investigators who do not hold BME faculty appointments. In order for proper credit
to be given, however, the student must obtain a BME faculty surrogate who will issue the final grade. The BME faculty surrogate will read the final report and will issue the final grade received from the non-BME faculty Principle Investigator.

- Students should present their BME faculty surrogate with Appendix A (found here) detailing the project to be done. The BME faculty surrogate must sign Appendix B, and Appendix B should be submitted to the Undergraduate Advisor before a BiomedE 490 override will be issued.

- Students who wish to use their directed research to fulfill their Profession in Practice requirements should submit a petition to modify depth requirements (found here) to the Undergraduate Advisor & the Undergraduate Education Committee. The petition will not be considered without a signed Appendix B form.