The University of Texas at Austin
Department of Statistics and Data Sciences
College of Natural Sciences

Certificate in Scientific Computation and Data Sciences
Research Contract

Instructions for submitting your research proposal:

1. Write a 1-page, double-spaced statement describing your proposed research. Clearly articulate the 1) scientific problem/topic, 2) computational tools and resources that will be applied to the scientific topic, and 3) your criteria and considerations for selecting your faculty mentor.
2. **Complete the form below**
   a. **Section I.** To be completed and initialed by the student and taken to your Faculty Supervisor, along with your 1-page statement.
   b. **Section II-III.** Together, the student and Faculty Supervisor will outline grading requirements and communication expectations. The student will initial where indicated, and both will sign and date the contract.
3. Email the 1-page description and a scan of this signed contract to stat.certificates@austin.utexas.edu **at least one week prior to the start of classes** of the semester for the proposed research project.

Section I. Certificate Requirements

Student name: _____ EID: _____

Email: _____

Catalog for certificate (check one): _____ 2016/18 or _____ 2018/20 or _____ 2020/22

Courses already completed (or currently taking) for the certificate - *Include course numbers (i.e., SDS 322) below:*

A. Core Computer Programming*:* _____

B. Core Mathematics*:* _____

C. Scientific Computing (need 2 of 3 sections): _____ and _____

D. Applied Computing: _____

Research Course Requirements. In order to receive credit toward the Certificate in Scientific Computation and Data Sciences for your research paper, students must complete the following requirements:

☐ Earn a "C- "or better in the "Undergraduate Research" course (SDS 379R/479R)

☐ Submit a final draft (with signed cover page) of your research paper to the SDS certificates email by April 20 (spring), July 5 (first summer term), August 8 (second summer term), or December 1 (fall). **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

☐ Your paper meets the requirements outlined in the "Research Paper Process and Requirements" document on the SDS website and if requested, you submit any revisions by the end of the semester.

_____ (STUDENT INITIAL) I have read and agree to the above items and have also carefully read the "Research Paper Process and Requirements" document and understand the requirements for the research paper.

Title of Research Project:

_____

Semester & year when this research project will be conducted: _____

Faculty Supervisor name: _____ Faculty EID:_____

Email: _____ Department: _____

Section III. Project Requirements & Expectations

Grading Requirements. All Research Projects must be graded using the plus/minus grading system. The grading requirements and relevant deadlines are decided at the discretion of the Faculty Supervisor and student. The following options are only suggestions.

☐ Scholarly Discussion _____%   ☐ Attendance _____%

☐ Research Paper _____ pages _____%

☐ Research Assistant Responsibilities (please specify):

_____

_____

_____ _____%

Other (please specify): _____

_____%

Faculty/Student Communication Plan.
Frequency of Contact: ☐ Weekly   ☐ Biweekly   ☐ Other: _____

Type of Contact: ☐ In-person Meetings   ☐ Email Contact   ☐ Other: _____

Project Status Report: ☐ Weekly   ☐ Biweekly   ☐ Other: _____

Student Expectations. During the research project, students must meet the expectations stated below.

☐ **Agree on a plan** for the semester with your Faculty Supervisor **before** the research project begins and know the expectations for course credit. You are responsible for fulfilling any faculty requirements.

☐ **Keep your Faculty Supervisor informed** about your work and seek guidance when needed. If you encounter a problem or make a mistake, discuss it with your Faculty Supervisor right away.

☐ **Be self-motivated.** You are expected to be an active and reliable participant in the research project. You should not need prompting to show up to work or finish a project.

☐ **Institutional Review Board (IRB).** If your project uses human subjects or uses data collected from or about people, you may require IRB approval **before** beginning your research. Contact the Office of Research Support at (512) 471-8871 or visit their website at http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/humansubjects/

☐ Follow the University of Texas at Austin *Honor Code and Standard of Academic Integrity*.

_____ (STUDENT INITIAL) I have read and agree to these expectations.

Faculty Mentor Guidelines.
- Meet with student periodically throughout the semester or arrange regular email contact.
- Encourage student to make connections among the research project—the topic, methodologies, controversies, and trends in the student's field.
- Help student consider new directions and possible career paths.
- Assign final grade based on the expectations outlined above.
- *Note*: the student must submit the final draft of their research paper, including a cover page signed by the faculty supervisor, by <u>April 20</u> (spring), <u>July 5</u> (first summer term), <u>August 8</u> (second summer term), or <u>December 1</u> (fall).

Student and Faculty Supervisor Signatures. *We have read, discussed, and agreed to the terms outlined in the Grading Requirements, Communication Plan, Student Expectations, and Faculty Mentor Guidelines.*

Faculty Supervisor Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Signature: ___*Steven Doan*_____

Date: _____