**Completing the Biology Major Capstone with a 699 “Independent Study”**

On the next page is a list of 6 criteria used to evaluate whether a student’s experience meets the spirit of the CALS capstone requirement. Note that the student’s experience must be rooted in a biological issue. On rare occasions a field (internship, study abroad) or lab experience that is not research based could serve as a capstone, if this would better serve the student’s interests and goals. In all cases however, the experience must be scholarly. If one or more criteria are not fulfilled by the independent study, explain how they were fulfilled by other academic activities. Additional details on CALS capstone requirement can be found at: <http://biologymajor.wisc.edu/resources/cals-capstone/>.

**Students seeking Capstone approval prior to graduation, must submit this form for review by April 1 for spring graduation or November 1 for fall graduation.**

Instructions: how to handle this proposal form.

1. A **Biology Major student** seeking to complete capstone requirement with a “699” (independent study) **must complete and submit this completed** **form** in collaboration with an instructor (and lab. supervisor, graduate student or post-doc) who will have direct oversight of the experience and the responsibility to assign the final grade. Note however that the student, not the instructor, is responsible for completing sections 2 and 3.
2. **Both the student and the instructor/supervisor of the student’s capstone experience must sign** (sections 4-5) the completed proposal form and return it to the Biology Major’s Office at Rm. 2532 Microbial Sciences Building 1550 Linden Dr. If issues or problems are detected, the office of the Biology Major may contact the student and supervisor within two weeks of proposal submission.

**Section 1**: Student / Supervisor info:

Student Name (First and Last Name): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Campus ID number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address ([myname@wisc.edu](mailto:myname@wisc.edu)): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Graduation Term (ex. Fall 2013): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Capstone Course Enrolled (ex. Biochem 699): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Semester of Enrollment (ex. Spring 2013): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Capstone Instructor Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Capstone Instructor Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have completed Introductory Biology (Bio/Bot 130 plus Bio/Zoo 102, Bio/Bot/Zoo 152, or Biocore 303) prior to the semester of this capstone experience: YES NO (circle one)

I am within my last 3 semesters of my expected graduation semester: YES NO (circle one)

**Section 2**: ***In 3-4 sentences*** describe the scientific questions and goals of the capstone project. Include the major question being addressed. If a student’s project is part of a broader lab effort, please provide some background and clarify the student’s role and contribution to this larger context.

**Section 3**: Please do not exceed the length of this page to describe the activities in which the student is engaged and how these activities contribute to the following 6 criteria. *Please make sure that a link between the student’s experience and the biological issue at hand is clearly established*. Emphasis should be placed on ACTIVITIES engaged in by the student and PRODUCTS expected from these activities.

1. **Develop problem-solving skills:**
2. **Expose student to multidisciplinary approach:**
3. **Develop teamwork and interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively to multiple audiences:**
4. **Develop skills in accessing and using information resources (e.g., electronic databases, library resources, national repositories):**
5. **Address societal, economic, ethical, scientific and professional issues:**
6. **Communicate and extend the capstone experience via written, oral, and/or multimedia reports**

**Section 4**: Student Signature: I attest the above information as truthful. The work completed will be completed during the semester mentioned on the form. Any changes to the above mentioned may jeopardize the satisfactory completion of the capstone requirement.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 5**: Capstone Instructor Approval: I attest that the above student is participating in a Directed Study experience, as described above. A passing grade in this experience (A, AB, B, BC, C, D) in this course would indicate that the student completed all the activities describe in the proposal.

Faculty signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Comments (if applicable):

PLEASE RETURN FORM TO BIOLOGY MAJOR’S OFFICE IN THE MICROBIAL SCIENCES BUILDING 1550 LINDEN DR. FOR FINAL APPROVAL AND PROCESSING

**Section 6**: Major’s Office Approval: I have reviewed the above Capstone request and it meets the standards of the Biology Major’s Capstone Requirements.

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date Sent to CALS : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Comments (if applicable):