**INDEPENDENT STUDY LEARNING CONTRACT**

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| *Course:* | **PSYC/NSCI 395** | *Prerequisites:* | **PSYC 395- PSYC 101 + 2 additional PSYC courses (at least a 200-level course or above)**  **NSCI 395- NSCI 175 + 2 additional STEM courses one of which must be at the 200 level or above (NSCI, CHEM, BIOL, PHYSICS, etc.)** |
| *Credit Hours:* | **1-3** |  | **GPA > 3.0** |

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| Section to be completed by Student with input from Faculty Mentor |
| **For which course are you applying? (PSYC 395 or NSCI 395):**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **APPLICANT INFORMATION:**  Student Applicant’s Name: PID:  Email: Credit Hours Sought:  Major:  Current GPA: CUMULATIVE  Prerequisite(s) Fulfilled:  COURSE # (PSYC 101 or NSCI 175) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SEMESTER/YEAR\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ GRADE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  COURSE # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SEMESTER/YEAR GRADE COURSE # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ SEMESTER/YEAR GRADE  PSYC 395 or NSCI 395 taken before? Number of hours: |
| **INFORMATION ABOUT INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD:**  Instructor of Record (i.e., Faculty Sponsor) Name & Email:  Direct Supervisor Name & Email (if different from above):  **COURSE REQUIREMENTS.** Please note these are the requirements specified by the department. Your instructor may have additional deadlines or requirements which should be submitted in a separate syllabus. Students are expected to devote *at least three hours of independent work per week for each unit of credit* (e.g., 9 hrs/week for 3 credit hours).  *Meeting requirements with instructor (e.g., individual meetings, lab meetings):* Students will meet on a weekly basis  with in-lab mentors, and at least 4x/ semester with the Instructor of Record. Please list the relevant meeting times  below:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    *Written assignments*: In addition to lab research, students will be responsible for at least 10 pages of  scholarly work. The writing assignment should be submitted on the department Sakai site by the last day of  classes. Please note your instructor may have additional deadlines and requirements. Briefly describe the format  of your 10 pages of writing.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **SCHEDULING.** Once approved, our coordinator will enroll students on PSYC/NSCI 395. Enrollment will take place during the first week of classes. To avoid delays, make sure that you have space in your schedule or an approved overload request. |

Please note- General Education Curriculum Fulfillment: This class fulfills the General Education, Research & Discovery requirement for the Ideas in Action curriculum implemented in Fall of 2022. **By submitting this contract, the student and mentor agree that the Learning Objectives for a Research & Discovery requirement listed below will be met with the design of their section of NSCI/PSYC 395.**

**NSCI/PSYC 395 General Education Rationale: Research and Discovery**

Description: Supervised research resulting in a written report. Students immerse themselves in a research project and experience the reflection and revision involved in producing and disseminating original scholarship or creative works.

Justification for Research and Discovery General Education Designation: Students will work side-by-side with graduate students and faculty members on cutting-edge, novel psychological and neuroscience research. Conducting hands-on research helps students develop a deeper understanding of processes and methods involved in psychological and neuroscience research. Additionally, in each lab, student are required complete 10-pages of scholarly writing providing practice in communicating research findings.

**Questions for students:**

1. How do I establish my point of view, take intellectual risks, and begin producing original scholarship or creative works?

2. How do I narrow my topic, critique current scholarship, and gather evidence in systematic and responsible ways?

3. How do I evaluate my findings and communicate my conclusions?

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Frame a topic, develop an original research question or creative goal, and establish a point of view, creative approach, or hypothesis.

2. Obtain a procedural understanding of how conclusions can be reached in a field and gather appropriate evidence.

3. Evaluate the quality of the arguments and/or evidence in support of the emerging product.

4. Communicate findings in a clear and compelling way.

5. Critique and identify the limits of the conclusions of the project and generate ideas for future work.