**Expectations for Graduate Research and Independent Study Courses.**

**Reviewed by the Associate Dean and Graduate Advisors in the Ayala School of Biological Sciences**

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**Intent and Objectives:** Students enrolled in research courses (200) or tutorial/independent study courses (201/202/203) are required to meet academic expectations for completion of the course and will receive a grade for their academic work. This document is designed to provide a basic template for faculty offering research and independent study courses in the Ayala School of Biological Sciences, and faculty may add additional requirements to meet their individual needs, but should not omit items from this template.

**Graduate Research Course Requirements.**

Dev Bio 200 is a graduate level research course that is offered for Master’s and doctoral students. Students engaged in laboratory or computational research should focus on a problem or hypothesis in Biological Sciences that can be addressed by experimental laboratory or computational approaches. A strategy should be developed utilizing the experimental method including appropriate inclusion of experimental controls and statistical analysis. The course requires active engagement of the student with appropriate scientific literature to identify a problem, develop the hypothesis, and plan the experimental approach. A detailed record of the experiments performed must be kept in a laboratory notebook in accord with the laboratory procedures stated in the Responsible Conduct of Research training. The course requires regular contact with supervising faculty in the form of meetings and lab presentations and will include discussion of the research problem, hypothesis, experimental approaches and methods, results obtained, and interpretation. Evaluation methods of research progress (e.g., oral or poster presentation, written report, or progress on a scientific paper) will vary, but should be agreed to by the faculty advisor and student at the beginning of each quarter.

Graduate students are required to conform to the Ayala School of Biological Sciences Code of Professional Conduct and perform research based on the Responsible Conduct of Research required by the National Institute of Health or National Science Foundation.