

SPECIAL PERMISSION FOR INDEPENDENT RESEARCH IN NEUROSCIENCE

(Please type or print legibly.)

*Instructions: Please review the Guidelines printed on the reverse of this form before completing. Complete two copies, turn in one to the **registrar** and one to the **Neuroscience main office** (Dana 372).*

NAME: _____ **CLASS:** _____ **MAJOR:** _____ **GPA:** _____

SEMESTER and YEAR (e.g., Fall 2013): _____

COURSE NUMBER: *(circle one)* **NS371 (Fall or Spring, 3 cr)**

NS375 (Fall, 3 cr)

NS376 (Spring, 3 cr)

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: *(research mentor; please print)* _____

PROJECT TITLE: _____

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: *(please include information such as student learning objectives, expected time commitment, and expected end result)*

SIGNATURES:

Student's signature: _____

Date: _____

Instructor's signature (research mentor): _____

Date: _____

Advisor's signature: _____

Date: _____

Program Director's signature: _____

Date: _____

Guidelines and Information

- *NS371: Research Experience in Neuroscience* is designed for neuroscience majors (any class standing) who wish to engage in collaborative research with a faculty mentor for one semester. The emphasis is on the further development of students' research skills within a particular area of neuroscience inquiry. Each student will work with an individual faculty member on various aspects of the research process including the design and implementation of a research project, data analyses and interpretation, and scientific writing.
- *NS375/NS376: Senior Research Project in Neuroscience* may be an option for the senior neuroscience major with a good academic record who has a compelling interest in the proposed area of study, has completed the courses that provide appropriate background to the independent study, and who proposes to a faculty sponsor a detailed, articulate, and coherent plan of study. This is what many students and faculty call a "senior thesis." Senior Research Project I is a prerequisite for Senior Research Project II. This structure allows for a year-long, collaborative research experience with a faculty mentor.
- The Independent Research should cover areas of student and faculty interests not typically included in regular course offerings, or take the student's experience into a greater depth of study and into a more sophisticated engagement with course-related topics.
- While a 3-credit experience suggests that a student should spend approximately 9 hours/week on a proposed project, the reality is that independent research projects usually demand a significantly greater time investment. Your faculty mentor will be the ultimate decider of how much time commitment is necessary and appropriate for your project.
- All Independent Research experiences in neuroscience must be taken on an S/U basis.
- Satisfactory completion of an Independent Research experience helps satisfy the honor's requirements in the neuroscience major. For a complete description of the honor's requirements, please visit the Skidmore Neuroscience website: <http://cms.skidmore.edu/neuroscience/honors/index.cfm>