

## **SPRING 2010 - INFORMATION SHEET FOR BI 275 or BI 385 RESEARCH**

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### **BI 385 RESEARCH METHODS IN BIOLOGY -- 4 Credit-Hours**

**BI 385 Catalogue Description:** An opportunity for students to engage in laboratory or field research in collaboration with a faculty member. Emphasis is on the development of analytical and technical expertise in biological research. Students meet weekly for one hour of discussion but work independently with their individual faculty mentors in pursuit of their research. Students defend their results in the form of an oral presentation to the Department. *S/U only.*

*Prerequisites:* agreement by a faculty member to serve as mentor, completion of two 200-level courses in Biology, and permission of the Department.

**I - Methods in Integrative Biology**

**E - Methods in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior**

**M - Methods in Molecular Biology and Genetics**

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### **BI 275 INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH -- 1 Credit**

#### **BI 275 Course Description:**

- An introductory exploration of research in the biological sciences.
- Students plan, design, and carry out a small research project, in the laboratory or field, working in coordination with a faculty member.
- This experience will allow students at various stages of their careers to sample research methodologies in particular subdisciplines of biology.

*Prerequisites:* One 100-level course in Biology or requirements set forth in individual sections plus permission of instructor.

#### *Restrictions:*

- Students may only take four BI 275 courses in their career, and no more than two in any given semester.
- If more than one is taken in one semester, each BI 275 course must be in a different section.
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### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

To the Applicant and Research Project Advisor: Please complete the appropriate enclosed application and submit to the Biology Department by **FRIDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2009.**

*Deadlines will be strictly enforced.* Students who have declared major programs of study in Biology, Neuroscience, Biology-Philosophy, or Environmental Studies, and those looking for an introduction to biological research, will be able to print out an application from the Biology website –

<http://www.skidmore.edu/academics/biology/research.htm>

Students interested in either BI 275 or BI 385 should then consult with a potential Research Project advisor. If both student and faculty member agree to pursue either BI 275 or BI 385, they should complete the appropriate application, and submit it to the Biology Department Chair by the deadline listed above.

Evaluation Process: Applications will be made available to the Biology Department Faculty. The faculty will then review each application and make recommendations. If the Department gives approval, the student will be allowed to register for the Biology Research course. If permission is denied, the Department Chair and/or Department advisor will inform the student.