



## SCIE292

### Science Research Internship Information and Assessment Form

#### 1. What is a Science Research Internship?

The Science Research Internship subjects aim to provide opportunities for high performing students to develop and hone their practical and research skills and to gain familiarity with the laboratory or field methods in science fundamental to successful individual project work.

Through the Science Research Internship, students with an interest in research have an opportunity to gain experience “at the bench” or “in the field” as part of their research training. They learn how research is done by working alongside a PhD student, research fellow, or academic. Because many academic staff members in Science, Medicine and Health have collaborations with researchers in industry and government research groups, the internship subject could potentially be taken in an external research workplace.

The objectives of such a program differ significantly from the ‘directed studies’ research subjects that the Schools currently offer, in which students work on a specific mini-project of their own, prepare a report and give a seminar.

Admission is by application to the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health subject to approval by the Associate Dean (International) and acceptance by an Academic Supervisor.

#### 2. Subjects Available

Subject	Credit Points	Pre-requisites
SCIE292 Science Research Internship	6	48 cp (including 24 cp of Science, Medicine and Health Schedule subjects) at a WAM of $\geq 70$

SCIE292 is a Science, Medicine and Health schedule subject and counts towards the 90 credit points of Science, Medicine and Health subjects required in a BSc degree, but do not count towards the Core subjects required for a major.

#### 3. Restrictions – frequently asked questions

##### Who can enrol in SCIE292?

Students enrolled in a Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health course only. Selected Study Abroad students as approved by the Associate Dean (International).

##### Can I enrol in SCIE292 and a school based internship? e.g. CHEM232, BIOL232

No, students may only complete one internship for credit towards their degree.

##### Can I complete a SCIE292 Science Research Internship relating to paid employment?

No, students cannot complete a Science Research Internship related to paid employment.



#### **4. Guidelines**

Science Research Internships are organised by the student in consultation with an academic staff member from the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health who will act as supervisor.

- The day-to-day laboratory or field work may be supervised by a PhD student, a research fellow, or a collaborating researcher at an external organisation. In all cases, an academic staff supervisor is required to take overall responsibility for the student.
- The student commits to completing 100 hours of laboratory and/or field work (excluding travel time). This can be a regular time commitment per week, a solid block of time at greater intensity (e.g. a field trip), or in several blocks – to suit the nature of the work, the availability of the supervisor, and the flexibility of the student.
- The supervisor provides a written statement of the work that is required, including a listing of the practical skills that are expected to be mastered and an explicit statement of other specific outcomes required by the end of the subject (e.g. collation of data, preparation of materials etc.).
- The student agrees to keep a workbook, in which the following will be recorded: (a) start and finish times of each block of work, (b) details of methods used and results obtained, (c) analysis, and display of analysed results, as appropriate, (d) notes on information obtained from research publications and seminars. The workbook will be signed off at the end of each session by the direct supervisor.
- The supervisor organises an induction session to provide OH&S guidelines and training and to work through the risk assessment process with the student.
- The student and academic staff supervisor timetable at least 3 meetings (including the direct supervisor, if different) – one to agree on the scope of work at the start, one a mid-subject progress review, and one at the end to discuss the student’s performance and outcomes, as summarised in an end-of-project paper submitted by the student.

#### **5. Assessment**

This subject will be assessed as “satisfactory/unsatisfactory”, rather than being graded. Satisfactory performance will be based on:

- completing the OH&S induction and risk assessment;
- completing 100 hours of laboratory or field work as recorded in the work book and signed off by the direct supervisor, and attending all three scheduled meetings with the supervisor(s);
- assessing details of results and methods components of six research projects (research seminars, posters, or published papers) and recording them in the work book;
- satisfactorily completing an end-of-project paper critically reflecting on outcomes in relation to research objectives set at start of internship, and using newly gained experience to assess the completeness and effectiveness of published methods in the field. This paper is to be the basis for the final meeting with the supervisor(s).



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### Science Research Internship

### SUPERVISOR ASSESSMENT

This page is to be completed by the academic supervisor. The subject result only – Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory – should be submitted to the Associate Dean (International) no later than the first Monday of the relevant Examination Period. The completed document should be filed by the Academic Supervisor for audit purposes.

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#### Internship Requirement

#### Completed (*tick*)

Student has attended all meetings with their supervisor <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student has completed OH&S Induction and risk assessment <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student has completed required hours of laboratory or field work <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student has completed Internship workbook <sup>4</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student has completed assessment of six research projects <sup>5</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student has completed end-of project paper <sup>6</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Overall Grade

*Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory*

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#### NOTES

- 1 Meetings** The student and academic staff supervisor must timetable at least 3 meetings (to include the direct supervisor, if different) – one to agree on the scope of work at the start, one a mid-subject progress review, and one at the end to discuss the student's performance and outcomes, as summarised in an end-of-project paper submitted by the student. At the first meeting, or soon after, the student will be required to complete an OH&S induction and a risk assessment for the work to be performed.
- 2 OH&S Induction and Risk Assessment** Students should review the risk management and laboratory safety guidelines available on the University's WHS webpage: <http://staff.uow.edu.au/ohs>, [Risk Management](#) guidelines and [Laboratory Safety](#) guidelines.
- 3 Laboratory and/or Field work** Satisfactory completion requires at least 100 hours of laboratory and/or fieldwork (excluding travel time) to be completed. Work hours are to be recorded in a workbook and signed off by the direct supervisor at the completion of each work session.
- 4 Internship Workbook** In addition to work hours the following must also be recorded in the workbook: (a) details of methods used and results obtained, (b) analysis, and display of analysed results, as appropriate, (c) notes on information obtained from research publications and seminars.
- 5 Research Projects Assessment** Internship students are required to assess details of results and methods components of six research projects. These may be research seminars attended by the student, published papers allocated by the supervisor, or a mixture of both. The assessment of the work must be recorded in the workbook and signed off by the supervisor.



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**6 End-of-project  
Paper**

Each student must complete an end-of-project paper critically reflecting on outcomes of the Internship. This paper should assess the completeness and effectiveness of published methods in the field based on knowledge gained during the internship. This paper is to be no more than 1,500 words, must be properly cited, and will be the basis for the final meeting with the supervisor(s). It must be submitted at least 10 working days prior to the final meeting date.

**Required Readings**

Booth, W.C., Colomb, G.G. and Williams, J.M. (2008). *The Craft of Research*. Chicago: Uni. of Chicago Press.

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**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Supervisor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School/Unit:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Supervisor Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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