



# BI 309/409 TEACHING PRACTICUM DIRECTIONS

Credit can be earned by students involved in undergraduate teaching with Integrative Biology faculty. Practicum credit is not required for these experiences, and students who elect to seek credit incur regular tuition costs.

Students are responsible for working out practicum details and completing this form with their mentor before the term of participation. Students assisting the BI 21x Principles of Biology, the BI 23x/24x Human Anatomy & Physiology or BI 33x/34x Advanced Human Anatomy & Physiology series should have completed those courses previously and done well (generally a B or better). They also complete additional training and register for BI 409. Students seeking other practicum opportunities generally take BI 309, but BI 409 is possible depending on the nature of the experience and supervision.

Other rules for practicum include:

- As with other coursework, each credit represents 30 hours of focused academic work (e.g. three hours each week for 10 weeks for one credit of BI 309 or 409).
- Students may elect to take 1-2 credits per term (unless by approval) up to a maximum of 6 undergraduate credits.
- Credit is graded as pass/no pass P/NP for BI 309 and A-F for BI 409.
- Requests for incomplete grades need to be worked out immediately through a written agreement with the mentor filed in the Integrative Biology Office. Students must resolve incomplete grades in a calendar year or less.

The learning outcomes for the two practicum are:

## BI309

- Develop/Practice tools of interpersonal engagement in a professional setting
- Identify characteristics of successful instruction in the science classroom
- Use/Practice basic biology skills and knowledge

## BI409

- Participate in formal training on implementation of learning activities in the classroom or lab
- Develop/Practice tools of interpersonal engagement in a professional setting
- Identify characteristics of successful science instruction.
- Use/Practice basic biology skills and knowledge
- Develop or pilot teaching tools (in-class activity, presentation, or quiz) for delivery in the classroom or lab

## **To register and receive credit for teaching practicum, students must complete steps 1-5:**

1. **Identify a teaching practicum opportunity and mentor:** Students must identify mentors and opportunities (see the back of this document) appropriate to their previous coursework, interests, knowledge, skills and schedule. Though students will frequently work closely with other members of the teaching team (graduate students), teaching practicum mentors who sign this form must be OSU faculty.
2. **Obtain Approval:** Prior to registering for teaching practicum credit, students should work out the details of their practicum commitment with their mentor. Some opportunities require special applications or training. Once an agreement is reached, this form should be submitted to Cordley 3029 for credit approval.
3. **Register:** After receiving an email notification, register for the class and number of credits approved.
4. **BI 309 and 409 Final assignment:** A final written assignment is required which must include:
  - One paragraph describing your teaching practicum experience to an English major including the course structure, your role and a description of the teaching team **and**
  - One paragraph explaining what you learned about either the biology content or teaching practices implemented in your teaching practicum and how either influenced your career goals **and**
  - A, not more than one-page, reflection of your thoughts and beliefs about how people learn, how those thoughts/beliefs have changed as a result of your participation in this program and how you can apply what you have learned from your teaching practicum to your future career, coursework or pursuit of knowledge.
  - **BI409 only (additional assignment):** One paragraph explaining how the teaching practicum project/presentation/learning tool you developed or piloted drew on your abilities and skills learned in college or developed new abilities and skills.
5. **Due: Submit to your mentor by Friday of week 10 in the term you are registered for BI309/BI409. If you are graduating, the assignment must be submitted to your mentor by the Friday of the 6<sup>th</sup> week.**
6. **Evaluation:** The teaching practicum mentor must submit a final evaluation of the student's work to [ib@science.oregonstate.edu](mailto:ib@science.oregonstate.edu). Evaluation of performance differs by teaching practicum experience. The teaching practicum mentor is responsible for determining the course grade (P/NP BI 309 or A-F BI 409). This grade is largely based on participation, assuming the reflection assignment above is completed.

**Submit form to: 3029 Cordley Hall**