



RESEARCH LEARNING AGREEMENT

A research learning agreement is a tool that enables student researchers and faculty mentors to collaboratively establish expectations and goals for research projects. Use the following form to guide discussion. Additional resources to support the adaptation of this agreement to your specific project can be found at urcd.msstate.edu.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Major: _____

MSU Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

MENTOR(S) INFORMATION

Name: _____

Department: _____

MSU Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

If another individual will be providing daily supervision of the student researcher, please include their contact information here: _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: _____

Student Researcher's Role: *Academic Credit* *Hourly* *Stipend* *Volunteer*

Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Location(s): _____

Research Ethics & Compliance Training Required: _____

Resources Required of Students (*e.g., specific attire, laptop, notebook*): _____

Materials Provided by Mentor(s): _____



PROJECT GOALS

Discuss the purpose and expected outcome of the research project with all participants, being sure to identify what each person hopes to gain from the research experience, and then summarize these goals below.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Create a list of short-term research objectives and/or methods that will help achieve the goals outlined above, being sure to note the type of research activities in which the student will engage and keeping the scope manageable. If the research is being done for academic credit, be sure to clarify grading criteria.

COMMUNICATION

Identify the primary means of communication for the research project (e.g., email, phone, digital messaging platform, etc.), then consider the following: How often and in what format will you meet to discuss research progress? How will feedback on student researcher development be given? Who should the student researcher contact with questions about the research?



TIME COMMITMENT

Discuss the weekly and total time commitment for the research project, being sure to specify the weekdays and hours that the student researcher is expected to commit to the project, then consider the following: Is there room for scheduling flexibility? Will time outside of regularly scheduled work hours ever be required?

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

If applicable to your research, be sure to discuss the following: Travel requirements, intellectual property ownership, research confidentiality, authorship order on publication of research, etc.

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

_____	_____	_____
Student Researcher	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Research Mentor	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Secondary Research Mentor <i>(if applicable)</i>	Signature	Date

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Discovery's mission is to support student development through faculty-mentored research and creative activities. We recognize that within collaborative efforts is the potential for conflict to arise. Conflict resolution resources for both student researchers and faculty mentors can be found at urcd.msstate.edu. For Title XI related issues, please see Mississippi State University's Office of Civil Rights Compliance: www.civilrights.msstate.edu.