



BRIDGING DISCIPLINES PROGRAMS

512-232-7564

Flawn Academic Center, room 1

Connecting Experience Contract: RESEARCH

Student name: _____ EID: _____ Email: _____

BDP: _____ Strand: _____

This contract is for an research experience in _____ Location: _____
(semester/year) (city, state/country)

Title: _____
(brief title of research)

Course number: _____ Unique number: _____

Semester of course credit: Fall _____ Spring _____ Summer _____
(year) (year) (year)

Faculty mentor name: _____ Faculty dept: _____

Faculty email: _____

Required documentation:

- 1-page statement describing your proposed research experience. In your project description, be sure to clearly articulate how your proposed Connecting Experience relates to your BDP topic and, if applicable, to your strand.

Complete the following in collaboration with your faculty mentor:

- Student Requirements:
 - See reverse for requirements of all students in a Connecting Research Experience.
 - Additional requirements as agreed upon by the faculty mentor and student. **Please specify below.** (Ex: Reading list, research paper, journal entries, etc.)

- Basis for grading for semester:
 - The basis for grading is agreed upon by the professor and student. **Please specify below.** For additional information, see Connecting Experiences expectations and guidelines on the reserve of this page. (If coursework includes a writing assignment, please specify the number of pages.)
 - NOTE: All Connecting Experiences may be graded using the plus/minus grading system.

- Professor/student conferences (e.g. weekly in-person meetings, email contact every other week, etc).
 - Frequency of contact: weekly biweekly other
 - Type of Contact: in-person meetings email contact other

If other, please explain: _____

We have read the Connecting Experience expectations on page 2 and agree to the terms stated above.

Faculty Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

(Faculty mentor must be a currently active faculty member at the University of Texas at Austin.)

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Connecting Research Experience Expectations and Guidelines

I. Student Requirements:

- Attendance at two mandatory Connecting Experience Check-In Meetings (see your BDP advisor or consult the BDP website for dates)
- Completion of Reflection Essay submitted to the BDP Office

II. Student Expectations When Completing a BDP Connecting Experience

IMPORTANT: All academic requirements are at the discretion of the supervising faculty member.

In addition to the Student Requirements listed above, students must meet the expectations stated below.

- Agree on a plan for the semester with the faculty mentor *before* the connecting experience begins. The plan should include academic requirements, the basis for grading the experience, and a plan for student/professor meetings for the semester (frequency of contact; via email, in-person, team meetings, etc).
- Use good communication skills. It is the student's responsibility to report progress and seek guidance when needed. If you encounter a problem or make a mistake, discuss it with your faculty mentor right away. If you have questions about your BDP obligations, contact the BDP office so that issues are addressed in a timely manner.
- Be self-motivated. Students are expected to be active and reliable participants in the research experience. Your mentor should not have to prompt you to show up for work or a meeting or to finish a project.
- Know the expectation for course credit. Student is responsible for knowing and fulfilling any departmental requirements and for keeping the faculty member supervising the connecting research experience informed about their work.
- Follow the University of Texas at Austin *Honor Code* and *Standard of Academic Integrity*.

III. Guidelines for Faculty Supervising BDP RESEARCH Connecting Experiences

IMPORTANT: All academic requirements are at the discretion of the supervising faculty member.

- Meet with student periodically throughout the semester or arrange regular e-mail contact.
- Help student integrate the research experience with issues and concepts from coursework.
- Encourage student to make connections between the research experience and methodologies, controversies, and trends in her or his discipline.
- Help student consider new directions and possible career paths.
- Assign final grade or credit. This responsibility may vary depending on the course number and departmental requirements.

V. Institutional Review Board (IRB) Note

If your project uses people as test subjects, or uses data collected from or about people, you may require Institutional Review Board approval prior to conducting your proposed research. For information, contact:

Institutional Review Board (IRB)
Office of Research Support
North Office Building A, Suite 5.200

<http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/humanresearch/index.html>

Phone: (512) 471-8871
Email: orsc@uts.cc.texas.edu

Please Note: If your project requires IRB approval, you cannot be awarded a scholarship without it.