

# **INDEPENDENT STUDIES RESEARCH ASSISTANT** **ENV S 199RA**

This course is available to upper-division students who wish to serve as a research assistant working on a current/ongoing research project being conducted by an Environmental Studies (ES) faculty member. This is a great opportunity for an undergraduate to gain research skills and valuable insight into what/how university level research is conducted within a specific environmental discipline.

Env S 199RA is a variable unit course (*1-5 units per quarter, up to a total of 15 units*) with no more than 4 units total applying towards major requirements and students are not allowed more than 30 units total in all UCSB 98/99/198/199/199AA-ZZ courses combined. Grading is optional, but to apply it towards the major it must be taken for a letter grade. Consent of instructor and department are required before registering.

## **CRITERIA**

1. Student **MUST** have upper-division standing (*completion of at least 84.5 units*).
2. Student may be any major, but should complete at least two upper-division courses in environmental studies before pursuing an Env S 199RA project (*can be waived by approval from the faculty advisor*).
3. Student should have an overall GPA of 3.0 (*can be waived by approval from the faculty advisor*).
4. Research must be done under the supervision of an Environmental Studies faculty member and can not be work already required by an existing course.
5. Student and faculty advisor must agree on the amount and type of work to be completed. This information is recorded on the Env S 199RA application form and will serve as the official "contract" between the student, faculty advisor, and the Environmental Studies Program.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. Discuss the research opportunity with an ES faculty advisor and agree on a research project, type of work to be completed, and the number of units to be assigned based on the student workload.
2. Complete the Env S 199RA application, available on the reverse side, and have it signed by the faculty advisor (*must be an Environmental Studies Program faculty member*).
3. Turn the signed Env S 199RA form in to the ES Academic Advisor before the quarter's Add Deadline. Be sure to keep a photocopy of the application for your self and your faculty advisor.
4. Once the application is reviewed and approved by the ES Academic Advisor an Approval Code will be issued and used by the student to add the class via *GOLD*. Student must also have the two-digit instructor code for their faculty advisor (*found in the quarterly Schedule of Classes under Environmental Studies*). **NOTE: Students will not be able to add the ES 199RA course without prior approval of this form and an add code!**

# ENV S 199RA APPLICATION FORM

This form must be signed by an Environmental Studies faculty advisor and returned to the ES Academic Advisor before one can register for the course.

QUARTER: \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_ # OF UNITS: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADING OPTION: L OR P/NP

STUDENT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PERM #: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ ADVISOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe in detail the faculty research project the student will be working on and include the duties, goals and responsibilities he/she will have as a research assistant:**

**List the specific training the student will be provided, an estimated # of total hours the student will work during the quarter, and how the final grade will be determined:**

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**SIGNATURES:** *We understand the above requirements must be completed to receive course credit:*

STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FACULTY ADVISOR: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ES ADVISOR/PROGRAM CHAIR: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_