

PHYS 496 Procedures and Requirements

Requirements to earn 1-unit of PHYS 496 credit:

1. At least **4 hours of research per week** for an entire semester (**>60 hours total**)
2. Concurrent or previous **enrollment in PHYS 400**
3. 2-page **written summary** of your research activities and results that includes an **Abstract** (<250 words) and **Figure** that can be featured on the DPB website and newsletter
4. **Presentation** (poster or talk) at USD Creative Collaborations or other approved conference
5. **Weekly log** of research hours and activities

How to enroll in PHYS 496:

1. **Meet with physics and biophysics professors** to learn about their research and the availability of research opportunities in their lab. Identify a professor you want to do research with.
2. Work with that professor - your research advisor - to **determine a research project** that you will conduct over the course of a semester (or longer).
3. Enroll in **PHYS 400** or show proof of previous completion of PHYS 400.
4. **Complete the [PHYS 496 Enrollment Application](#)** with your research advisor (the link to the Application can also be found on the **Physics and Biophysics Majors Blackboard page**)
5. **Email the DPB Executive Assistant** at physics@sandiego.edu and alert them of your submission.

What to do during and/or following your research experience:

1. **Design a research plan and weekly schedule** with your faculty research advisor to ensure you complete at least 60 hours over the course of the semester.
2. **Conduct research** according to your set schedule. Make sure to meet regularly with your faculty research advisor to ensure you are on track with your project.
3. Maintain and **routinely submit weekly research logs** using the [PHYS 496 Materials Submission](#) form (also on the **Physics and Biophysics Majors Blackboard page**).
4. **Submit an abstract** for [Creative Collaborations](#) (February) or another suitable conference.
5. **Present a poster/talk** at the conference where you submitted your abstract (March-May).
6. **Write a 2-pg summary** of your research activities and results. **Include an Abstract** (<250 words) and **Figure** to be posted on the department website.
7. Review these materials with your faculty research advisor and make any edits they suggest by the **last day of classes for semester**.
8. After approval from your faculty advisor, **upload items 3-6** to the [PHYS 496 Materials Submission](#) form by the **last day of finals for the semester**.
9. Remind your faculty research advisor to submit your PHYS 496 grade (P/F) to Dr. Ryan McGorty, Department Chair.

Trouble finding a research project? Confused about the requirements/procedures or what research entails? Contact Dr. Ryan McGorty: rmgorty@sandiego.edu

****Faculty advisors must submit to the Chair the PHYS 496 grade (P/F) when *final grades are due*.**