

**GEORGIA HIGHLANDS COLLEGE  
Honors Option Contract**

Please complete this form & return the original to:

Jayne Feagin  
Director, Honors Program  
Georgia Highlands College, Douglasville Site (D-147)

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HONORS STUDENT**

The form area contains a very faint, ghosted image of another page. Visible text includes:  
- 'Prof' on the left margin.  
- 'MAUSS' in the center.  
- 'R' on the right side.  
- 'STUDENT AND FACULTY MEMBER' at the bottom right.

Also, keep in mind the following: Include information on the topic or problem to be examined, the nature of the reading assignments and the number and nature of reports or projects. Describe how the Honors Option work is qualitatively beyond the normal requirements of the course. Indicate how successful completion of the Honors Option will be determined.

## HONORS PROJECT DESCRIPTION for

**BIOL 2108  
CRN 20074  
SPRING, 2017**

### **TITLE: The Biology of Bats: Characteristics, Behavior, Evolution, and Conservation**

#### **Description:**

The student will perform an intensive literature search on the biology of bats. The student will focus on three critical areas: the biological characteristics of bats (anatomy, behavior, unique adaptations), the evolution of bats (documenting their place in the vertebrate phylogeny and focusing on details of derived groups in the Chiroptera, and conservation of bats (justification of conservation, identification of conservation issues, and description of current conservation efforts)

#### **Assessment:**

- 3% References shall be from legitimate science sources.
- 3% No more than 25% of references will be common use websites.
- 3% No less than 25% of references will be peer-reviewed journal articles.
- 3% Abstract (Introduction) summarizing the purpose and content of the report.
- 10% Documentation of bat anatomy.
- 10% Documentation of bat behavior.
- 10% Documentation of bat adaptations.
- 10% Documentation of Chiropterid position in vertebrate phylogeny.
- 10% Documentation of derived Chiropterid groups and their evolution.
- 10% Documentation of conservation issues of bats.
- 10% Documentation of current conservation efforts.
- 3% Final product will be printed in Calibri 14pt font with standard margins
- 3% Final product will contain no more than one illustration per 4 pages of text
- 3% Final product will be no less than 20 pages in length
- 3% Final product will list no less than 15 references
- 3% Final product will cite references in the body of the text
- 3% Final product will document references in APA style.

#### **Justification:**

BIOL 2108 is the second course in the majors biology sequence at GHC. Principles of Biology II covers evolution and the diversity of organisms. The honors project described above goes well beyond what is covered in the course in two respects. First, the honors student is making an application of evolutionary theory learned in lecture to an Animalian taxon that has not been documented in the diversity component of the

course. Second, given the fact that the Chiroptera are not specifically mentioned in the course, the honors student is gathering legitimate scientific information above-and-beyond that required by the course syllabus.

**Determination of Success:**

Application of the Assessment rubric (above) to the final submitted product.