Certificate in Scientific Computation
Research Contract

Instructions for submitting your proposal:

1. Write a 1-page, double spaced statement describing your proposed research. Clearly articulate the 1) scientific problem/topic, 2) computational tools and resources that will be applied to the scientific topic, and 3) your criteria and considerations for selecting your faculty mentor.

2. Complete the form below
   - **Section I.** To be completed by the student and taken to your Faculty Supervisor, along with your 1-page statement.
   - **Section II.** Together, the student and Faculty Supervisor will outline grading requirements and communication expectations.
   - **Section III.** The student and Faculty Supervisor will discuss expectations and guidelines, the student will initial where indicated, and both will sign and date the contract.

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**Section I. Student & Research Project Information**

Student name: __________________________ Email: __________________________

EID: __________ Course Number: SDS 379R or SDS 479R Semester & year: __________

Title of Research Project: __________________________

Faculty Supervisor: __________________________ Email: __________________________

EID: __________ Department: __________________________

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**Section II. Grading Requirements & Communication Expectations**

**Grading Requirements.** All Research Projects must be graded using the plus/minus grading system. The grading requirements and relevant deadlines are decided at the discretion of the Faculty Supervisor and student. The following options are only suggestions.

- [ ] Scholarly Discussion _____ %
- [ ] Attendance _____ %
- [ ] Research Paper _____ pages _____ %
- [ ] Research Assistant Responsibilities (please specify): __________________________________________________% 
- [ ] Other (please specify): __________________________________________________% 

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Faculty/Student Communication.

Frequency of Contact: [ ] Weekly  [ ] Biweekly  [ ] Other: _______________________________

Type of Contact:  [ ] In-person Meetings  [ ] Email Contact  [ ] Other: __________________________

Project Status Report:  [ ] Weekly  [ ] Biweekly  [ ] Other: _______________________________

Section III. Student Requirements, Student Expectations, Faculty Mentor Guidelines & Signatures

Student Requirements. In order to receive credit toward the Certificate in Scientific Computation for your research paper, students must complete the following requirements. Check each box and initial where indicated.

☐ Earn a “C-” or better in the “Undergraduate Research” course (SDS 379R or SDS 479R)
☐ Complete research paper and submit to the SDS Office by 5 PM on April 30 (spring), August 7 (summer), or November 30 (fall). NO EXCEPTIONS.

_____ I have read and agree to these requirements. (STUDENT MUST INITIAL)

Student Expectations. During a Certificate in Scientific Computation research project, students must meet the expectations stated below.

☐ Agree on a plan for the semester with your Faculty Supervisor before the research project begins and know the expectations for course credit. You are responsible for fulfilling any faculty requirements.

☐ Keep your Faculty Supervisor informed about your work and seek guidance when needed. If you encounter a problem or make a mistake, discuss it with your Faculty Supervisor right away.

☐ Be self-motivated. You are expected to be an active and reliable participant in the research project. You should not need prompting to show up to work or finish a project.

☐ Institutional Review Board (IRB). If your project uses human subjects or uses data collected from or about people, you may require IRB approval before beginning your research. Contact the Office of Research Support at (512) 471-8871 or visit their website at http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/humansubjects/.

☐ Follow the University of Texas at Austin Honor Code and Standard of Academic Integrity.

_____ I have read and agree to these expectations. (STUDENT MUST INITIAL)


- Meet with student periodically throughout the semester or arrange regular email contact.

- Encourage student to make connections among the research project—the topic, methodologies,
controversies, and trends in the student’s field.

- Help student consider new directions and possible career paths.
- Assign final grade.

**Student and Faculty Supervisor Signatures.** We have read, discussed, and agreed to the terms outlined in the Grading Requirements, Student Requirements, Student Expectations, and Faculty Mentor Guidelines.

Faculty Supervisor Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________

Student Signature: __________________________________________ Date: ________