Department of Neuroscience

Thesis Writing Practicum Agreement

Fall 2018 – Term 2191

Student Name:

PeopleSoft #:	**Course**	**Grade Option**
Phone: **Email:**	**NROSCI 1962**	**Letter Grade**

The goal of this course is to guide students in the process of writing a thesis paper based on original neuroscience-related research conducted under a faculty mentor's supervision. To be considered as a candidate for NROSCI 1962, you **MUST** have already collected a **MAJOR PORTION OF THE DATA TO BE REPORTED IN YOUR THESIS**. Typically, this means approximately 3 credits of NROSCI 1901 and 3 credits of NROSCI 1961, or the non-credit equivalent.

Thesis requirements:

The thesis must be at least twelve pages of textual material in the format of a scientific paper. The required drafts and completed thesis must include: title page, abstract, literature review, description of the experimental methods, results section, discussion, and references. The twelve pages of textual material do not include the title page, figures, figure legends, tables, or references. A helpful resource is *Writing Papers in the Biological Sciences* by Victoria McMillan.

Deadlines for thesis completion:

- □ **First full draft:** due at the end of week 6 of the term
- □ **Second full draft**: due at the end of week 8 of the term
- □ **Final draft:** due at the end of week 12 of the term. This final draft will be sent to the thesis reader for feedback.
- □ **Completed thesis:** due by the **WEDNESDAY of finals week**. An electronic copy of the completed thesis and title page (signed by mentor, reader, and self) should be sent to the Neuroscience Undergraduate Advising Office at nrosciug@pitt.edu by this date.

You will need to select a committee composed of your faculty mentor and at least one other faculty member to act as your thesis reader. One of these must be a primary faculty member from the Department of Neuroscience.

Required Signatures

STUDENT: ***By signing below, I am agreeing to submit a thesis that is my own work, based on the suggestions of my faculty mentor and faculty reader. I agree to submit thesis drafts by the deadlines listed above and in the format indicated.***

Student Signature: **Date:**

FACULTY MENTOR: ***By signing below, I am verifying that this student has collected the major portion of the data to be included in the thesis. I agree to mentor the student in the process of writing a scientific thesis based on work performed in my lab. I will determine the final grade in conjunction with the Faculty Reader and submit the final grade prior to the University grade deadline.***

Faculty Mentor Name: (please print)_____ **E-mail** _____

Faculty Mentor Signature: **Date:**

FACULTY READER: ***By signing below, I agree to read the thesis and possibly suggest revisions for the above student.***

Faculty Reader Name: (please print)_____ **E-mail** _____

Faculty Reader Signature: **Date:**

DEPARTMENTAL AUTHORIZATION: **Department authorization may be granted by any of the following:**
Dr. Sesack – A426D Langley, Dr. Meriney- Crawford 461C, Dr. Artim – 445 Crawford OR Dr. Fanselow – 449 Crawford

Department Signature: **Date:**

Return completed form before the end of add/drop to LANGY A210 for processing. Rev 02/18