

3. Provide a timetable for your Researchplan.

Briefly identify experimental milestones (key experiments) and their estimated time of completion. Include as many specific dates (i.e. June/Spring 2021) as you can:

Estimated date of thesis defense: _____

4. For how many months have you performed research in your proposed Master's thesis lab (specify time spent as a volunteer and time spent enrolled in BISP 199/196/193)?
5. Who will serve as your immediate mentor? Please indicate their title (e.g., Ph.D. student, postdoc, etc.). This can be your thesis advisor.

6. Successful graduate students have a clearly defined mentorship plan which includes frequent formal and informal interactions with their immediate mentor and their thesis advisor, in which they discuss their data, review the progress of their project and discuss future experiments.

Describe your mentorship plan (this plan should be discussed with and have an approval of, your immediate supervisor and your thesis advisor).

7. Provide a list of all scientific papers you used in writing this research plan (in APA format).

8. As a graduate student, you are expected to participate in the scientific activities of your lab and your department or section (such as, participation in lab meetings, journal clubs, presentations of work at scientific meetings, attendance of departmental seminars. All Master's students are invited to present a poster in the Biology Research Showcase (usually held in the 10th week of the Spring quarter). Describe which academic activities you will take part in.

9. As noted in the application instructions, when applying to the BS/MS program, students are required to **confirm a Biology faculty member** who will serve on the student's thesis committee. For students in labs outside Biology, this second committee member will serve as co-chair of their thesis committee. Eligible titles for the second committee member include Professor, Professor Emeritus, Distinguished Professor, Associate Professor, or Assistant Professor (note: students pursuing the Specialization in Biology Education Research may also nominate a Biology faculty member holding a Teaching Professor title). As an applicant to the BS/MS program, it is your responsibility to ensure the committee member nominated through the BS/MS application meets the eligibility requirements. Students who nominate an ineligible second committee member will forfeit their eligibility for the BS/MS program. Biology faculty, and their faculty title, can be found in the [Biology Faculty Directory](#). Students are encouraged to discuss potential committee members with their faculty advisor. Questions about the eligibility of specific faculty members may be sent to the BS/MS Coordinator through the VAC. **Please confirm** that you, the applicant, have reviewed the committee member requirements listed here (and in the [application instructions](#)) and that you understand that your application will not be considered if you nominate an ineligible committee member.

I, _____, confirm that the information included in this research plan is accurate and complete. I also confirm that I have reviewed the application instructions detailed on the BS/MS website and understand the requirements for a complete application.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

To be completed by the *Thesis Advisor*:

Successfully defending a thesis requires that the student has obtained sufficient data to make a **significant contribution to a research paper** that could be published in a peer-reviewed journal. Such contribution could consist of one or more of the following:

- The student produces at least one figure or a table that could be included in a peer-reviewed research paper.
- The student's work lays a significant foundation for further research (for example, the student conducted a genetic screen).
- The student develops a new technique or improves an existing method, producing a significant, applicable technical advance.

*Note: In addition to their research work (for which they earn BGGN 271 credit units), MS students are expected to complete 12 units of academic course work.

1. Based on student's research proposal, please evaluate student's potential to produce enough data to successfully defend a Master's thesis.
2. Please evaluate the feasibility of the proposed timeline.
3. Please confirm that sufficient resources will be available for the student to perform the thesis work, including mentorship and the necessary materials to conduct the experiments proposed in this research plan.

4. MS students must confirm a second committee member at the time they apply to the program. This second committee member must be a **Biology faculty** member with one of the following titles: Professor, Professor Emeritus, Distinguished Professor, Associate Professor, or Assistant Professor (note: students working with a Biology Teaching Professor may nominate a Teaching Professor, any rank, as their second committee member). Biology faculty, and their faculty title, can be found on the [Biology Faculty Directory](#). Students who nominate an ineligible second committee member will forfeit their eligibility for the BS/MS program. Please confirm that you will advise the student on potential committee members.

5. Please confirm that you have reviewed and approved the mentorship plan proposed by the student.

Thesis Advisor's Printed Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Thesis Advisor's Home Department: _____

Thesis Advisor's Signature: _____

3. Please confirm that you are eligible to serve as the second committee member (or co-chair) of the student's thesis committee (requirements are detailed at the top of this page).

Co-Chair/Committee Member's Printed Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Co-Chair/Committee Member's Home Department: _____ **Biological Sciences** _____

Co-Chair/Committee Member's Signature: _____