

## RESEARCH CONTRACT

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Gatton Academy encourages students to participate in mentored research projects. For the sake of richer projects and greater understanding of the research work, completion of two full semesters of research or more is promoted. Likewise, students are encouraged to use their research to produce academic outcomes as possible, such as conference presentations, entry to scientific competitions, and even publication. At the onset of each semester of the experience, students are required to have this Research Contract signed by the WKU faculty member who has agreed to mentor their project.

**Research Mentor:**

Thank you for providing a Gatton Academy student mentorship to perform research under your supervision. By signing below, you agree to oversee a research project for the semester (credit-offering or not at your discretion—see below) for an Academy student.

Research Supplies Grants are available for WKU faculty who mentor a Gatton Academy student. This \$250/per academic year for each Academy student you work with can be used to purchase research equipment or software to benefit your work with an Academy student. Research Supplies Grants funds are limited; application cycles start each July 1 until funds are exhausted. Likewise, if Academy students have the opportunity to travel for conference presentations, we can also assist with their expenses through a limited funding resource. The application is available at [www.wku.edu/academy](http://www.wku.edu/academy).

Credit: Academy students can earn credit hours for research projects that begin before the drop/add date of each new semester. Credit can be earned at 1, 2, or 3 hours per semester at your recommendation. It's likely your department offers a section for independent research, but if not, Academy students can be registered in an HON 303: Independent Research section if the appropriate paperwork is into the Honors College by the semester drop/add date.

Approximately how many hours per week should the student plan to dedicate to their research project?

1-3 hrs.       3-5 hrs.       5-7 hrs.       7-10 hrs.

Will this project be offered for credit?     Yes     No                       Already past drop/add date

-If Yes, how many hours of credit?                      1hr.                       2hrs.                       3hrs.

-If Yes, which course section should be used? (ex: Chem 299) \_\_\_\_\_ CRN \_\_\_\_\_

Is a research outcome, such as a conference presentation, poster, or publication possible from this project? Is it expected of the student? Check as appropriate.     Possible     Expected     Not Possible

\_\_\_\_\_  
Research Mentor (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature, Discipline (Chem, Phys, etc.)

**Gatton Academy Student:**

The student agrees 1.) set aside regularly-scheduled time weekly to their project and 2.) meet the expectations of their research mentor as best as possible

\_\_\_\_\_  
WKU ID #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Academy Student (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**Gatton Academy--Assistant Director, Academic Services:**

Agrees to periodically monitor the research of this student by keeping in contact with the student and research mentor throughout the semester.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Derick B. Strode, Ed.D., Assistant Director, Academic Services  
Carol Martin Gatton Academy of Math and Science in Kentucky | P: 270.745.3167 | F: 270.745.2987 | [derick.strode@wku.edu](mailto:derick.strode@wku.edu)

**\*\*Return this form to Derick B. Strode, Ed.D., Gatton Academy, Florence Schneider Hall 142  
when signed by research mentor and student.\*\***