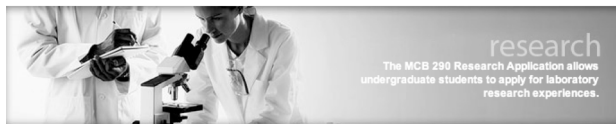


MCB 290 Student Profile Database



Are you looking for a MCB 290 research opportunity in the School of MCB? *The MCB 290 Student Profile Database can help you get the word out to our MCB research professors:*

The MCB 290 Profile Database: Who uses it?

- **Students who are currently Biol. Unassigned, MCB or Biochemistry use it:** It's a convenient, time saving way to offer complete information about yourself to the MCB professors. And once you find your MCB 290 mentor, it makes registration for your MCB 290 easy!
- **MCB Professors use it:** It provides easy access to screened information about student applicants. Once they set up an MCB 290 project with a student, the "paperwork" can be submitted electronically. (Professors outside of MCB do not have access to the profile database at this time.)
- **The MCB Instructional Program uses it:** It quantifies the level of interest among our MCB students for research – information that is essential for program enhancements.

Key features:

- There are **no submission deadlines** – You can submit your profile any time all year. It will be placed in the database as soon as it's approved by the MCB Instructional Program and remain active for 6 months.
- In your email letters to the professors you can provide the link directly to YOUR profile.
- You have NO paperwork to complete to when you register for the MCB 290 – Your MCB mentor will complete and submit the faculty portion electronically.
- You will automatically receive an email containing instructions and the CRN that allows you register for MCB 290 for the semester agreed upon.
- You can use the profile system to RENEW your MCB 290 project with your mentor for each semester thereafter that your studies continue.

Finding the MCB 290 Profile:

Find the MCB 290 Profile link and much more information about undergraduate research (<http://www.mcb.uiuc.edu/undergrad/research.html>) under "Academic Enrichment" on the MCB "Undergraduate Studies" webpage (<http://www.mcb.uiuc.edu/>).

Steps for submitting your MCB 290 Profile:

Note: You will have one hour to complete and submit the profile. In order to ensure that you don't lose information before you have a chance to submit, the following steps are recommended:

Step #1: Access the MCB 290 Student Profile (<http://www.mcb.uiuc.edu/undergrad/research.html>) and read through it .

Step #2: Assemble your information: E.g. list your science and math courses you've taken, are currently enrolled in, have transferred to Illinois (include institution) or AP'd; Record your grades and major GPA; Write any text portions separately in a document from which you can copy and paste them into the profile.

Step #3: Enter your information and check it:

When you submit your profile, the MCB Instructional Program will verify your current major, semester in school, courses, grades and major GPA. (You can calculate your GPA yourself or find it on your DARS.)

Filling out your MCB 290 Profile:

Campus Experience

Semester in school: 4

Current Major: [...]

Major GPA: [] (ex. 3.51; The major GPA is based on all MCB, IB, CHEM, PHYS and MATH courses taken on this campus. If you have declared your major, you can obtain your major GPA via a DARS audit at <http://www.oar.uiuc.edu/dars/generate.html>)

MCB and Supporting Courses & Grades (List all MCB, IB, CHEM, PHYS and MATH courses taken on this campus; include current classes):

Course: [] Grade: [] Add Course

No courses added.

To add a course, fill in the information above and

List ALL MCB, PHYS, CHEM and MATH courses including:

- In progress
- AP
- Transferred courses

Check this information for accuracy

TIP: Think carefully about the sections of your profile that communicate your motivation for seeking research experience. They should convey your commitment to the research and awareness of what the experience can offer you.

Filling out your MCB 290 Profile :

Briefly describe your post-graduation plans:

Briefly describe your reasons for wanting to participate in a research experience (approx. 500 words)

By checking this box I affirm that I am the equivalent of my signature, and that the information is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Submit Application

Give some careful thought to your personal statement:

- Why is research important to your goals?
- What are the benefits that you hope to gain?
- How do you plan to make the most of a research experience?

• Draft these first in a program like Word (to copy/paste later)

• Ask someone to read it through the eyes of a professor

• Remember -- there IS a point of "diminishing returns" on length

Step #4: Submit your profile. The fact-check process is on a weekly schedule and you should receive word of its status in about 7 days. If your profile is:

- approved** you'll receive an email confirming its inclusion in the database.
- denied** you'll receive via email an explanation and instructions for correcting and resubmitting your profile.

Step #5: Speak with the professors whose work interests you. Remember that YOU need to contact the professors. Provide the link to your profile in each email that you send.

Step #6: Enroll for MCB 290. As you reach an agreement with an MCB professor for an MCB 290 project, remind him/her to use the profile to **complete and submit the MCB 290 "paperwork" electronically**. Use the CRN provided via email to you to **register for the MCB290** as per your agreement with your mentor.

Questions or problems? Email them to: mcb290help@life.uiuc.edu