

CGSC 490x: Directed Research in Cognitive Science

Description of CGSC 490x Directed Research:

CGSC 490x allows students to conduct research under faculty direction. The course is open to juniors and seniors majoring in Cognitive Science. Students may enroll in 2 - 4 credits in one semester, continuing over multiple semesters, up to a maximum of 8 credits.

How to register for CGSC 490x

1. Identify a faculty advisor in one of the departments that offer courses in the cognitive science curriculum and discuss a plan for the directed research experience. Note that an average of 2-3 hours of involvement per week for each credit enrolled must be justified in the proposal and explained in the end-of-term submission.
2. Complete this proposal form (see pages 2-3) with the faculty advisor and upload it directly on the website listed below, subject to approval by the Director of the Cognitive Science Program, **by the end of the second week of the semester.**

<https://dornsife.usc.edu/psyc/forms-applications/>

CGSC 490x: Directed Research In Cognitive Science Proposal

Student Name _____ Student ID # _____
Phone # _____ Year in School _____
Major _____ Email Address _____
Semester & year of 490x _____
Number of credits of 490x you are registering for this semester (1 - 4) _____

Name of faculty advisor _____

If you will also be supervised by a graduate student or member of research staff, print name(s):

In less than 1.5 double-spaced pages, describe the nature and goals of your supervised research experience, addressing the following:

- What is the topic under investigation? Include APA formatted citations from relevant studies.
- What will be the nature of your directed research project? Specify your planned involvement in any of the following research activities: Writing a literature review or theoretical paper, designing a study, collecting data, analyzing data, and writing or presenting the results of a study.
- What previous experience do you have in conducting research that has prepared you to work on the proposed project(s) as you have described? Examples are previous work in this lab, another lab, or coursework that developed relevant research skills.
- What are you hoping to gain from this experience?

Research Agreement to be submitted with CGSC 490x Proposal

Please consult the current semester's academic calendar at <https://academics.usc.edu/calendar/> to identify the date on which classes end.

Deadline to submit a research paper to faculty advisor (two weeks before the last day of classes):
_____, 20 ____

Deadline to submit final research paper to Program Director (last day of classes):
_____, 20 ____

I have read the requirements for CGSC 490x and have discussed them with my Faculty Advisor. I am aware that in order to receive a grade, I must meet my scheduled responsibilities and also submit an acceptable research paper by the dates indicated above. Failure to meet these requirements will result in a grade penalty, possibly including a grade of unexcused withdrawal or F, depending on the circumstances.

x _____ Date: _____

Student's Signature

I agree to sponsor this student's CGSC 490x course and to provide a beneficial learning experience throughout the semester. I will provide guidance to the student on the end-of-term research paper and provide a recommended grade to the Director of the Cognitive Science Program by the last day of classes.

x _____ Date: _____

Faculty Advisor's Signature

This proposal must be submitted by the end of the second week of classes to a Cognitive Science Undergraduate Advisor in SGM 501, 9am-5pm, who will check your eligibility to take CGSC 490x and seek approval of the Program Director before granting D-clearance.

x _____

Director of the Cognitive Science Program signature & date

For advisor use only: _____ D-clearance granted

**CGSC 490x: Directed Research in Psychology
End of Term Submission Instructions**

Students will submit this cover sheet, responding to A and B below, and include an APA formatted research paper as described in section C below. This completed form and the paper should be submitted to the faculty advisor two weeks before the last day of classes to allow time for feedback. The final version must be submitted to the Director of the Cognitive Science Program (deliver to SGM 501) by 5pm on the last day of classes.

A. In one or two paragraphs, describe the research-related work you performed as part of your 490x experience. (This can be described here, or as an attachment.)

Indicate with checkmark(s) all that apply:

B. Time involvement

Describe briefly how many hours, on average, you worked on your directed research project this semester.

C. Research Paper

In addition to A and B, students must submit an empirical or review paper in APA format, **the body of which is at least three pages for each credit of 490x enrolled (e.g., a 12-page paper if enrolled in 4 credits)**. The paper must include an appropriate number citations and references for its length, as deemed by the faculty advisor.