## NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This document is part of the fulfillment of the assessment guidelines for the Master’s Degree. This form satisfies the written report option of this assessment.

Attend one Microbiology seminar of their choice and submit a written report that formulates new questions, ideas, and concepts based on the seminar. Alternatively, students who have completed independent research credits may present a report or report summarizing that research. Reports and reports will be reviewed by MS program director.

The report is typically 2 to 4 pages and does not need to be printed. The student can submit an electronic copy to the Coursework Masters Director who will review it using the rubric on the following page.

The report should have the following sections:

**Significance of research** (250 words maximum): The student clearly and convincingly explains why this research is important and links it to the broader scientific understanding of the topic.

**Background knowledge and information gap:** The student puts the research into the context of the literature on the subject, the information gap clearly identified and stated. The background information has appropriate literature cited.

**Hypothesis:** The student clearly states the research problem and hypothesis explaining the observations.

**Results:** The results presented at the seminar should be summarized in a manner such that a scientist not familiar with the work can understand the experimental approach and results obtained in a logical fashion.

**Conclusion:** The conclusions that can be drawn from the research should be stated succinctly and should logically follow from the results presented. The research question is answered.

A score of 70 or above on the report is required to receive credit for a report. If a score below 70 is earned, the student may revise and resubmit the report.

Signature of Program Director indicates satisfactory completion of requirement.

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(name) (signature)

Additional Comments:

**Seminar Report rubric** (circle score that best describes presentation)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Expert** | **Proficient** | **Apprentice** | **Novice** |
| **Significance of Research (20 pts)**   * The report effectively and convincingly makes a case for the importance of the research. The viewer understands why the research was done. | 10 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| **Hypothesis addressed by research (10 pts)**   * The hypothesis of the research is clearly identified and articulated. | 10 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| **Background knowledge and information gap  (20 pts)**   * The necessary background information is presented and the information gap clearly identified and stated. The background information has appropriate literature cited. | 20 | 16 | 12 | 8 |
| **Results described (20 pts)**   * The results presented at the seminar are presented clearly | 20 | 16 | 12 | 8 |
| **Conclusion (20 pts)**   * The major conclusions that can be drawn from the research are explained. The conclusions follow logically from the results obtained and do not overinterpret the data. | 20 | 16 | 12 | 8 |
| **Spelling & Grammar  (10 pts)**   * No spelling & grammar mistakes | 10 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| **Overall Impressions (10 pts)** | 10 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| **Total (100 pts)** |  |  |  |  |