Undergraduate Research Center

Tori White
Program Coordinator
URC Contact Information

- **Location:** 2300 Student Community Center
- **Hours:** Monday–Friday; 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
- **Phone:** 530-752-3390
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- **Email:** urc@ucdavis.edu
URC STAFF

Undergraduate Research Advisors

Annaliese Franz
Dee Clark
Lolita Nelson
Tammy Hoyer

Front Desk Assistants

Lolita Nelson
Dee Clark
The Undergraduate Research Center empowers students to find research opportunities and provide them with resources to hone the skills that are vital to success as a researcher.
Advising

- One-on-one, 30-minute appointments
- Academic planning
- Investigate opportunities and identify interests
- Tips for contacting faculty research sponsors
- Guidance on developing and sustaining working relationships with faculty research sponsors
Who Can Conduct Research?

- Research is open to all students in all majors
Who Can Conduct Research?

- It is okay to find a research project outside of your major—just find a faculty member to work with (this includes professors in our graduate and professional schools).

- More than half of all undergraduates participate in research sometime during their academic careers.
What Does Undergraduate Research Look Like?

Research takes many forms, and what it looks like varies depending upon your major. For example:

- Library searches and archive work
- Surveys and interviews
- Laboratory benchwork
- Modeling and computations
What Does Undergraduate Research Look Like?

- Fieldwork
What Does Undergraduate Research Look Like?

- Creative arts compositions (e.g., art studio, music, dance and movement, creative writing and poetry, design, film production, and more)
What Are Some Benefits of Undergraduate Research?

- Critical thinking and analytical skills
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Leadership
- Global perspective
- Prepare yourself for lifelong learning
- Gain practical tools for your education and career
- Increase self-confidence
- Connect with faculty across various disciplines
- Take research methods from the classroom and apply them to real-life situations
- Earn letters of recommendation for graduate or professional school
What Are You Interested In?

- Read, read, read
- Search, search, search
  - News articles
  - Class material
  - Popular research journals
  - Journal articles
- Ask your advisor/TA for suggestions
- Get to know your local librarian
- If you are not sure, try more than one project before you graduate!
Tips to find a Research Position

1. Make a list of possibilities
2. Read websites, papers etc. of those you are interested in....then,
3. Contact the professors
   - Attend office hours
   - E-mail
Finding a Research Position--Easy as A, B, C...

A. Accountability
   - Show up! Be on time!
   - 99/199 Independent research credit

B. Be engaged
   - Demonstrate initiative
   - Ask good questions

C. Commitment
   - 2-3 quarters
   - 6-10 hours per week
Research Related Opportunities
The Undergraduate Research Pyramid

- Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in UG Research
- Explorations: UG Research Journal
- Provost’s Undergraduate Fellowship
- Travel Awards
- Conferences
- Research
Undergraduate Research, Scholarship & Creative Activities Conference

- Poster Sessions
- Oral Sessions
- Arts Exhibit
- Friday, April 27 & Saturday, April 28, 2018
- Abstract Deadline: Feb. 20, 2018
Undergraduate Travel Awards

- Funds for travel to present student research or creative activity
- Up to $500 Awards, per academic year
- Quarterly application deadlines: Nov. 6, 2017; Feb. 5, 2018; April 16, 2018
Provost’s Undergraduate Fellowship

- Up to $1,800 in grant funding for undergraduates to pursue research projects or creative activities under faculty supervision
- Attend an information session offered by the Undergraduate Research Center
- Deadlines: Nov. 6, 2017; April 16, 2018
“Explorations”- The UC Davis Undergraduate Research Journal

- Exclusively for UC Davis undergraduates
- Variety of research articles from all disciplines
- Yearly Cover Contest
Chancellor’s Award for Excellence

- Each year up to two graduating seniors who have completed outstanding research, scholarship or creative activity tied to any academic subject while at UC Davis are awarded.
- The award is announced and a special plaque is given at commencement ceremonies in June.
- Awardees also receive a $500 Simonton Prize.
- Information sessions offered.
- Deadline: Wednesday, April 11, 2018, 5 p.m.