WORKSHOP:
How to Find and Make the Most of Research
FALL 2019
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Today’s Questions

1. WHAT KINDS OF CAREERS HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?
2. WHY DO RESEARCH?
3. WHAT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES ARE OUT THERE?
WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON RESEARCH?

RESEARCH is...
RESEARCH
What kinds of careers have you considered?
Why do research?
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Be part of a research community

Engage in mentored research

Connect with undergraduate researchers
Benefits of Doing Undergrad Research

- LEARN . . .
- DEVELOP . . .
- GAIN . . .
Research is learning through...

...inquiry...

...apprenticeship...
LEARN

◇ Apply what you learn in the classroom
◇ Understand the research process
◇ Clarify your interest in a STEM career
◇ Time and Attention Management
◇ Come to know what graduate school entails
DEVELOP

- Confidence in research skills
- Expand your skill set
- Connect with the research community
GAIN

ȘA step closer to career goals
ȘPossible co-authorship of a poster and/or paper
ȘWork experience in a research environment
ȘEstablish work history worthy of a letter of recommendation
What research opportunities are out there?
WHAT ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

List down 3 things that you are passionate about or interested in.
YOUR INTEREST FUNNEL

- Broad interests
- Interests that can be related to science
- Specific area of interest
- Topics
- Current issues

Diagram featured by [http://slidemodel.com](http://slidemodel.com)
FACULTY RESEARCH MATRICES

https://grainger.illinois.edu/research/undergraduate/get-involved/how-to
Keep track of your progress

For example, use a spreadsheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Area</th>
<th>What I find interesting about the research:</th>
<th>Potential Mentor/Faculty Member</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Initial Contact Date</th>
<th>Follow-Up Contact Date</th>
<th>Response Date</th>
<th>Interview Day and Time</th>
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You can do research -

**ON YOUR OWN**
Work alone on a self-selected project under the guidance and supervision of a faculty mentor.

**IN A RESEARCH GROUP**
Work in a research group to learn skills and advance to more complex tasks.
Work on a faculty-determined project and be responsible for a piece of a greater project.

**IN OTHER INSTITUTIONS**
Work on projects off-campus.
Be part of a cohort of students.
You don’t need to be part of a program to do research!
You can do research -

RESEARCH FOR CREDIT

RESEARCH FOR PAY
IPENG Research Abroad Programs
Global Research Scholars

Denmark
Spain
Germany
Switzerland
China
South Korea
Japan
Hong Kong
Taiwan
Singapore
Learn about undergraduate research-related events and opportunities ON- and OFF- CAMPUS in the Engineering Undergraduate Research Newsletter.
Undergraduate Research Workshop (Spring Semester)

JANUARY 22, 2020
5:30 – 7:30 PM
ILLINI UNION Rooms ABC
Engineering Research Fair (Fall and Spring)

FEBRUARY 6, 2020
4:00 – 6:00 PM
ILLINI UNION Rooms ABC
SELECT KEYWORDS TO GUIDE YOUR SEARCH FOR OPPORTUNITIES
SEARCH PORTALS

STEMUndergrads.science.gov

PathwaystoScience.org

NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs)
Do research in something you are passionate about or interested in!