URSA ENGAGE 2016-2017

Workshop January 19 2017
Build your Résumé

Your Goals - Undergraduate program at OSU
Name

Contact information

Educational experience
Ø High School
Ø Bachelor of _____,

Expected graduation 20xx

Work experience
1.
2.

Volunteer/Community experience
1.
2.

Leadership

Academic Experiences
1. Internship
2. Research

Honors/Scholarships
Every student should seek to graduate with at least one experiential learning experience.

- Experiential Learning (EL)
  - Undergraduate Research (URSA)
  - Study Abroad
  - Leadership
  - Internship
  - Service Learning
What is research?

A systematic process of:

- Asking a question
- Collecting and analyzing information
- Advancing existing knowledge
Research comes in all shapes and sizes!

One size doesn’t fit all!

One term
3 months - half time

Several terms - half time
Summer - full time

Thesis
1-2 years

Grant or Scholarship
What are the benefits of engaging in research?

- Enhances critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Builds relationships with faculty mentors – key for reference letters
- Increases opportunities for team work and networking
- Helps improve communication skills – presentations
-Boosts self confidence
- More competitive – have an edge in the job market
Isn't research just for juniors and seniors?

Absolutely not!

Research can be done at **any time during your undergraduate program**.

It may be more challenging to find a mentor soon after you begin your program at OSU, but many students have commenced research in their **first year**.
What do you need to be able to do research?

- Curiosity! Wanting to discover something new! Wanting to add to existing knowledge!
- You will need a faculty mentor to help with your research, and to provide space and $$ support.
Scholarships for undergraduate research

- Campus wide - URSA Engage, URISC, DeLoach
- College specific
- National/International - National Science Foundation - Research Experiences for Undergraduates
Opportunities to share your undergraduate research

➢ **CUE** - Celebrate Undergraduate Excellence
  Poster presentations, **May 2017**

➢ **USRS** - Undergraduate Summer Research Symposium
  Oral presentations, **August 2017**
Apply for a Research Fellow notation on transcript when you complete your project.

Wear a blue cord at graduation.
URSA Engage - Provide first and second year students, and transfer students in their first year at OSU, opportunities to pursue research or a creative activity under the guidance of an OSU mentor.

**Application Process for Undergraduates**

1. Review the [Mentor Summaries](#)
2. Approach mentors whose research is of interest and discuss potential projects in person or via email.
3. Register for, and attend, one or both of the [Undergraduate Research Information Workshops](#).
4. Once you and a mentor agree on a project, fill the [Mentor Approval Form](#) and get it signed by the mentor.
5. Submit the online [Application Form](#) in which the signed Mentor Approval Form will need to be uploaded.
6. Deadline January 31, 2017
Meet with Mentor
Develop project proposal with mentor
Get mentor approval form signed
Work on USRA Engage applications
Complete and submit applications! - DUE Jan 31, 2017
How to contact a mentor

- Start with an e-mail
  - Short (~1 paragraph)
  - Tell them why you are interested in their project or working with them
  - Ask for a meeting, suggest a few blocks of time that might work for you.
- Give them up to a week to reply
  - Send them a second e-mail
  - Drop by office hours
- Make sure to contact them at least 2 weeks before the application deadline
Dear Dr. Mcgonagall,

I am contacting you today because I’m interested in the USRA-Engage program and I saw you were listed as a potential mentor. I am particularly interested in your research into Human Transfiguration. It is my career goal to work in Human Transfiguration at the ministry of Magic.

Could we please meet and discuss this further? I’m free from 2-5 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Thank you
Hermione Granger, 2nd year student of magic
Application Components

- **Name and Contact Information (make sure to use an e-mail you check!!)**
- **Mentor Information (name and contact)**
- **Project title & Brief description of the project-related activities you will engage in for the URSA Engage award**
- **Personal Statements/Essays**
  - Why are you interested in this project?
  - Please indicate the impacts of USRA Engage experience on your OSU program
Personal Statement tips

**Interest**
- Explain why the specific program interests you
  - Life experiences
  - Courses you have taken
  - Internships/work
  - Things you have read or learned about
  - Clubs

**Experience**
- Connect your interest in the program to your experiences and academics.
  - Demonstrate how you have already pursued this topic
  - Use examples

**Goals**
- How this program will support your long term professional goals
  - Graduate school
  - Career goals
Personal Statement tips

- Specific goals connected to project
- Get Help
- Talk about your personal experiences but be wary of clichés (eg engineering students playing with legos)
- Keep your tone/voice simple and direct
CV/Resume

- What is a CV - Curriculum Vitae
- Improve your resume - check out the career center
- Make sure to highlight work you have done, even volunteer.
Each step of the application process will require time and attention.

Start your personal statements or essays early.

Writing is often improved by letting time pass between drafts.
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