Getting Started with CURO Research

CURO offers undergraduates, as early as their first year at the University of Georgia, the opportunity to engage in faculty-mentored research regardless of discipline, major or GPA.

Information Sessions

For those new to undergraduate research, CURO Information Sessions are the best way to learn about what CURO has to offer.

2016 FALL SEMESTER SESSIONS—MOORE COLLEGE RM 116

Thursday, September 1 12:30-1:20pm
Wednesday, September 21 12:20-1:10pm
Tuesday, October 11 2:00-2:50pm
Wednesday, October 26 1:25-2:15pm

Please contact Ms. Jami Gilstrap (jgilstr@uga.edu) to reserve a seat. Please include your name, year, major(s), and, if possible, areas of research interest.

curo.uga.edu
REMEMBER:

- You can do research in any subject
- UGA is a research institution where all faculty are required to be involved in research
- You may join a faculty member’s ongoing research or work with a faculty member to create your own personalized research project

STEP 1  DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY

- Honors students need to be enrolled in (or have completed HONS 1000H)
- All other students must have completed 15 resident credit hours
- There is no minimum GPA requirement

STEP 2  FIND A FACULTY MENTOR

- Review faculty profiles on departmental web sites
- Search for a research topic on the UGA home page (uga.edu)
- Search the CURO Symposium (http://curo.uga.edu/students/symposium.html) and Summer Fellowships (http://curo.uga.edu/students/summer_fellowship.html) Books of Abstracts
- Use the Faculty Research Expertise Database (fred.ovpr.uga.edu)
- If you’re pursuing life science research explore the Integrated Life Sciences website (ils.uga.edu)

STEP 3  CONTACT POTENTIAL MENTOR(S)

- The goal of contacting any potential mentor is to meet, not to propose a research course right away
- Meet with potential mentors during their walk-in hours

  OR

- Use your UGA e-mail account to contact potential mentors to set up an appointment
- If you’re sending an e-mail make certain to include a professional salutation, and clearly identify:
  - Your name
  - Your class year
  - Why you are writing
  - Several specific days and times when you can meet
**STEP 4 MEET WITH POTENTIAL MENTOR(S)**

- The best questions to ask are: “What do you research?”; “How do you conduct that type of research?”; and “Why do you do this research?”
- Be prepared to discuss your goals and ask how your involvement in the research can help you achieve those goals.
- What are the mentor’s expectations for those he or she mentors? What level of commitment would he or she expect from you?
- Be respectful of the faculty member’s time and arrive on time.

**STEP 5 CHOOSE A MENTOR & BEGIN APPLICATION**

- Choose the mentor you feel you will have the best and most rewarding research experience with.
- Make an appointment with your mentor to go through the [CURO Research Application](http://curo.uga.edu/students/curo_research_assistantship.html).
- Follow the provided checklist.

**OTHER OPPORTUNITIES:**

**CURO SYMPOSIUM**
[http://curo.uga.edu/students/symposium.html](http://curo.uga.edu/students/symposium.html)
The annual CURO Symposium provides an opportunity for undergraduate students conducting faculty-mentored research to share their accomplishments with the larger University community. Students can choose from presenting their research through oral sessions or in poster form. The 2016 Symposium featured 408 undergraduate researchers sharing scholarship in all disciplines.

**CURO SUMMER FELLOWSHIP**
[http://curo.uga.edu/students/summer_fellowship.html](http://curo.uga.edu/students/summer_fellowship.html)
This award funds immersive, faculty-mentored research for 30 undergraduate students each summer. They earn a $3,000 stipend, receive course credit, and become part of a diverse group of students from all disciplines who present their work at two summer forums.

**CURO RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP**
[http://curo.uga.edu/students/curo_research_assistantship.html](http://curo.uga.edu/students/curo_research_assistantship.html)
This award supports experiential learning opportunities that only a major research university can provide. As part of an initiative to enhance the UGA learning environment, the CURO Research Assistantship Program provides 500 stipends of $1,000 each annually to outstanding undergraduate students across campus to actively participate in faculty-mentored research.
CURO Research Course Checklist

Once you’ve found a faculty mentor, follow these steps to apply for a CURO Course.

- Download the CURO Research Course Application: http://curo.uga.edu/forms/research_course_application.pdf
- Fill out application with faculty mentor’s assistance
- Consult the UGA Bulletin (bulletin.uga.edu) to determine course prefix and credit hours
- Have mentor sign off on the appropriate signature line
- Obtain the signature of the undergraduate coordinator or department head (department of the course prefix). Only courses with the HONS prefix are exempt from this requirement.
- Submit the application to 203 Moore College by the third day of drop/add during the semester for which you are applying CURO will review the application, provide the CURO Associate Director’s signature and grant access to the course
- You will receive an e-mail confirming your access; you can then enroll in the course

If you have any questions along the way, check our website at curo.uga.edu or contact Kerrie Bethel at kabethel@uga.edu