Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities: Who We Are, What We Do, and Why

Andrea Silletti, CURO Program Coordinator
What is research?
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- Process or methodology
- Can look like many different things
- Diligent and systematic inquiry or investigation into a subject in order to discover or revise facts, theories, applications, etc (Dictionary.com)
  - (don't forget the communication part!)
What is research?

► Happens in all disciplines, all across campus
► Research experiences are available to undergraduate students regardless of
  o Major
  o Year
  o GPA
  o Honors College status
Why undergraduate research?

1. Build valuable skills
   - Critical thinking
   - Reading and evaluating literature
   - Planning and execution of a project
   - Working with a group and independently
   - Writing and presentation
   - Creativity and problem solving
   - Time management

2. May help to meet career goals
   - Looks good on a resume
   - Letters of recommendation
   - Networking

3. Deeper understanding of the field

4. Community of like-minded people

5. It’s fun!
Why undergraduate research?

1. Widely recognized as a high-impact practice
2. Develops skills in critical thinking, data analysis, and communication
3. Improves motivation, confidence, and persistence
4. Can lead to higher college completion rates and GPAs
5. Helps students clarify their career goals
6. Maps nicely into NACE career-readiness skills
7. Aids in admittance to professional and graduate schools
Overview of CURO

CURO facilitates and supports student learning through faculty-mentored research in any discipline

1. CURO Courses
2. CURO Funding
3. CURO Symposium
4. CURO outreach and partnerships
CURO courses

- R-suffix courses
  - 4960R, 4970R, 4980R
  - All prefixes
  - Experiential learning credit

- Spring 2024
  - 910 students
  - 2660 credit hours
  - 76 prefixes

- CURO Thesis (4990R)
CURO Research Award

- 500 scholarships per year ($1000)
- Available in Fall, Spring, and Summer
- Application available on CURO website (curo.uga.edu)
- Experiential Learning credit (potentially)
CURO Awards

- CURO Summer Fellowship
- CURO Honors Scholarship
- Conference Participation Grant
CURO Symposium

• Held annually in Spring
• Posters or oral presentations
• All undergraduate researchers encouraged to present whether or not research is supported by CURO
• Any stage of project
CURO Symposium 2024

- Celebrating the 25th anniversary
- April 8-9 at the Classic Center
- 623 students registered for a total of 553 presentations
- Schedule will be posted on our website
- JURO will publish a special edition based on Best Paper Awards
Campus partners

- **Partnerships:** Georgia Power Electric Mobility Scholars (Engineering), CyberArch, School of Computing, Experience UGA, UGA Libraries, Savannah River National Lab, Experiential Learning, Humanities Council

- **Presentations:** To classes and for organizations such as UGA LSAMP, Georgia Ready Summer Institute, and First Look
Across the nation

- Georgia Undergraduate Research Council
  - GUR Conference
  - Posters at the Capitol
- Georgia Collegiate Honors Council
- National Undergraduate Research Conference
New and upcoming initiatives

LEAP INTO UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH!
JOIN US FOR OUR FEBRUARY

Café CURO
COMMUNICATE. CAFFEINATE.

February 29 (Leap Day)
10-11:30 a.m.
Driftmier Engineering Center,
Room 1240

VIP
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