Undergraduate Research - Learn More

Why should I do undergraduate research (UGR)?
- Learn marketable skills that are useful in graduate school and in all jobs
- Learn intellectual independence under world-class mentorship
- Collaboration with graduate students
- Learn to apply your knowledge
- Improve interpretation, analytical and oral/written skills
- Learn problem solving
- Collaborate and network within and outside your field of study
- It is worth the investment of few hours per week!

What can I do?
- Be creative – suggest a project!
- Write a manuscript or produce a performance or artwork
- Test a novel hypothesis
- Solve a problem
- Build a machine
- Develop a new procedure or method
- Work with the community
- Design something
- Analyze data

Who can do undergraduate research?
- Everyone!!
- NOT limited to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathemetic) disciplines - open to all majors!
- NOT just for the top performing students - it is for everyone!
- NOT just for students pursuing graduate school – learn valuable skills for the job market!
- NOT limited to seniors – freshmen and transfer students welcome! Start early – be involved for longer

How do I get started?
- We are here to help! Contact Undergraduate Research Chair (Dr. Petersen; undergraduateresearch@tamug.edu)
- Visit faculty websites and learn about their research
- Talk to faculty in class and follow up via email
- Email faculty to arrange a meeting
- Look for opportunities in your department and on campus

Funding Opportunities for Undergraduate Researchers
- ACES - Aggies Commit to Excellence Scholarship
  - Open to all majors!
  - 1-2 semesters
  - [https://www.tamug.edu/undergraduateresearch/ACES.html](https://www.tamug.edu/undergraduateresearch/ACES.html)
- LSAMP – Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation
  - STEM majors and Minority students
  - 1-2 semesters
  - [https://www.tamug.edu/undergraduateresearch/LSAMP.html](https://www.tamug.edu/undergraduateresearch/LSAMP.html)

Ways to do UGR – UGR opportunities
- Get course credits – 491. Volunteer in a research lab, office, workshop etc.
  - Gain research experience
  - May co-author papers
  - May attend conferences
  - Get to know the field - find out whether you are passionate about this field
  - Get to know a faculty mentor
  - Try different fields of study
  - Learn to solve problems
  - Learn time-management
Internships: on or off campus
- National Zoos and Aquaria
- Companies (private sector)
- Government
- Non-governmental organizations
- Work with tourism and/or the community
- NASA
  https://www.nasa.gov/stem/highereducation/index.html
- Get course credits – get a faculty to sponsor you

Participate in the TAMU LAUNCH Undergraduate Research Scholars (URS) thesis Program
- Open to all majors
- 2 semester (fall->spring) long research program for undergraduates
- Be actively involved in an independent undergraduate research project throughout both the fall and spring semesters under the mentorship of a TAMUG Faculty member throughout the academic year
- Have completed at least 60 credit hours (junior status) of undergraduate course work
- Have at least 24 credit hours at TAMUG
- Have and maintain a cumulative GPR of at least 3.0
- Be expecting to graduate in May of the current academic year, or later

Upon acceptance to the UGR Scholars program students will be expected to:
- Register for a 491 course (0-4 credit hours)
- Produce a written undergraduate thesis
- Attend the Orientation and Thesis Workshop in October
- Adhere to all thesis deadlines throughout the academic year as set by LAUNCH

- Make a public presentation at the TAMUG Student Research Symposium or other local or national conference or symposium by the end of the Spring semester
  https://launch.tamu.edu/Undergraduate-Research/URS

Participate in summer undergraduate research programs
- NSF- REU (National Science Foundation – Research Experiences for Undergraduates)
  - Conduct research off campus for the summer and gain research experience at another US university
  https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/reu_search.jsp
- TAMU SURE (Summer Undergraduate Research Experience)
  - Conduct research on either Galveston or College Station Campuses
  https://launch.tamu.edu/Undergraduate-Research/Summer

TAMU LAUNCH database of undergraduate research opportunities and scholarships
https://launch.tamu.edu/Undergraduate-Research/News-Events-Resources/Resources/Research-Opportunities-Database

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https://www.tamug.edu/undergraduateresearch/index.html