Undergraduate Research Webinar

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September 15th, 2022
Today’s agenda

- What is undergraduate research?
- Why do it?
- How do you look for research opportunities?
- **Hear from our panel!**
- Q&A
What is undergraduate research?

“A mentored investigation or creative inquiry conducted by undergraduates that seeks to make a scholarly or artistic contribution to knowledge.”

–The Council for Undergraduate Research
From classroom to “lab”

- Expand your college experience
- Make new friends and colleagues
- Apply what you learn and learn something new!
- Make an impact
Why do research?

- Apply what you learn in class to real-world situations
- Work closely with professors and graduate students
  
  References!

- You have a lot to offer!
- Add experience to your CV/résumé
- Gain useful, transferrable skills: critical thinking and analysis, writing, technical skills

Grow your opportunity tree!
Identifying research opportunities

- Talk to your professors/TAs – ask them about their research
- Look up faculty profiles on department websites
- Talk to other students
- Attend the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference (URCA)

- UA Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) database: https://ua-app01.ua.edu/undergradresearch/public/research_opportunity
- PathwaysToScience.org: https://pathwaystoscience.org/Undergrads.aspx
Meet the panelists

Richard Newton, PhD
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Associate Professor and Undergraduate Director, Department of Religious Studies

Anuska Narayanan, MS
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UA Alumna (BS Environmental Science; MS Geography)

Lisa-Marie Pierre, PhD
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Peter Richards, PhD
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Senior Economist, US Agency for International Development (USAID)
What can research look like?

Surveying...

Data Processing...

Computer Analysis...

Exploring Literature...

Experiment Design & Testing...
Thank you!