

## 2020 SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAM CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Undergraduate students are invited to submit proposals for summer research, scholarly, and creative projects for the 2020 Summer Undergraduate Research Program. The purpose of the program is to support mentored research, scholarship, and creative activity between undergraduate students and faculty and staff mentors; and to encourage collaboration across disciplines - the humanities, arts, natural and physical sciences, social sciences, inclusive of co-curricular activities.

### Two types of opportunities are available for summer 2020:

- **Fellowships (for 200-hour projects)** - support collaborative research, scholarship, and creative activity between undergraduate students and faculty or staff mentors, and encourage student participation in the full range of research activities, including project design and implementation, analysis of results, and professional communication of findings.
- **Developmental Awards (for 100-hour projects)** - provide opportunities for students who may not be ready to undertake a fellowship to learn research skills and gain experience in their discipline by working closely with a mentor. Developmental projects may include more mentor involvement and direction than fellowship proposals.

### Eligibility Requirements

#### Student eligibility:

- ✓ Students must be in **good academic standing**, have successfully completed 24 credit hours of coursework at UW-Superior by May 14, 2020 and plan to be enrolled during the 2020-21 academic year;
- ✓ Students cannot be engaged in other grant funded projects, full-time employment or internships, travel abroad, or other activities in Summer 2020 that will interfere or compete with SURF responsibilities;
- ✓ Students who have previously received a Developmental Award may apply for a 200-hour Fellowship; students who have previously received a Fellowship cannot re-apply.

#### Mentor eligibility:

- ✓ All faculty and academic staff, including adjunct instructors, are eligible to participate as mentors in the Summer Undergraduate Research Program;
- ✓ Mentors who have previously participated in the program may re-apply;
- ✓ Mentors must be available to work with students throughout the entire summer, meeting at least weekly to provide guidance and feedback;
- ✓ Mentors may mentor one Fellowship recipient only; requests to mentor one Developmental Award recipient in addition to a Fellowship recipient will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### **Project eligibility:**

- ✓ All projects must meet the campus definition of undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative activity (below);
- ✓ Projects may be part of a larger research or creative undertaking, but should outline the larger project and identify how the student's work fits in, and what contribution it will make to the larger effort or ongoing project;
- ✓ Fellowship proposals may be a collaboration between student and mentor, but should be substantially the work of the student, and should include evidence of student motivation and originality;
- ✓ Developmental projects should be appropriate for the student's level of experience and the 100-hour timeframe; acceptable projects include activities such as literature reviews, data collection, analytical work, and exploratory work that lays a foundation for future research;
- ✓ **Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all projects must be suitable for the campus's current alternate delivery format and conform to UW-Superior's health and safety protocol.**

### **Commitment terms:**

- ✓ Attend a student/mentor orientation session in May to review participant responsibilities, expectations and program logistics;
- ✓ Submit proposals involving human subject research to the UW-Superior Institutional Review Board for review prior to beginning the project;
- ✓ Fellowship recipients commit to work at least 20 hours/week over the summer on their project, a minimum of 200 hours of effort;
- ✓ Developmental Award recipients commit to work a total of 100 hours on their project over the summer;
- ✓ Students and mentors commit to meet weekly throughout the summer;
- ✓ Projects must be completed by August 14, 2020;
- ✓ Participate in the campus Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium in fall 2020;
- ✓ Fellowship recipients will participate in one additional activity to disseminate the results of their work, which may include the UW-System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity, Research in the Rotunda, a discipline-specific meeting or conference, a public performance or exhibition in the community, or a submission to an undergraduate research journal or other professional publication.

### **Awards:**

- ✓ Up to ten fellowships and up to eight developmental awards will be made in 2020;
- ✓ Fellowships are \$3,500 for students, for projects involving at least 200 hours of work;
- ✓ Developmental Awards are \$1,750 for students, for projects involving 100 hours of work;
- ✓ Mentor stipends are \$1,000 for the summer;
- ✓ Applicants will be notified of decisions by May 18th.

**Course Credit:** Students may enroll for independent study course credits in their discipline. Consult with your faculty/staff mentor and advisor about this option if interested.

- To apply:** Application guidelines are available on the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity web page: <https://www.uwsuper.edu/ursca/events/surf.cfm>
- Deadline:** Submit applications to [ursca@uwsuper.edu](mailto:ursca@uwsuper.edu) by noon on **May 11, 2020**
- Questions?** Contact Julie O’Leary at [joleary3@uwsuper.edu](mailto:joleary3@uwsuper.edu), 715-394-8488.

### **What Qualifies as Undergraduate Research?**

UW-Superior has adopted the Council on Undergraduate Research’s (CUR’s) definition of undergraduate research: *An inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline.*

The Arts and Humanities Division of CUR adds these specifics to the definition:

*Undergraduate research in the arts and humanities is student-driven, faculty-mentored inquiry, scholarly investigation, and/or creative activity. The undergraduate researcher's work may contribute to outcomes including, but not limited to, individual or collaborative analytical writing; oral presentation; small analytical products; works of visual art; compilations of scholarship; exhibits; musical compositions; plays; performance; public scholarship; and/or peer-reviewed publication. Whatever the research product, its value is generally weighed by standards specific to experts in the field, whether jurors, editors, or reviewers.*