

Undergraduate Research Office Spring 2016 Workshops

Learning about Undergraduate Research

January 20 7:15-8:15 PM: 312 Bessey

Make research an integral part of your Spartan saga! Come learn about the opportunities available for involvement in research and creative activities at Michigan State. You can expect a short presentation, discussion, and Q & A facilitated by current undergraduate researchers. This workshop will be repeated on January 27 at 7:15 PM. Sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Office. For more information, contact us via email or phone at 517-884-4384.

Unpacking Your Research Experience

Jan 25 6:00-7:00 pm: C201 Snyder

Have you thought about how the skills you are gaining through your undergraduate research experience will assist you in the future? Come learn about strategies for communicating your skills and abilities to others, such as graduate schools and future employers. This workshop will include information about creating an elevator pitch related to your research and an opportunity for you to critically reflect on the skills you have built by being involved in undergraduate research. Sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Office. For more information, contact us via email or phone at 517-884-4384.

Finding a Summer Research Opportunity

January 26 6:00-7:00 PM: 304 Bessey

There are a variety of summer opportunities available for students. Programs are hosted by colleges and universities around the United States and they provide an intensive research experience on a particular topic within a scholarly discipline. Participants generally work with an advisor on a research project over the duration of their respective programs (usually 10 to 12 weeks). Many host universities cover all expenses (including travel, accommodations, and food) and provide a stipend. For undergraduates with plans for graduate or professional school after MSU, summer research provides the opportunity to expand your professional network and acquire experience in an area of interest. In this workshop, you will learn more about summer research, the benefits of participation, and effective search strategies, including how to find and apply for opportunities.

Learning about Undergraduate Research

January 27 7:15-8:15 PM: 312 Bessey

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Writing Abstracts

February 17 5:00-6:00 PM: 314 Bessey

Undergraduate scholars are often required to write abstracts that describe their research or creative activity for grants, scholarships, research papers, and even UURAF. Led by Professional Writing professor Dr. Danielle DeVoss (Writing, Rhetoric & American Cultures), this workshop will provide an overview of the essential components of an abstract and give tips on how to write an effective abstract. Sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Office. For more information, contact us via email or phone at 517-884-4384.

Preparing Poster Presentations

March 30 5:00 – 6:00 PM: 306 Bessey

A presentation poster requires a very different approach than a research report on the same work. You need to be visually appealing, draw in your reader, and convey your purpose and findings in a concise, direct manner. Dr. Tom Wolff, Associate Dean of the College of Engineering, has judged engineering project posters for many years. He will speak about layout, communication, and people's perceptions of typeface and graphic design. Workshop participants will review examples of posters - both good and not-so-good - and consider common pitfalls. Discussion of the function of a poster session as a vehicle for sharing your work with visitors and judges will conclude the workshop. Sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Office. For more information, contact us via email or phone at 517-884-4384.

Preparing Oral Presentations

April 4 5:00-6:00 PM: 140 Akers

Led by Professional Writing professor Dr. Danielle DeVoss (Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures), this workshop will cover the basics of constructing well-crafted slide presentations. We'll talk about slide fundamentals, how to whittle a large research project down to a short presentation, and how to integrate visuals to support your points. Sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Office. For more information, contact us via email or phone at 517-884-4384

Preparing for Success at UURAF

April 5 6:00-7:00 PM: 304 Bessey

First time presenting at the University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF)? Let our panel of seasoned UURAF presenters help you make the most of your experience. You'll get lots of great tips for printing your poster, timing your presentation, what to wear, what time to arrive, and what kinds of questions to expect on the big day. Sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Office. For more information, contact us via email or phone at 517-884-4384.