Natasha Mamaril, PhD
Associate Director for Undergraduate Research
Director, Illinois Scholars Undergraduate Research (ISUR)
Let’s do a quick poll

https://pollev.com/natasham241
Today’s Questions

1. WHAT KINDS OF CAREERS HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?
2. WHY DO RESEARCH?
3. WHAT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES ARE OUT THERE?
What kinds of careers have you considered?
2 Why do research?
Why do research?
WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON RESEARCH?
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Be part of a research community

Engage in mentored research

Connect with undergraduate researchers
Benefits of Doing Undergrad Research

• LEARN...
• DEVELOP...
• GAIN...
LEARN

◇ Apply what you learn in the classroom
◇ Understand the research process
◇ Clarify your interest in a STEM career
◇ Time management
◇ Come to know what graduate school entails
DEVELOP

- Confidence in research skills
- Expand your skill set
- Connect with the research community
GAIN

◇ A step closer to career goals
◇ Possible co-authorship of a poster and/or paper
◇ Work experience in a research environment
◇ Establish work history worthy of a letter of recommendation
What research opportunities are out there?
WHAT ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

List down 3 things that you are passionate about or interested in
YOUR INTEREST FUNNEL

- Broad interests
  - Interests that can be related to science
- Specific area of interest
- Topics
- Current issues

Diagram featured by http://slidemodel.com
YOUR INTEREST FUNNEL

- Food, Electronics, Fitness, Biology
- Electronics
- Robotics
- Robotics for Agricultural Applications
- Crop Phenotyping
- Robot
You can do research -

**ON YOUR OWN**
Work alone on a self-selected project under the guidance and supervision of a faculty mentor

**IN A RESEARCH GROUP**
Work in a research group to learn skills and advance to more complex tasks
Work on a faculty-determined project and be responsible for a piece of a greater project

**IN OTHER INSTITUTIONS**
Work on projects off-campus
Be part of a cohort of students
You can do research -

- Research for Pay
- Research for Credit

Seasons:
- Fall
- Spring
- Summer
Learn about undergraduate research-related events and opportunities ON- and OFF- CAMPUS in the

Engineering Undergraduate Research Newsletter

- Events
  - ENGINEERING
  - RESEARCH
  - FAIR
  - Workshops
  - Talks/Seminars

- Undergraduate Research Opportunities
- UGR Assistant Postings

- Funding Opportunities
- Conferences
IPENG Research Abroad Programs
Global Research Scholars

Denmark
Germany
Spain
Switzerland
China
Hong Kong
Japan
South Korea
Taiwan
Singapore
SELECT **KEYWORDS**
TO GUIDE YOUR SEARCH FOR OPPORTUNITIES
SEARCH PORTALS

STEMUndergrads.science.gov

PathwaystoScience.org

NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs)
Do research in something you are passionate about or interested in!
Visit us

https://grainger.illinois.edu/research/undergraduate

EMAIL: nmamaril@illinois.edu
OFFICE: 3278 DCL (VIRTUAL appointments in fall 2021)