

UROOP

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program

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How to Speak with Students About Research

Use a broad definition of research and creative scholarship.

Since each discipline has their own definition of research, their own techniques, and their own methods it is best to use a broad definition of research and defer to the faculty within each discipline to provide specific definitions.

By doing so you eliminate the chance of perpetuating stereotypes that research is only done by individuals in the “hard” sciences.

Talk about how research and creative scholarship connects to their lives and their future.

The ability to ask questions, understand a subject more deeply, and apply one’s knowledge will set them up with the skills to achieve their personal and professional goals. If a student is looking to gain more skills and become more marketable, conducting research and creative scholarship is a great way to gain the skills that employers and graduate schools are looking for.

Provide examples of undergraduate student research.

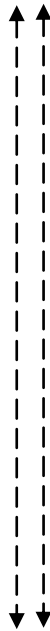
If research and creative scholarship seems doable for an undergraduate, and it most certainly is, there is a better chance the student will pursue their interests.

Where to Send Students Interested in Research

Level of Student Preparedness

Guidance

Fully
Developed
Ideas



Basic Interest
and
Understanding

Student knows of a faculty member they want to work with:

- » Coach them on how to appropriately contact faculty.

Student has very specific interests and goals:

- » Refer them to the director of undergraduate studies in the department they want to conduct research and creative scholarship in.

Student is interested in a few different areas that they have had courses in:

- » Encourage them to speak with their instructor during office hours.

Student is interested in the idea of research and creative scholarship:

- » Refer the to the UROP website.
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