

SophoMORE Street: Undergraduate Research Track

What are you CURIOUS about!?

Second
Stop

Awareness

Learn more about undergraduate research through the experiences of your peers by attending a presentation session comprised of students who have already completed research projects!

You've
Arrived!

Reflection

Write a two-page reflection paper on what you learned while exploring undergraduate research and any areas of research you might be interested in pursuing.

First Stop

Coaching

Attend a 1-on-1 meeting with a faculty mentor that you would consider working with to talk about undergraduate research and how to get involved.

Third
Stop

Application

Complete both of the following activities:

- * Watch an online video that highlights WCU faculty members' research interests, how they got involved with that area, and how research has impacted their lives.
- * Interview a faculty member of your choice about their research using the provided questions and any other questions you may have.

Why Do We Do What We Do?

Our goal is to help you discover and explore your research interests and get you plugged in with a faculty mentor!

What's in it For You?

Based on merit and completion of the four steps listed above, one University funded trip to a research or professional conference will be awarded.

Learn more about SophoMORE Street:

Web: transition.wcu.edu

Undergraduate Research:

Web: wcu.edu/learn/academic-enrichment/the-honors-college/ugres/index.aspx



Coaching:

Attend a 1-on-1 meeting with a faculty mentor that you would consider working with to talk about undergraduate research and how to get involved. This can be informal, but remember that you need to make a good impression if you want to work with them! If you're not sure who you would like to talk to, we will help you get set up with someone. Please have the faculty member sign-off that you met with them in order to receive credit.

Awareness:

Learn more about undergraduate research through the experiences of your peers by attending a presentation session comprised of students who have already completed research projects! The presenters will talk about their research and answer any questions you may have about their experiences. Previous research topics have included tiny homes, water desalination, and Mayan textiles!

Application:

- Copy-and-paste or type this link into your internet browser to watch the video:
<https://wcu.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=b8172f0f-df3f-4725-b7d7-f292906025c0>
Take notes or pay close attention - you will need to write about the video in your reflection paper.
- Conduct a formal interview with a faculty member of your choice about their research using the provided questions and any additional questions you may have. Make sure you give the faculty member a 1-2 week notice to make sure that they have time to sit and speak with you. Keep a transcript of your interview and have the faculty member sign-off that you met with them to receive credit.
 1. What are your research interests? Can you tell me about some of the research projects that you have done before or are currently working on?
 2. How did you get involved with that area of research?
 3. Are there any topics that you would like to research that you haven't already?
 4. Do you have any students working with you on projects right now? Can you tell me about some of those projects?
 5. If I wanted to complete a research project, what would that process look like and what can I do with the research once I've finished?

Reflection:

Write a two-page reflection essay on what you learned while exploring undergraduate research. Discuss what you took away from your interviews with faculty members and peers, the provided video, and any potential areas of research you would be interested in pursuing.

Be eligible for awesome rewards and recognition at the Half-Way There Celebration on Spring Advising Day! Complete this track + attend ONE of the following workshops:

- **Majors to Careers with CCPD:** September 12th, 3:30—4:30, UC Multipurpose Room A
- **Be an Expert Student: Skills with the WaLC:** September 26th, 3:30-4:30, Blue Ridge Conference Room A
- **Reading to Research:** October 25th, 4:00-5:00, UC Multipurpose Room A
- **No Fake News!:** November 1st, 3:30—4:30, Blue Ridge Conference Room A