Research & Experiential Learning Opportunities at UC San Diego

A Resource Guide for Black Students

As a Triton, you should feel empowered to pursue your intellectual curiosity through and beyond the classroom. Research & experiential learning opportunities provide mentorship and resources for you to create and share knowledge in innovative ways.

At UC San Diego, we have departments, programs, initiatives, and other resources devoted to guiding students through the processes of research & experiential learning. This resource guide is a quick reference for getting better acquainted with our many opportunities.

“Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose.”

- Zora Neale Hurston

Research:
the systemic investigation of a topic

Experiential Learning:
the process of pursuing knowledge through hands-on learning
Getting Started:
A Directory of Helpful Resources

Undergraduate Research (UR)
https://ugresearch.ucsd.edu/
Offers multiple programs for undergraduate students of all years, majors, and citizenship statuses to pursue faculty-mentored research projects.

Triton Research & Experiential Learning Scholars (TRELS)
https://trels.ucsd.edu
A program that offers undergraduate students of all years the opportunity to pursue faculty-mentored research & experiential learning projects. Includes the TRELS-Black Experience (TRELS-BE) Awards, specifically designed to support projects related to Black scholarly and/or artistic expression.

Black Studies Project Undergraduate Research Internship
https://bsp.ucsd.edu
A two-part program that begins as a Black Studies research methods course offered through the Black Diaspora and African American Studies Major in the spring quarter. During the summer, students conduct faculty-mentored independent research in a cohort setting.

Academic Internship Program (AIP)
https://aip.ucsd.edu/
Provides an opportunity for eligible juniors and seniors to earn course credit for substantive internships related to their academic and career goals.
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Redressing Common Obstacles

**Obstacle**
Not sure how to get started or whom to contact

**Solution**
Browse the Undergraduate Research (UR) and/or the Academic Internship Program (AIP) websites; contact staff via email with follow-up questions, and/or schedule meetings with staff to learn more about their many opportunities.

**Obstacle**
Looking for ideas of possible projects to pursue

**Solution**
Search the Research Experience & Applied Learning (REAL) Portal to learn more about ongoing projects that are seeking undergraduate student involvement. Also, make use of the Undergraduate Research Directory and Student Spotlights featured on the Undergraduate Research website to learn more about recent projects that students have pursued.

**Obstacle**
Uncertain how to build mentoring relationships with professors

**Solution**
Visit the “How do I find a mentor?” resource module on the Undergraduate Research (UR) website, and follow up with the UR staff if you have any follow up questions.

**Obstacle**
Seeking support and feedback on essays for a competitive application

**Solution**
Contact the Writing Hub for consultations at any stage of the writing process.