

“Undergraduate research has encouraged me to integrate pre-existing information with new discoveries to help solve the big puzzle. This continuously challenges my critical thinking skills and has enriched my experience at USU.”

-Uyen Lam, middle, researching Blue-Tongue Virus



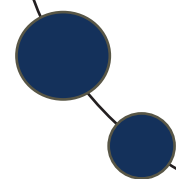
## Are there research courses I can take?

Over 100 research-related courses for students, including one in ethics, are offered at Utah State. Annually, over 1,400 students conduct independent research projects to earn course credit.

## Where can undergraduate research take me?

While you are an undergraduate, you can do your research in the superb mountain environment of Logan, Utah, or at any number of field sites. After graduation, you'll be better prepared to get a job or go to grad school, thanks to a stronger resume and professors who will know you well. Undergraduate Researchers are also more likely to receive prestigious scholarships such as the Goldwater, Rhodes, and Udall.

# undergraduate research



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# Get Your Hands on USU Research

## What is undergraduate research?

Quite simply, research is the search for knowledge. USU students have the opportunity to make their own discoveries. That process can involve lab work, field study, archival investigation, and creative production. Students may work independently, with faculty, or as part of a team. The Undergraduate Research Program supports students in all fields of study.

## What kind of projects do students undertake?

This year alone, Utah State students have conducted a wide range of projects, in areas ranging from epidemiology to genetics, water quality to cancer prevention, nutrition to cheese production, coyotes to newts, sculpture to composition, and Greek mythology to art history.

## How does USU support student research?

Not only does USU encourage students to pursue research projects, but it also provides financial support for many of those projects. Since 1975, the URCO Grant Program has been giving cash awards for research projects each semester, and fellowships allow students to begin working on research projects as freshmen. Literally hundreds of students are employed in research jobs on campus. Travel support also provides students with funding to present their research at professional conferences.

In the centennial year of the Wright Flyer, a team of USU students realized a dream as they saw their creation, a replica of the original Wright flyer, take to the skies.



## What happens once I've done the research?

Utah State works hard to recognize its student researchers. On campus, Student Showcase is an annual spring celebration to display the work of undergraduate researchers. USU students also share their research with legislators at the Research on Capitol Hill event. The annual Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research, the National Conference of Undergraduate Research, Posters on the Hill in Washington, DC, and professional conferences provide other opportunities for students to disseminate their projects.

In addition to these great experiences, an Undergraduate Researcher of the Year award—called the Peak Prize—is given annually in each college.

The Undergraduate Research Program has received a Commendation from the Northwest Commission on Colleges & Universities as well as being named USU Achievement of the Year and receiving a Robins Award.

"Research has been a great chance to work closely with a professor, learning what it's like on 'the other side of the fence.' It has helped me understand the research process and opened up the possibility of continuing research in the future."



-Lenaye Howard, researching colonial slavery in Virginia