School of Earth Sciences

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAM

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SES Undergraduate Program Director
Are you eager to investigate a question or solve a problem related to the Earth or our environment?

Do you want to explore an idea or an issue that interested you in an Earth science class?

Would you like to work with a faculty member to learn about the world of research in the Earth and environmental sciences?
Why do research as an undergraduate?

- Develop relationships with faculty and graduate students
- A way to learn and *create* knowledge
- Address your own curiosity about a topic, or help address a societal need
- Learn resilience, creativity, and problem-solving skills
- Explore a potential career direction
- Learn how to effectively communicate about your work

Stanford University
What is research like?

- Collaborative
- Alternately frustrating and exciting
- Often open-ended
- Requires development of technical expertise and immersion in background literature; may require field work
- Fun, interesting, and rewarding!
SESUR Timeline

**Winter Quarter**
- **Feb 27 application deadline**
- Write proposal

**Spring Quarter**
- Selection decisions announced
- Prepare for research
- Enroll in EarthSci 100

**Summer**
- Summer Jun 23 – Aug 28
- Work on research
- Participate in summer program

**Fall Quarter**
- Present research

Stanford University
How do I apply?

Your application is a written proposal including the following elements:

A description of the proposed project:
- What question are you asking?
- Why is a significant or important question?
- How will you address it?
- What methods will you use?
- What are your research objectives?

A tentative work plan:
- What are you going to do and when?

A tentative budget:
- up to $6400 for your stipend
- up to $500 for additional research expenses

View examples of successful proposals and submit your own application on the program website!
Expectations for SESUR fellows

- Commit to 40 hours/week for 10 weeks of project.
- Take EarthSci 100 during Spring Quarter (1 unit)
- Participate in summer seminar.
- Research blogging
- Proactive communication with your research advisor.
- Poster presentation at SURPS; oral presentation at SES undergraduate research symposium.
To recap…

December/January – Project descriptions posted.

Winter Quarter – Proposal prep – should be collaborative.

February 27 – Proposal submission; research fellows selected.

Spring Quarter – Research preparation (enroll in EarthSci 100).

Summer – Work on research; participate in seminar & field trips.

Fall – Presentation at SURPS & SES symposium.

Beyond . . . Present at scientific meetings, publish in journals, present develop honors theses, achieve fame and glory (?)

Summer research fellows receive a stipend of up to $6400 and up to $500 for research-related materials.
Questions??

THANKS FOR COMING!

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