

CURO Gateway Seminars Spring 2008

CURO offers seminars to introduce academically talented students to research in their chosen fields. These one or two credit-hour pass/fail seminars are open to any student with 30 to 89 hours of academic credit and a cumulative GPA of 3.4 or higher. Honors students also are strongly encouraged to participate in one of the seminars. Participating in CURO research seminars helps students develop an understanding of the research process, identify and develop research interests into proposals, and locate faculty sponsors of student research. Contact Matt Jordan at mejordan@uga.edu or 542-5871 to sign up.

HONS 3010H

Introduction to Research in the Arts

Call# 87-928

Mark Callahan, M.F.A.

Professor, Ideas for Creative Exploration

mark@mazamedia.com

1 credit hour

Wednesdays, 1:25-2:15 p.m.

101 Tanner Building

The Introduction to Research in the Arts seminar provides an overview of arts research, presents methodological models for sustaining research-based creative practice, and acts as a workshop for project development. The seminar will examine conventional and emerging forms of arts research, ranging from historical and critical studies to project-based works that address newer media and interdisciplinary approaches. Students will visit various areas of campus to become familiar with performance and exhibition resources at UGA and meet leading faculty and professionals who are conducting research in the Departments of Art, Dance, Theatre & Film Studies, English, Music, the Georgia Museum of Art, and ICE. Students will be exposed to a range of models for creative practice based on visits with faculty, outside reading, and discussion. The seminar will address ways that arts research is produced in the form of exhibitions, performances, and publications, and how institutional networks, grants, commissions, and entrepreneurial approaches support research-based cultural production. As a CURO Gateway Seminar, its purpose is to encourage undergraduates to understand the research process and discover tools to engage in original research of their own. It is a fun and informative way to learn about opportunities and resources at UGA and to meet some of the most exciting and creative faculty members in their studios.

HONS 3040H
Introduction to Research in the Social Sciences
Call# 07-929

1 credit hour (with the option of increasing to 2 or 3 credit hours)
Mondays, 1:25-2:15 p.m.
218 Meigs Hall

Dr. Scott L. Thomas (slthomas@uga.edu)
Associate Professor, Institute of Higher Education

Dr. Sheila Slaughter (slaughtr@uga.edu)
Louise McBee Professor of Higher Education, Institute of Higher Education

Dr. Maryann P. Feldman (mfeldman@uga.edu)
Miller Distinguished Professor, Institute of Higher Education

This Introduction to Research in the Social Sciences seminar will provide an overview of social science research with a special focus on a project addressing the question of the scientific and ethical integrity of university research (with a focus on biomedical fields). Instruction will include class time and research time outside of class.

The project forming the backdrop for the course (funded by the National Institutes of Health) is designed to identify the way research institutions (colleges and universities) deal with conflict of interest at the level of the institutions and their trustees. The project focuses on the composition of boards of university trustees and ways in which interlocks among university trustees' boards may contribute to conflict of interest in the scientific process.

This seminar will explore the ways in which questions in this area might be most effectively analyzed and will engage students directly in the data collection and analysis process. The seminar is designed to expose students to social network and econometric methods that are central to the methodological orientation of the project. Students will gain "hands-on" research experience that will facilitate your undergraduate research experience at UGA.

This is truly a multidisciplinary effort and, as such, we welcome students from any discipline. If you are thinking about becoming a university professor or researcher, this nationally funded research in the field of higher education will benefit you whether you intend to become faculty in the sciences or social sciences.

HONS 3040H
Introduction to Research in the Social Sciences
Call# 07-929

Dr. E. M. Beck
Meigs Distinguished Professor, Department of Sociology
wbeck@uga.edu
1 credit hour
Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. -12:15 p.m.
116 Moore College

This seminar is designed to introduce students in the social sciences to different research paradigms and strategies, including lab experiments, ethnography, participant observation, survey research, research using archival data, and simulation. Visits to various social science research locations on campus are being planned. In addition to specific research methodologies, consideration will be given to ethnic and legal issues in research on humans. The end product of the seminar will be a draft of a research proposal on a topic of their personal interest.

HONS 3070H
Call # 67-930
Introduction to Research in the Biological and Physical Sciences

Dr. Paul A. Schroeder
Professor, Geology
schroe@uga.edu
1 credit hour
Thursdays, 2:00-3:15 p.m.
314 Moore College

The line between the physical and biological sciences is blurrier each day. We are fast learning that biological sciences are becoming more reliant on technology that is an outgrowth of the physical sciences. The physical sciences are recognizing the importance of biologically mediated processes.

This seminar starts with a discussion of what scientific research is (and what it is not). We look at the components of making a successful biological/physical research program and brainstorm about student paradigms of research. The following weeks involve visits to various researchers in and around the UGA scientific community. Students conduct their own research by inquiring with active scientists about things such as: (1) How did you get started? And who has influenced your career (both early and now). (2) How do you fund research? (3) How does industrial versus academic research compare? (4) What role do students play in research? (5) To what extent is there collaboration outside your field? (6) What significant theories have or will change your field? (7) What is the role of your specific work in the context of your bigger field? (8) How is teaching / research / service time distributed? (9) To what degree does technology influence your research? (10) What societies are you active in and how are you involved?

The seminar culminates with a summary of the semester's findings and a second look at student perceptions of scientific research. Students will draft a research vita to help them get started on their Honors research and help them apply for funding. This seminar also provides opportunities for students to network with active university researchers and gain active work experience in a research laboratory.

HONS 3070H

Call # 67-930

Introduction to Research in the Natural and Biological Sciences

Dr. John Maerz, Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources

jmaerz@forestry.uga.edu

Dr. Mark Bradford, Odum School of Ecology

markb@uga.edu

1 credit hour

Mondays, 12:20-1:10 p.m.

Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources, Room 1-307

The objective of this course is for students to become familiar with the broad scope of natural and biological sciences, to understand some of the important societal issues being addressed by natural and biological scientists, and if interested, to identify a potential mentor with whom they will continue with honors research. This course will include general overviews of research questions and methods in the natural and biological sciences, discussions of relevant papers from the primary literature, profiles of UGA professors actively working in the natural and biological sciences, and tours of specific research programs.