

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.



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

- Zora Neale Hurston

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:

the systemic investigation of a topic

Experiential Learning:

the process of pursuing knowledge through hands-on learning

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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>

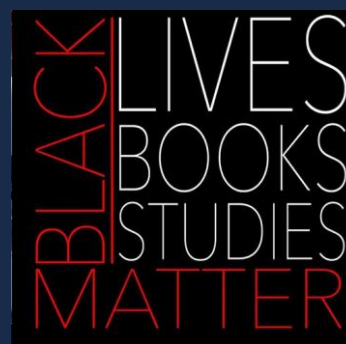
A program that offers undergraduate students of all years the opportunity to pursue faculty-mentored research & experiential learning projects. Includes the **TRELS-Black Experience (TRELS-BE) Awards**, specifically designed to support projects related to Black scholarly and/or artistic expression.



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.