



**Western  
FIMS**

Faculty of Information & Media Studies

## **FIMS Undergraduate Summer Research Internship (USRI) Opportunities**

Western's [Undergraduate Summer Research Internships \(USRI\) Program](#) provides undergraduate students with engaged research experiences and opportunities to learn new research methods and techniques alongside faculty mentors. For more information on the program please [see Western Research's webpage](#).

### **What is the USRI program?**

- Provides \$9268 as a stipend to an undergraduate student to work with a faculty member as an intern on a research project from May to August, 2024.
- The student will also be required to attend 4+ [professional development workshops](#) on research and produce a research output at the end of the summer.
- FIMS has been provided with 10 USRI positions for summer 2024.

### **What does a USRI project look like?**

- A short-term research project that can be executed from start to finish in 16 weeks that teaches an undergraduate student a range of research skills relevant to their area of study.
- The project will align with the research needs of the supervisor and advance their research program, while also providing a strong learning experience for the student.
- You will be required, at the end of the internship, to produce a piece of work, which will be submitted for storage on [Scholarship@Western](#). This could take the form of eg. infographic, poster or other visual representation, blog, podcast, short video etc. and will be determined in collaboration with the supervisor.

### **Which students are eligible?**

- All FIMS undergraduate students who are enrolled in the Winter 2024 term and will be returning to Western in Fall 2024 are eligible, although those who will enter their final year in the Fall will be given preference. Current final year undergraduate students who are planning to return next year for a graduate degree at FIMS are also eligible.
- Western Research has encouraged *“faculties to consider the diversity of their awardees and to provide opportunities for students from under-represented groups, including Black, Indigenous, students of colour, students with disabilities, students who self-identify as LGBTQ2S+ and women, as part of the ongoing commitment Western has made for equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) and Indigenization.”*

## **Timeline and How to Apply:**

**Feb 15:** Project ideas must be submitted by FIMS faculty members who wish to work with students through the program. The project ideas are for the most part driven by FIMS faculty members.

However, if an undergraduate student has a project idea and/or would like to pitch to a faculty member at FIMS, they may contact the faculty member directly. For tips on approaching faculty members please see the [presentation by Dr. Nicole Campbell](#). Project submissions will be reviewed at FIMS. Faculty members with approved projects will choose interns from the FIMS applicant pool. (see below)

**Jan 26 – Feb 26, 12 noon:** Eligible undergraduate students are invited to apply for the positions that are available by providing information, transcripts and their resume at this [online portal](#).

**Feb 27- March 14:** Faculty supervisors will review student applications and may conduct interviews.

**March 15:** Faculty supervisors will provide the names of their chosen interns to the FIMS Research Office.

**March 16-24:** Successful interns will sign contract letters and return them to the FIMS Research Office.

**May 1:** Internships start.

## **Questions:**

Contact Karen Kueneman, [kueneman@uwo.ca](mailto:kueneman@uwo.ca)