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 $8400 as a stipend to an undergraduate student to work with a faculty member as an intern on a research project from May to August, 2022.
- 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.

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 2022 term and will be returning to Western in Fall 2023 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:

Please note: We are not accepting applications at this time. The below is for information only. Please await the call for applications in April.

April 1: 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 information presented at the March 18, 2022 USRI Information Session. A recording of the info session and the slides will be posted on the Western Research webpage.

Project submissions will be reviewed at FIMS. Approved projects will be advertised to undergraduate students.

**Mid-April:** We anticipate that we will send out a call to undergraduate students (via email) around mid-April inviting them to apply for the positions that are available. Details on how to apply, and descriptions of the available projects will be available in the email and posted on the undergraduate student research webpage. Be sure to check your @uwo email as this will involve a very short turn-around. Those interested will be asked to apply directly to the faculty supervisor of the opportunity in question within a short timeframe.

**May 1:** Internships start.

**Questions:**

Contact Karen Kueneman, kueneman@uwo.ca