

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING AND RESEARCH

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The Office of Undergraduate Advising and Research (UAR) helps students realize the full intellectual richness of undergraduate life at Stanford. UAR advisers work directly with students in one-on-one interactions to help them develop their scholarly interests before and after they declare a major, overcome obstacles to their academic success, immerse themselves in their chosen fields, engage with faculty, take advantage of academic opportunities and resources outside their major departments, and, for some students, to prepare for post-baccalaureate study.

The UAR staff includes professional advisers in Sweet Hall, academic directors (ADs) in Florence Moore, Freshman-Sophomore College, Lagunita, Roble, Stern, Toyon, and Wilbur residence halls, Grove-Lasuen, and the Athletic Academic Resource Center. Freshmen are assigned to academic advisers (faculty and academic staff) according to their preliminary academic interest and residence. The academic directors associated with the residences and athletics and UAR advisers complement the role of the assigned advisers with a comprehensive understanding of the curriculum; they advise students broadly on their courses of study and long term goals. Some freshmen receive enhanced academic support through participation in Expanded Advising Programs (EAP).

UAR services include:

- assistance with curriculum planning, including overseas studies
- consultation on choosing a major
- advice on integrating research into an undergraduate program of study
- support for students considering and applying for merit-based scholarships and national fellowships
- practical advice on how to prepare for and apply to graduate and professional schools
- academic and personal advising related to academic performance
- guidance on policies and procedures concerning academic standing
- assistance with interpretation and application of academic rules and regulations
- use of the resource library and membership on email lists
- referrals to campus tutoring resources and counseling offices

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS, AND POST- BACCALAUREATE STUDIES

Along with the Overseas Resource Center (<http://stanford.edu/dept/icenter/orc>), UAR staff help students to compete for merit scholarships and post-baccalaureate fellowships. UAR also administers campus nomination competitions for the Goldwater, Udall, Beinecke, Center for the Study of the Presidency, Jack Kent Cooke, Carnegie, Liebmann, and Truman scholarships, as well as the Goldman Sachs Global Leaders Program. Binders containing applications of previous winners are available in the offices of academic directors and on the first floor of Sweet Hall.

UAR offers workshops and individual consultations on choosing a graduate or professional school, such as in law or the health professions, writing personal statements, soliciting letters of recommendation, and preparing for interviews.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

UAR sponsors and supports programs that encourage undergraduates to work individually with faculty on research, advanced scholarship, and creative projects. Programs are designed to serve students new to research and those with considerable research experience who are able to take on advanced, independent projects. See <http://undergradresearch.stanford.edu> for more information.

STUDENT GRANT PROGRAMS

UAR offers research grants to registered Stanford undergraduates. Grants support faculty-mentored research projects, and are typically used to pay for research/creative supplies, travel, and room and board (Major Grant and Chappell Lougee Scholarship recipients may include a stipend within their budget if they are working full-time on their project over the Summer Quarter). For the 2009-2010 academic year, students have access to the following grant programs:

Small Grants provide for student projects that explore a topic of interest or contribute to the development of future intellectual pursuits. They are often used for smaller projects, preliminary research, and follow-up expenses associated with larger projects.

Major Grants support larger projects that normally span several quarters. Funded projects typically culminate in an honors thesis or some other substantial capstone product that demonstrates a focused and intellectually rigorous perspective on the topic of interest. Major grant proposals are subject to a review process that includes input from faculty in the relevant departments.

The Chappell Lougee Scholarship supports sophomores who wish to undertake research in the humanities, creative arts, and social sciences. Students receive a grant for full-time research under the supervision of a faculty mentor. In addition, UAR provides guidance for students to transform their research into a creative performance, a capstone or honors project, or post-baccalaureate study.

Angel Grants assist students in producing a finished public creative work such as an art exhibit, film, stage production, or concert.

Conference Travel Grants support students who have been invited to present their research at a professional or scholarly conference. The grants fund travel expenses to and from the conference, and normal conference registration. Students demonstrating financial need may also include conference-associated food and lodging in their budget. Normally, Conference Travel Grants are intended to match funds made available by the faculty mentor or some other source.

For current deadlines and program details, see <http://studentgrants.stanford.edu>. The application for any student grant consists of (1) a student-authored project proposal, including a line-item budget, and (2) a letter of support written by a qualified member of the Stanford faculty. UAR may also consult student transcripts as well as outside faculty reviewers. Proposals are judged on intellectual significance, rigor and feasibility of project design, and evidence of student preparedness. The program is competitive, and not all good proposals can be funded.

UAR provides advising support for students considering a research grant, including proposal writing and project design consultation and advice on administrative policies. Students can view sample proposals at the UAR office. For more information, see <http://studentgrants.stanford.edu>.

DEPARTMENTAL AND FACULTY SPONSORED RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Departments, interdisciplinary programs, and Stanford research centers may apply through the UAR office for VPUE Departmental Grants for Undergraduate Research to support programs that provide undergraduates with mentorship and training in scholarship and research. Typically, departments pair students with a faculty member or faculty-led research group according to their mutual scholarly interests. Students conduct substantive, directed research on a particular aspect of the faculty member's research project, and they meet frequently with their faculty mentors to discuss progress and future directions for the project. For an official request for proposal form, see <http://vpuedepartmentalgrants.stanford.edu>. Students should check with UAR staff to determine which departments and centers currently sponsor research programs.

Individual faculty members may also apply through the UAR office for VPUE Faculty Grants for Undergraduate Research. Faculty Grants provide funding for undergraduates to work closely with faculty on a directed research project. Typical student research activities include conducting literature reviews, developing and conducting research surveys, collecting and analyzing data, aiding in the development of course materials, and conducting laboratory experiments. Faculty determine student participation in this program, so students should contact departments and faculty for more information. For an official request for proposal form, see <http://vpuefacultygrants.stanford.edu>.

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