



Opportunities for Undergraduate Research Experience (OURE)

OURE- Program Overview

The Opportunities for Undergraduate Research Experience (OURE) program has been established to:

- Expand opportunities for a more active form of learning by students
- Encourage the interaction of undergraduate students with faculty
- Expand the level of research activity at Jackson State University
- Help recruit superior students into our graduate program
- Demonstrate that teaching and research are compatible and mutually reinforcing

Expectations of the OURE Experience

Students participating in the OURE program should experience:

- A foundational understanding of how research is conducted in their disciplines
- A greater understanding of the information resources available and how to utilize these resources
- The fundamentals of experimental design
- How to interpret research outcomes

Applications

Applications for 2009-2010 OURE projects are still open. An original application with signatures must be submitted to the Institute for Multimodal Transportation at the Mississippi E-center.

Group projects are allowable, but each student must complete and submit an individual application. Projects can be started during the summer or at the start of the academic year.

Statement of Qualifications

Each participant **MUST** have the support of a faculty sponsor.

Each participant and faculty sponsor is to discuss their project, come to an agreement, and submit a one-page application form describing their project and the personnel involved. The faculty sponsor agrees to supervise the work and certifies the educational value of the proposed project.

Budget

OURE students will be awarded a stipend of up to \$1500. The original \$1000 stipend will be offered in two payments of \$500 with the second payment upon submission of a final report approved by their research advisor. An additional \$500 will be awarded upon publication at the TRB conference.

Expendables are allowed to a \$200 limit (provide description). No capital equipment funds are provided.

In the event that requests exceed available funds, proposals will be evaluated based on the student's academic accomplishments, the likelihood that the proposed project can be completed, the educational value of the proposed project, and the commitment of the faculty supervisor to the project.

Report Guidelines

Each funded project must provide a final report that meets the guidelines in the attached report guidelines. As part of the final report, the student will provide an essay that reflects upon the student's experience in conducting research.

Reports and reflections must be submitted electronically to imtrans@jsums.edu with the following file names:

- Report - Last name-first initial-OURE-year
Example Report Title: Miner-J-OURE-2009
- Reflections - Last name-first initial-Reflections-year
Example Reflections Title: Miner-J-Reflections-2009

Grade Point Average

A cumulative grade point average of 2.75 is required to participate in this program.

Contact Information

If you have questions, please contact the IMTrans director at imtrans@jsums.edu or 601-979-1878.

Opportunities for Undergraduate Research Experiences (OURE)

Report Guidelines

Students may modify the following report guidelines to meet the requirements of a scholarly journal in their field of study.

Title Page

The title page shall include your name, project title, faculty advisor's name and department and date.

Abstract

A short abstract (minimum 75, maximum 150 words) should immediately precede the introduction. The abstract should give a clear indication of the nature and range of the results contained in the paper.

Introduction

The introduction should describe your reason for doing the research and provide background information for the reader. This section should answer the following questions: What is the nature of the problem? What has been done to address the problem? How does your project specifically address the problem?

Main Body

The main body of the paper should be no less than 5 pages. The main body of the paper is the discussion and results section. It shall contain a description of the research or experimental design, the basis of the research or experimental design, research outcomes or experimental outcomes, and an explanation of those outcomes.

Nomenclature

If the paper contains a section explaining the nomenclature used in the test, this section should have its own heading and it should immediately precede the section of Acknowledgements and/or References.

Acknowledgements

The credits should be given in this section. It would be appropriate to mention the faculty advisor for the project here.

References

All references should be listed, and numbered at the end of the paper in the order they appear in the text. Within the text, they should be numbered consecutively.

Typing and Organization

Papers should be single-spaced. All margins should be 1 inch. Use 10 or 12 point font. Pages should be numbered consecutively.

Reflection on the Learning Experience (Please submit as an attachment)

1. Describe your foundational understanding of how research is conducted in your discipline.
2. How have you expanded your understanding of the informational resources available and how to best use these resources?
3. Describe the knowledge you have gained regarding the fundamentals of experimental design.
4. Describe how you have learned to interpret the results of your research project.

Final reports for the 2009/2010 year are due April 1, 2010

Reports must be submitted electronically to the Research Advisor who must submit them to IMTrans at imtrans@jsums.edu

Report/Reflections file names should be as follows

- Report - Last name-first initial-OURE-year Example Report Title: Miner-J-OURE-2009
- Reflections - Last name-first initial-Reflections-year Example Reflections Title: Miner-J-Reflections-2009

APPLICATION FORM (2009 – 2010)
IMTrans OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (OURE) PROGRAM
Form Must be Typed

PROJECT TITLE:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (Please submit on a separate attachment.)

DESCRIBE THE STUDENT'S ROLE IN PROJECT (Submit on separate attachment.)

Individual and group research is encouraged. A maximum of four students may work on one group research project. However each individual OURE applicant must submit an application signed by them and their research advisor.

If this is a group project please list group participants:

Please attach a detailed description of each student's role in the research project. Please complete a separate form for each student.

Student Name: _____

Student J-Number: _____ Cumulative GPA: _____

Address _____

E-mail address: _____ Telephone number: _____

Research Advisor: _____ International Student Yes No

Signatures:

Advisor _____ Student: _____

STIPENDS:

Upon approval of this application, IMTrans will issue offer letters to eligible students who wish to participate in the program.

Student Stipend: Students will not receive initial payment until they have signed and returned their offer letter. Students will receive their first payment of \$500 upon confirmation by their research advisor that the student is working on his/her project. Students will receive final payment of \$500 upon completion of their report. Student is to submit final report electronically to their research advisor and the research advisor upon approval is to submit the report to IMTrans. (imtrans@jsums.edu). Final reports must be COMPLETED and submitted to IMTrans no later than **April 1, 2010**. Students that have not completed and submitted a report are not eligible to reapply.

Please submit a signed hard copy of this application to: **Institute for Multimodal Transportation, 1230 Raymond Road, Box 900, Jackson, MS 39204.**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: OPEN

Handwritten Forms will not be accepted