

# 2024 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Request for Proposals and Fellowship Guidelines

## I. Eligibility and Expectations

Applications for the 2024 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows (SURF) program must be **written jointly** by both student and faculty mentor, with the faculty member responsible for submitting the application online through Submittable. This grant is intended to be a collaborative effort between students and faculty members from idea generation through project completion. **Please note instructions denoting student and faculty member's**

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## II. Timeline

**February 9:** Application Due

**March 15:** Awards Announced

**May 20 – August 10:** SURF Fellowship

**August 30:** SURF Symposium

## III. Goals and Outcomes

- The SURF program is a full-time, paid summer internship program that provides undergraduates with training and mentoring in the conduct of research, presentation skills, and prepares them for applying to graduate or professional school.
- SURF students will have a faculty-mentored, in-depth research or creative inquiry experience that trains them in 1) hypothesis or problem-based framing of a project; 2) skills and technologies used to complete the project; 3) implementation of the project with data collection and data analysis; and/or 4) creation of a work of art and exhibiting it to the public; and 5) dissemination of the results of the project to the community.
- Student learning objectives for the SURF program are:
  - Improvement of critical thinking skills.
  - Improved communication abilities in writing skills.
  - Improved communication abilities in public speaking/presentation skills.
  - Attainment of practical skills related to the field of inquiry.

The criteria used to evaluate research-oriented applications will include the following:

- There is a clear description of how the faculty member(s) will mentor the student so that s/he will grow as a scholar.
- The project is driven by a clear question (i.e., addresses a gap in the literature).
- The design of the project will allow the student to answer the research question developed in the introduction.
- The project is based on a sufficient amount of supporting evidence.
- The project is innovative and creative (i.e. the project adds an original intellectual or creative contribution to the field/discipline or practices in the discipline).
- There is a match between the goals and outcomes expressed by the student in his/her letter of interest and the project description in the grant application.
- The overall strategy and methodology are well reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project.
- The proposal is formatted according to the SURF guidelines and application.

The criteria to be used to evaluate creative works applications will include the following:

- There is a clear description of how the faculty member(s) will mentor the student so that s/he will grow as a scholar.
- There is a clear question that the student will use as a framework in creation of the work.
- The proposed creative works project is significant and the contribution the proposed project will make to the arts and humanities is clear and convincing.
- There is a match between the goals and outcom22 0llowon

a. : (250 words) In a few sentences, please explain this project to someone outside your discipline.



proposed to support the student and/or faculty.

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over the summer to talk about their progress with other students. Students are also expected to write two social media posts during the summer describing their project and progress and submit these to OURI. In addition, students are expected to complete the requirements outlined below.

- 1) **Presentation at the SURF Symposium (August 30):** Students will summarize their research question and accomplishments for the University community at the SURF Symposium, which is held during the first week of classes during the fall semester. These presentations may be in a poster format or in the form of an oral presentation. This event is part of the Week of Welcome for new students.
  
- 2) **Final report /Accomplishments (September 6):** This document should identify the major