

STUDENT APPLICATION INFORMATION

Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program

The Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (URAP) provides an opportunity for NIU undergraduates to work one-on-one with faculty members on their cutting-edge research projects. The program is designed to stimulate awareness of advanced research and interest in graduate study.

Please note...

You may apply for up to three URAP projects, so please read the descriptions carefully and choose the project or projects that best suit your interests and abilities.

You may work on only ONE URAP project in a semester. If you are selected for more than one project, you should make your choice quickly and advise faculty immediately of your plans so that another student may be engaged to work on the project you decline. You will gain more by spending additional time on a single project, and going into greater depth in your research involvement, than by spreading yourself thinly over multiple projects.

Upon completion of the project, the student will write a 3-5 page single-spaced project report assessing her/his learning through the research experience. STUDENT STIPEND CHECKS WILL BE APPLIED TO YOUR BURSAR ACCOUNT AFTER YOU ARE HALF WAY THROUGH YOUR ACADEMIC YEAR CONTRACT / OR AFTER YOU SUBMIT YOUR FINAL PROJECT REPORT.

Preparing application:

- 1. Read the faculty project proposals carefully** to see if you have the required skills and qualifications -- they vary greatly from project to project. Make a serious assessment of your interests and abilities. Do you understand what the project is about? Do you find the project truly interesting?
- 2. Ask yourself about your time commitments** for the coming semester. Are your course or extracurricular commitments already unusually heavy?
- 3. Apply only for projects to which you are prepared to commit yourself, and for which you are qualified** (some require only diligence and enthusiasm).
- 4. Make sure you are eligible.** The program is currently open only to registered junior and senior undergraduates with a GPA of at least 3.0. Students in any department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are welcome to apply, although they may not be qualified for every project. A few projects may require completion of upper division courses.
- 5. Submit a separate application and transcript for each project.** In your statement, make sure that you address each project specifically: Why are you interested? Why are you qualified?
- 6. Faculty will need to see your grades.** Unofficial transcripts or DARs report are acceptable.
- 7. Return application to: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Dean's Office by:
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009.**

STUDENT APPLICATION FORM

Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program

To apply for an Apprentice position, please submit the following:

1. Student Application Form
2. Your statement of interest
3. A recent copy of your transcript (unofficial copies or DARs report accepted)

Submit materials to:

Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (URAP)
Christopher K. McCord, Dean
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Zulauf #312

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009

APPLICATION

Professor with whom you seek to work:

Title of project:

Department _____

Name _____ Phone/E-MAIL _____

Address _____ Student # _____ Z0 _____

City _____ Zip _____

Junior _____ Senior _____

Semester you plan to graduate _____

Major _____ Minor _____

STATEMENT OF INTEREST: On another sheet of paper, describe your interest in this professor's research and your qualifications to serve as a Research Apprentice on this project. (If applying for more than one faculty research project, please use a separate application form for each project.)