

Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity Spring 2019 Workshops

[Finding a Summer Research Opportunity](#)

Tuesday, January 15, 7:30 PM, Location: 105 Bessey Hall

There are a variety of summer opportunities available for students. Programs are hosted by colleges and universities around the United States and the world. They provide an intensive research experience on a particular topic within a scholarly discipline. For undergraduates with plans for graduate or professional school after MSU, summer research provides the opportunity to expand your professional network and acquire experience in an area of interest. In this workshop, you will learn more about summer research, the benefits of participation, and effective search strategies, including how to find and apply for opportunities.

[Learning about Undergraduate Research](#)

Thursday, January 24, 7:30 PM, Location: 106 Bessey Hall

Make research an integral part of your MSU experience! Come learn about the opportunities available for involvement in research and creative activities at Michigan State. You can expect a short presentation, discussion, and Q & A facilitated by current undergraduate researchers.

[Undergraduate Researchers from Underrepresented Populations](#)

Monday, January 28, 6:30 PM, Location: A134 Wells Hall

A panel of MSU students from underrepresented populations and diverse academic disciplines (e.g. STEM, social science, and humanities) will share their experiences with undergraduate research and creative activity. Panelists will address the benefits and challenges of research and the tools and strategies they have utilized to navigate their experiences. The goal of the workshop is to support students who identify as part of underrepresented populations, and who are interested in learning more about undergraduate research and creative activity. Students who already hold a research position are also welcomed to attend. Dr. Judi Brown Clark, Diversity Director for the BEACON Center, will facilitate the panel.

[Writing Abstracts](#)

Wednesday, February 6, 5:00 PM, Location: 112 Bessey Hall

Undergraduate scholars are often required to write abstracts that describe their research or creative activity for grants, scholarships, research papers, and even UURAF (University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum). Led by Professional Writing professor Dr. Danielle DeVoss (Writing, Rhetoric & American Cultures), this workshop will provide an overview of the essential components of an abstract and give tips on how to write an effective abstract.

[Communicating Your Research and Creative Activity Story](#)

Tuesday, February 12, 6:00 PM, Location: A132 Wells Hall

Clearly and succinctly communicating your research and creative activity story is a key component for advancing your undergraduate research career. David Poulson (Knight Center for Environmental Journalism) will show you how to hone your message into a concise and easily understood story.

Learning about Undergraduate Research

Wednesday, February 13, 6:30 PM, Location: 113 Bessey Hall

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Strategic Research Communication

Thursday, February 21, 6:00 PM, Location: 112 Bessey Hall

What do you want people to know about your undergraduate research? Do you find it difficult to communicate aspects of your research or creative activity? Dr. John Besley (Advertising & Public Relations) will help you define your communication goals and reach your target audience.

Unpacking Your Research Experience

Tuesday, February 26, 5:00 PM, Location: 113 Student Services Building

Have you thought about how the skills you are gaining through your undergraduate research experience will assist you in the future? Come learn about strategies for communicating your abilities to others, such as graduate schools and future employers. This workshop will include information about creating an elevator pitch related to your research and an opportunity for you to critically reflect on the skills you have built by being involved in undergraduate research. Come prepared to interact and engage with your peers about your research!

Preparing Poster Presentations

Thursday, March 14, 5:15 PM, Location: 107 Bessey Hall

A presentation poster requires a very different approach than a research report on the same work. You need to be visually appealing, draw in your reader, and convey your purpose and findings in a concise, direct manner. Dr. Tom Wolff, Faculty Emeritus from the College of Engineering, has judged engineering project posters for many years. He will speak about layout, communication, and people's perceptions of typeface and graphic design. Workshop participants will review examples of posters—both good and not-so-good—and consider common pitfalls. Discussion of the function of a poster session as a vehicle for sharing your work with visitors and judges will conclude the workshop.

Preparing Oral Presentations

Monday, March 18, 5:00 PM, Location: 112 Bessey Hall

Led by Professional Writing professor Dr. Danielle DeVoss (Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures), this workshop will cover the basics of constructing well-crafted slide presentations. We'll talk about slide fundamentals, how to whittle a large research project down to a short presentation, and how to integrate visuals to support your points.

Preparing for Success at UURAF

Tuesday, March 26, 6:00 PM, Location: 113 Bessey Hall

First time presenting at the University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF)? Let our panel of seasoned UURAF presenters help you make the most of your experience. You'll get lots of great tips for printing your poster, timing your presentation, what to wear, what time to arrive, and what kinds of questions to expect on the big day.