



CONDUCTING AN UNDERGRADUATE HONOR'S THESIS

THE CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND UF COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

UF | University of Florida

CENTER *for* UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH | EXPLORE
DISCOVER
CREATE



Herbert Wertheim
College of Engineering
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

WHAT IS AN HONOR'S THESIS?

- An in-depth study conducted by a student with the supervision of a faculty committee
 - Research laboratory
 - Design team
 - Independent project
 - In-depth study of topic of interest
- Presented in a written work documented through UF's library
- Oral defense to faculty supervisory board



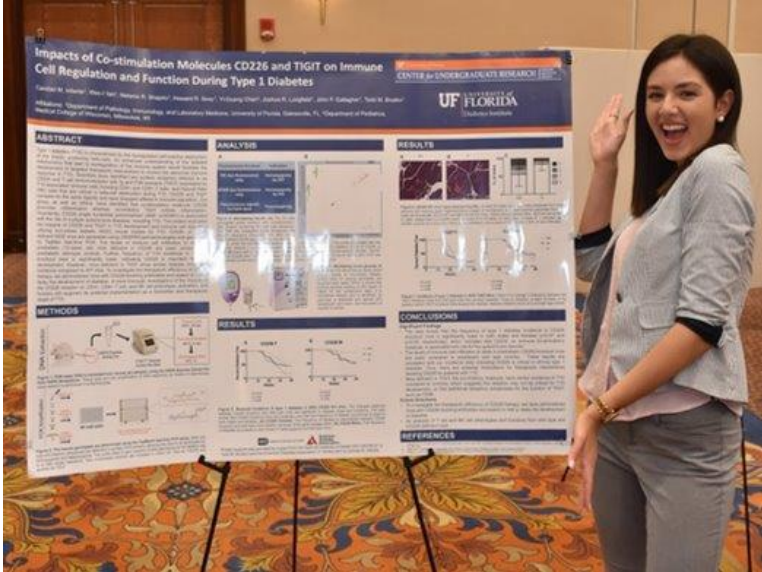
WHO CAN QUALIFY?

- Upper division GPA requirements:
 - All credits beyond your first 60 credits count towards upper division GPA
- Magna cum laude: 3.50+ GPA
- Summa cum laude: 3.80+ GPA
- Final GPA isn't known until graduation, start pursuit of thesis early (2+ semesters before graduation)



WHY SHOULD YOU DO IT?

- Highly recognized and valued achievement for industry and grad school
- Technical and personal development through research challenges
- Develop relationships with faculty advisors
- High caliber oral presentation and writing experience
- Exploration and expertise in subjects of interest



FINDING A MENTOR

- Professors from favored courses and labs
 - Even if they don't have space, can refer you to colleagues
- Center for Undergraduate Research [database](#)
- Come to CUR peer advising for individualized support!
- Departmental faculty directory and research pages

Search For Research Opportunities

Keywords

Research Category

Mentor

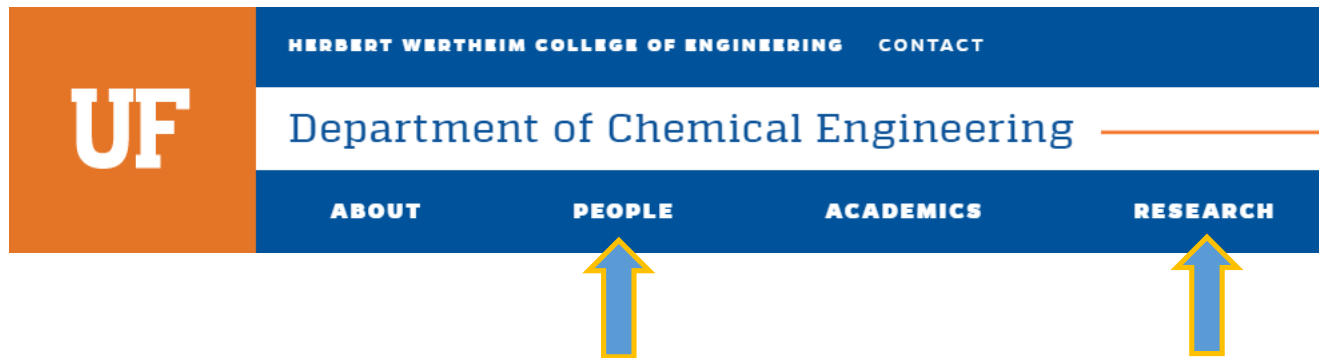
Time Commitment

Method

Possible Co-Authorship

College

Search Research Opportunities



CREATING YOUR PROJECT

- Independent idea or supporting an existing project
- Write an abstract/proposal
- Register for credit: EGN4912 “Engineering Directed Independent Research”
 - 0-3 credits per semester
 - Up to 6 credits total for technical electives
- Select an advisory committee
 - 2 in department
 - 1 outside of department

- Typical paper format:
 - Abstract
 - Introduction
 - Methods
 - Results
 - Discussion
 - Conclusions/future work



- **Check out examples!** All theses are online through the library:
<https://ufdc.ufl.edu/ufhonors/all>

REQUIRED FORMS AND PRESENTATION

1. [Appointment of Supervisory Committee Form](#)
 - 2 departmental supervisors and 1 supervisor outside of the department
2. [Honors Thesis Submission Form](#)
 - Faculty advisor, thesis title, abstract
3. [Final Oral Examination Form](#)
 - Supervisory committee approval of your oral presentation
4. Submit your finalized thesis to your department with the Honor's Thesis Submission form
5. Submit your work to UF's Library Institutional Repository. See their [guide for submission](#).

Make sure to check both the College of Engineering and Library pages for their respective deadlines!

OTHER OPTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Get published in UF’s Journal for Undergraduate Research ([JUR](#))
- Present a poster on your project
 - CUR Undergraduate Research Symposium
 - Department-specific poster competitions
 - Relevant conferences
- Technical elective credit (EGN4912)
- Scholarship opportunities
 - [Emerging Scholars Program](#): for 1st and 2nd year students conducting research for the first time
 - [University Scholars Program](#): 2 semesters, \$1750 stipend
 - [McNair Scholars](#): supports first-gen and minorities pursuing graduate programs
- Get summer research experience through an [REU](#)



WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

- **College of Engineering requirements and guidelines:**
<https://www.eng.ufl.edu/students/resources/undergraduate-student-handbook/graduating-with-honors/>
- **Library requirements and guidance:**
<https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/c.php?g=966329&p=7028773>
- Honor's College guidance: <http://www.honors.ufl.edu/current/research/>
- The Center for Undergraduate Research: <https://cur.aa.ufl.edu/>

HERBERT WERTHEIM COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

ADVISING OFFICES

YOUR ADVISOR IS ALSO LIKELY YOUR HONOR'S THESIS COORDINATOR!
REACH OUT TO THEM FOR ANY DEPARTMENT RELATED SUPPORT.

DON'T KNOW THEM? GO HERE:

[HTTPS://WWW.ENG.UFL.EDU/STUDENTS/ADVISING/WHO-IS-MY-ADVISOR/](https://www.eng.ufl.edu/students/advising/who-is-my-advisor/)

START THE TRADITION

CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH BOARD OF STUDENTS
(CURBS)

CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

202 NEWELL HALL OR [HTTPS://CUR.AA.UFL.EDU/PEER-ADVISING/](https://cur.aa.ufl.edu/peer-advicing/)

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA TO KEEP UP WITH ALL THINGS RESEARCH!

FACEBOOK: UF CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

INSTAGRAM: @UFCURBS

TWITTER: @UFCURBS

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TRADITION