Faculty Mentor Program

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What is the Faculty Mentor Program?

- Develop valuable relationships with UC San Diego faculty mentors while participating in an independent study course (99 or 199) designed to build research skills.
- Assistance every step of the way
  - finding and establishing a connection with a mentor
  - learning research & writing skills, exploring post-graduate career paths through workshops and seminars.
Eligibility

- The FMP is open to all majors!
- Transfer and international students are encouraged to apply.
- Have a minimum GPA of 2.7
- UC San Diego student while participating in the FMP (Part-time OK)
- Have sophomore standing or above (at least 45 units)
- Commit at least 2 consecutive quarters to the program (Fall + Winter).
- **Have a UCSD Faculty Mentor to oversee your project**
How to find a mentor?

- Reach out to professors with whom you have taken/are taking courses.
- Contact graduate TA's
- Course catalog and department websites > Professors' individual websites
- Research Experience & Applied Learning (REAL) Portal: real.ucsd.edu
- Handshake: ucsd.joinhandshake.com/login
- Once you have identified a possible mentor, reach out via email ➡️ Keep it professional.
- Find tips at urh.ucsd.edu > Students > How to Find a Mentor
- Let me know if you need help identifying a potential mentor
How do I pick a topic?

• What excites you most?
• What makes you angry? What would you like to change?
• What would you like to create?
• What do you like to spend your time doing?
• Topics from classes
• Major trends in academia, politics, industry, or in media?
Past research topics by undergrads at UC San Diego

• Blockchain Technology in Nursing Informatics
• Madness and Mothering in Gothic Fiction
• Impact of Public Umbilical Cord Blood Banks' Lack of Donor Diversity
• Constitutionality of Critical Race Studies in K-12 Education
• Cell Based Gene Editing Platform for Stem Cell Biology
• Imprints of Massive Neutrinos in the Phase of the Cosmic Microwave Background
Program benefits:

- Build a valuable professional relationship with a UC San Diego faculty mentor.
- Get 99/199 credit for 2 quarters or 3 consecutive quarters.
  - 99: If fewer than or 90 units
  - 199: If greater than 90 units
  - Most departments, Friday of Week 2
  - BISP 199 - Friday, September 2, 2022 pm > 199 exemption form)
- Get research experience > proposal, data analysis, research paper
- Present your research at the FMP Research Symposium in the Spring.
- Conference travel funding
REQUIREMENTS WHILE IN THE PROGRAM

- Attend **required seminars and workshops**.
- Perform **10 hours of research activities** each week.
- Enroll in a **199 independent study course**.
- Meet with your faculty mentor once per week (at least 1 hour).
- Present at the **FMP Symposium during Spring Quarter**.
- Turn in a **research proposal** at the end of the first quarter and a **final paper** at the end of your second quarter.
ACTIVITIES EACH QUARTER

FALL
• Orientation - week 3
• Library Research Seminar - week 4 or 5
• How to Write a Research Proposal Seminar - week 6
• Research Proposal Peer Review Workshop - week 8

WINTER
• How to Turn a Research Proposal into a Research Paper Workshop
• Graduate Student Panel (tentative)

SPRING
• Workshop: How to Create Your Poster and Present at FMP Symposium
• FMP Symposium (May)
APPLICATION PROCESS

- Fmp.ucsd.edu > How to Apply
- Sign in with UCSD SSO credentials
- Mentor must complete a statement of support.
Statement I
I endorse this student’s application to the Faculty Mentor Program and agree to mentor this student and oversee their research.

Statement II
I agree to provide resources, training, and feedback as appropriate.

Statement III
I will ensure that the student completes all required training and certifications prior to starting any research, if necessary.

Statement IV
I agree that my student researcher(s) is required to work at least 10 hours a week on research activities which I will assign. I will provide at least one hour a week of direct individual supervision, or assign someone to assist the student in my stead.

Statement V
I understand that my student researcher(s) is required to write a research proposal and paper. I agree to provide feedback on both.

Statement VI
I agree to sponsor my student researcher(s) in a 4-unit 09/198 Independent Study during all quarters of participation (unless discussed otherwise with the student and FMP coordinator).

Statement VII
I will provide a reading list of literature in my field and training in research techniques as appropriate for the project, and be available to answer my student’s questions as necessary.

Statement VIII
I understand that my student researcher(s) will present their research at the Faculty Mentor Program Research Symposium at the end of Spring Quarter.
Reminders

Application deadline: October 7

Next FMP cycle: Winter 2022
Questions?

- Email: BRFruto@ucsd.edu
- Visit: fmp.ucsd.edu
- Meeting: Schedule a meeting