

What is research?

Research is the systematic pursuit of knowledge and an exciting process of discovery. And it's not just for scientists! Every field of study has its own research problems and methods. As a researcher you seek answers to questions of great interest to you. Your research problem could be aesthetic, social, political, scientific or technical. You choose the tools, gather and analyse the data that will help you to delve deeper and find answers.

Why should I do research?

To challenge yourself, to contribute to knowledge, to learn more about something that interests you passionately, to see if you want to go to graduate school, or to top off your undergraduate career with something you are really proud of—a capstone research project!

How do I get involved in research?

- 1 • Visit the research website <http://research.berkeley.edu> for links to on- and off-campus programs.
- 2 • Subscribe to the **Researcher listserv** at the research.berkeley.edu website.
- 3 • Talk to faculty about research. Having a hard time talking to faculty? Sign up for a small class— a freshman seminar or a sophomore seminar.
- 4 • Come to a research workshop! Workshop A helps you get started. When you are ready, workshop B looks at how to write a research proposal. Schedules at the research website.
- 5 • Apprentice with a faculty member in the Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (URAP) or Engineering's Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (URO).
- 6 • Speak to your major advisor about research opportunities in your home department.
- 7 • Take a methods course as early as possible. Whatever your field, your department has a course that reviews the major methods used to approach problems there.
- 8 • Investigate independent research opportunities through senior thesis options or programs such as the McNair or Haas Scholars, or the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF).
- 9 • Talk to everyone you can think of about your research ideas and ask for feedback and advice.

Start today!

<http://research.berkeley.edu>

The website connects you to resources on the campus and beyond. A research calendar keeps you up to date on workshops, events and deadlines.

e-subscribe!

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