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UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH:

WHAT IT IS & WHY IT MATTERS TO YOU





write down 1-3 words that
come to mind when we say
“research”



write down 1-3 words that
come to mind when we say
“research”

share your words with a partner &
bring your sticky note to the board

DEFINING RESEARCH

“INVESTIGATE
SYSTEMATICALLY”

“discovering
information”



DEFINING RESEARCH

“INVESTIGATE
SYSTEMATICALLY”

“discovering
information”

“according to a
plan or system”



TYPES OF RESEARCH

Fundamental or
basic

seeks generalization,
explores or explains

Applied

seeks to solve
problems

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seeks to solve
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ex. a study on how to improve illiteracy
among students at your middle school



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Who has some ideas of applied research
you might do in a future career?





What do you think...

other faculty in ALCE research?

What about faculty across campus?



Action Research in ALCE 3004

“Observe and interview an educator to explore a potential career choice and apply course knowledge”



What does this mean?

- Two sets of interview questions
- Two completed interviews of selected fieldwork personnel
- A 500-word reflection over your experience doing fieldwork observations



Example Questions

- Why did you choose this field/career?
- What training experiences have most benefited you professionally?
- What is a typical day like?
- What projects have you worked on that have been particularly interesting?
- As an aspiring _____, what else do I need to know?

Draft Project Plan &
Submit for Approval
Enroll in ALCE 3900

Introduce
the
Principles of
Bridge
Experiences
in LDRS 1414

Explore Possible Bridge
Opportunities in ALCE
3004

16 Hours of
Volunteer
Community Engagemen

Enroll in
Bridge Options:

ALCE 4054

ALCE 4754

ALCE 4964

ALCE 4974

ALCE 4994

LDRS 4754

LDRS 4964

LDRS 4974

Inclusion of
Bridge
Reflection
in
Final Portfolio
ALCE 4044
Seminar

HOW DO YOU GET CONNECTED TO UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES ON CAMPUS AND BEYOND?"

1

Ask faculty who you would be interested in

researching with

2

Visit VT's Office of Undergraduate Research

3

Research opportunities can be credited or paid

4

Examples from our URA experiences

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ENGAGEMENT