



Hamel Center for Undergraduate Research

Research Experience and Apprenticeship Program (REAP)

To: Honors Program Instructors

Re: Nominations for REAP

REAP is a research apprenticeship program for high-achieving Honors students during the summer after their first year. If you have had a first-year student in your fall semester Honors course who you think fits the guidelines below, please consider nominating this student for a REAP summer fellowship for summer 2021. Please check to be sure that the student is in the University Honors Program. You may nominate a student with whom you would like to work or a student who will be matched with another faculty member based upon the student's academic interests. If you have questions, please contact the Hamel Center director, Paul Tsang, at paul.tsang@unh.edu.

Part I: Program Description:

REAP fellowships are funded by the Hamel Center for Undergraduate Research to provide motivated, high-achieving Honors students with a unique research apprenticeship opportunity. Students selected for the program will spend 10 weeks in the summer *after their freshman year* exploring their academic interests and developing their ability to pursue research, scholarly, and creative projects under the supervision of a UNH faculty member. The REAP experience will provide a fast-track for talented students, encouraging their intellectual awakening and curiosity as young scholars. It will enable them to explore topics of interest, to prepare for advanced research, and to develop a close academic and professional relationship with a faculty member.

Eligibility: The student must:

- be a full-time undergraduate at UNH;
- be enrolled in the University Honors Program at the start of fall semester, and must have completed at least one full semester (fall) of an Honors course *at the time of application*;
- complete one year as a full-time student before the summer research, and be in good standing with the Honors Program at the end of the first full year of coursework (students who have completed two years of UNH coursework are eligible for SURF grants);
- have a minimum UNH GPA of 3.0 at the time of application; minimum *cumulative* UNH GPA of 3.2 by the end of spring semester;
- be nominated by an instructor of the student's fall semester Honors course based upon criteria provided in the **Honors Course Instructor Nomination** (below).

Type of Research: REAP is an *apprenticeship* experience intended to prepare students for advanced research, scholarly, or creative work, including opportunities sponsored by the Hamel Center, the Honors Program senior thesis, and other capstone experiences.

REAP activities should deepen the student's understanding of how knowledge is developed and interpreted within the discipline or across disciplines and of the approaches, theories, methodologies, and techniques employed by faculty in their own work. Projects may include:

- Bibliographic research and development
- Learning research techniques employed in labs, libraries, museums, archives, and in the field
- Exploring and implementing techniques used in the creative disciplines (art, music, theatre, dance, creative writing)
- Learning how to design a research project and draft a research proposal
- Assisting the faculty mentor in any tasks directly related to his/her own research

These projects should be tailored to the background and experience of the student and may involve training and preparation to undertake some of the proposed activities.

Part II: Application Process:

Honors Course Instructor Nomination:

- Honors Instructor asks the student if s/he is interested in being considered for REAP. (The program description above may be given to the student to review.)
- Honors Instructor completes the **Honors Course Instructor Nomination** (below) to nominate a student based upon the quality of the student's academic work in an Inquiry Seminar or other first-year Honors course. Completed nominations should be submitted to the Hamel Center as soon as possible, to facilitate the process of matching students to appropriate faculty mentors. All nominations must be received by the Hamel Center *in advance* of the completed application (**no later than February 26, 2021**).
- The Honors instructor nominating the student may offer to serve as the student's mentor, recommend another faculty member to serve as mentor, or refer the student to the Hamel Center for Undergraduate Research for help in identifying a mentor. For complete guidelines on faculty mentor eligibility, go to <http://unh.edu/undergrad-research/faculty-mentor-eligibility>
- If appropriate, the student prepares a resume and statement of academic interests to assist in matching him/her with a faculty mentor. A sample **Student Resume** form is available online: <http://unh.edu/undergrad-research/research-experience-and-apprenticeship-program-reap>
- If the Honors instructor nominating the student will not be the REAP project mentor, the student should complete the Student Resume form and bring it to the Hamel Center for assistance in identifying a faculty mentor.
- If a student and mentor agree to work together, they will submit an application to the Hamel Center for Undergraduate Research.

Note: For summer undergraduate research programs, we strongly encourage faculty members to mentor no more than two student projects per summer (including REAP, SURF, IROP, and Undergraduate Research Awards combined), to ensure that individual students receive sufficient guidance and supervision for their research. For faculty mentors who believe they have a strong rationale for mentoring more than two student projects per summer, please contact the Hamel Center director before the application deadline.

Application:

- Apprenticeship Proposal: description of the project or activities to be undertaken (*prepared by the mentor after consultation with the student*)
- Budget Form: estimate of project expenses (*prepared by mentor*)
- Student Applicant Statement of Interest (*prepared by student*)
- Faculty Letter of Recommendation (*non-nominator*)

Complete application guidelines and forms are available online: <http://www.unh.edu/undergrad-research/research-experience-and-apprenticeship-program-reap> .

Application Deadline: March 29, 2021 for summer 2021

Funding:

- Student: \$3,500 fellowship for 10 weeks of full-time summer apprenticeship
- Expenses: up to \$600 for expenses associated with the summer project

Review: Applications will be reviewed by the directors of the Hamel Center and the University Honors Program, as well as a third individual appointed by these directors. For complete review criteria, see the REAP "Application Guidelines" online.

Notification: Students and faculty mentors will be notified by April 15, 2021.

Final Reporting: Students who have received a REAP award will be required to submit a final report on their research to the Hamel Center, complete an evaluation form, and will be encouraged to present their research, if appropriate.

Research Experience and Apprenticeship Program (REAP)

Hamel Center for Undergraduate Research

Honors Course Instructor Nomination

You may print this form, complete it manually, and submit it to the Hamel Center for Undergraduate Research; or you may create a nomination electronically, providing the information below, and email it directly to the Hamel Center director, Paul Tsang, at paul.tsang@unh.edu.

Completed nominations should be submitted to the Hamel Center as soon as possible, to facilitate the process of matching students to appropriate faculty mentors. All Honors Course Instructor Nominations must be received by the Hamel Center *in advance* of the completed application (**no later than February 26, 2021**).

Honors Instructor:

Instructor's Title & Dept:

Instructor's email address:

Date:

Honors Student Nominated:

Student's UNH ID# (if known):

Student's email address:

Your Honors course in which student is/was enrolled:

Criteria for Nominating a Student:

- Student has demonstrated outstanding work in class, excelling in both written and oral communication.
- Student exhibits a high level of maturity and responsibility in meeting all expectations of the course (following instructions, submitting coursework on time, etc.).
- Student exhibits curiosity and imagination in addressing the topics/themes of the course.

Ratings: Compared to other students *in your Honors course(s) specifically*, how do you rate the student in the following areas?

	One of the top few I've encountered (top 1%)	Outstanding (top 5%)	Excellent (top 10%)	Good (above average)	Average	Below Average	No basis for judgment
Academic performance							
Ability to express thoughts in speech and writing							
Intellectual Curiosity/Creativity							
Disciplined work habits— Motivation/Organization/Initiative							
Reaction to setbacks							
Maturity/Responsibility/Trustworthiness							
Ability to make sound judgments							
Honesty and Integrity							
Ability to work with others/Respect							
Potential to plan and carry out research							

OVERALL RATING:

- Highly recommend
 Recommend
 Recommend with reservation
 Do not recommend

(continued on next page)

REAP Honors Course Instructor Nomination (continued)

On a separate page attached to this form, please address the following questions. When preparing these comments, please keep in mind that this nomination will serve as one of only two letters of recommendation for the REAP applicant. So, ideally, your nomination will be as detailed as possible.

1. How long have you known the applicant, and in what context?
2. Explain why this student would be a good candidate for REAP. What specific academic and personal qualities has this student exhibited in your course? How might these qualities translate to a successful research apprenticeship during the summer after the student's first year at UNH?
3. If you know, please provide any information you have about the student's academic interests and focus.
4. Are you interested in serving as this student's REAP summer mentor? If not, can you recommend a colleague who might be a good match for this student's interests?

To learn more about REAP:

<http://www.unh.edu/undergrad-research/research-experience-and-apprenticeship-program-reap>

Questions? undergrad.research@unh.edu
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