

CREATE CHANGE

School of Biomedical Sciences Undergraduate Research



Benefit of gaining research experience during your undergraduate study

Undergraduate research at UQ provides a range of opportunities including:

- an opportunity to develop new skills to enhance your employability;
- access to research networks and connections with other staff and postgraduate students;
- access to world class facilities and experiences that you may not have otherwise been exposed to;
- supervision by outstanding researchers;
- identify suitable projects for honours/other formal research studies;
- identify whether research is for you;
- the possibility of obtaining credit towards your degree.

How to select a research lab for your research experience?

Our staff at the School of Biomedical Sciences research in a wide range of areas, from the genomic level through to the structure and function of intact humans and other organisms.

1. Decide what broad research field you are interested in & also consider what techniques you would like to learn.

2. Find a supervisor in that field

- A. Search research topics on this website: <u>https://biomedical-sciences.uq.edu.au/research/groups</u>, or consider Lecturers from relevant course
- B. Are they actively publishing?
- C. Do they have other students/staff (to provide you with extra support)?
- 3. You can approach multiple academics but you should make sure that you are indeed interested in their research topics. Collaborative projects may also be available with several University Institutes.

What information should you include when contacting the research group leader?

It is important that you contact potential supervisors early. Before emailing the academic, make sure you are familiar with the Supervisor's work. In the email, you should include which type of research opportunity you are interested in, why you are interested in the opportunity, your CV, and your unofficial academic transcript. In your CV, you should include any prior research you have done and the labs that you have done the research in.

Research opportunities at the School of Biomedical Sciences

Undergraduate research SCIE courses - ideal for 2nd and 3rd year students

- You need to already have completed 24 units of coursework.
- Minimum of 100 hours research experience during a semester. You will be required to present the outcomes of your research at the end of the semester (written report and oral presentation).
- You can do two SCIE projects as part of your degree. For your first project, you need to enrol in <u>SCIE3220</u>. If you wish to undertake a second project in a subsequent semester, you need to enrol in <u>SCIE3221</u>. Both SCIE courses are available in first, second, and summer semester.
- SCIE3220: <u>https://my.uq.edu.au/programs-courses/course.html?course_code=SCIE3220</u>
- SCIE3221: https://my.uq.edu.au/programs-courses/course.html?course_code=SCIE3221
- Benefit: Gain an understanding of the requirements of research, and insights into research methods and techniques. Overall, this experience is likely to help establish networks for future research studies, while developing research skills likely to help secure future research positions.

Summer/Winter research programs - ideal for 1st, 2nd and 3rd year students

- 4-10 weeks of paid, full-time research experience in a research lab.
- Summer research is longer than winter research program and therefore you will learn more about a given research project. Winter research provides a shorter-term research exposure which could be ideal for your first research experience.
- These opportunities are highly competitive and students should investigate options early. Link: <u>https://employability.uq.edu.au/summer-winter-research</u>
- You can still be enrolled in SCIE project while doing a summer research project. This option is not available in winter.
- Benefit: Gain a more in-depth understanding of the requirements of research, and insights into research methods and techniques. This experience will help establish networks for future research studies, while establishing research skills that will help secure future research positions.

Honours program – to enrol you need to have already completed a Bachelors degree, or be enrolled in your 4th year with the Bachelor of Advanced Science Program

- A one-year research-intensive program at the end of your Bachelors degree. While not essential, it is recommended that you have at completed a SCIE course or a summer/winter research program prior to organising your Honours research project.
- You may have completed a biomedical Bachelors degree at another institution.
- More information can be found here: <u>https://biomedical-sciences.uq.edu.au/files/23006/Biomedical-Sciences-Honours-Application-and-Enrolment-Guide.pdf</u>
- Benefit: Full year in-depth training to improve understanding of the requirements of research, and a more comprehensive understanding of research methods and techniques. This may include opportunities to develop cutting-edge research skills. It will also significantly enhance your employability and prepare you for future formal research training. This is a critical step towards the conduct of post-graduate research studies.

Research volunteer opportunities, scholarships or jobs – may be suitable for 1st, 2nd and 3rd year students depending on the nature of the research opportunity

• Other research opportunities may be available for undergraduate students and students are encouraged to contact individual academic for more information.

Contact us

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