

## Undergraduate Research Award Essay Suggestions

In a 500+ word personal essay, reflect upon your experience with the research process for this project and your use of library collections, resources, and services. The following questions are offered as a guide to developing your essay. You are not required or restricted to addressing just these questions but answering many of them is encouraged.

- In what ways did the availability of library resources and other scholarly resources influence the selection and/or development of the topic for your research project?
- What specific databases or major research materials did you use? Please provide the names of some of the resources you tried that were the most helpful.
- What did you discover about the tools, techniques and processes for research using library resources?
- Why did you use the tools, techniques and processes that you did?
- What discoveries did you make through careful planning and which by chance or serendipity?
- How did librarians from the University Libraries assist you with your research?
- What did you learn about finding, selecting, and evaluating information on your topic or in the discipline?
- What challenges did you face in identifying, finding, and using library collections, resources, and services?
- What lessons about the research process did you take away from the experience?