RESEARCH WEEK 2019

Honors Study Abroad Grant for Airfare
WHAT IS SAGA

Honors will pay a student’s *round trip* airfare for approved study abroad programs of any length.
HOW DO I FIND SA OPPORTUNITIES?

https://www.uah.edu/honors/study-abroad
HOW DO I APPLY FOR SAGA?

STUDY ABROAD GRANT FOR AIRFARE CHECKLIST

- Identify destination and program (feel free to go ahead and start communicating with the program!) We recommend using the Study Abroad database to quickly and easily find Study Abroad opportunities: https://uah-sa.terradotta.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.AdvancedSearch&
- Contact the Office of Study Abroad to discuss plans and approvals. There is a UAH application that MUST be completed as well.
- Apply to the program (be sure to check deadlines!)
- Contact Financial Aid to find out options.
  - If paying for program with a student loan, find out true cost of program.
  - Talk about scholarship options. If you have a scholarship that helps cover your expenses at UAH, please check with the Office of Financial Aid to determine if these scholarship funds are transferable to a study abroad program. Please note that UAH merit tuition scholarships are only applicable if tuition is paid at UAH (such as for a UAH faculty-led program or for a student exchange study abroad program). Also note that study abroad affiliate program providers offer scholarships. Please check with the individual affiliate provider for more information.
  - Students with significant FAFSA documented financial need may be awarded an extra supplement to use toward their study abroad. For this reason, all students interested in studying abroad should fill out the FAFSA, regardless of whether they intend to apply for Federal Financial Aid (filling out the form alone does not commit you to aid).
- Complete pre-approval form for courses (it’s a great idea to get more courses pre-approved than you will actually take).
- Complete SAGA application found on Honors website (take deadlines for fall, spring and summer into account).
  - To be eligible, you must: (1) have completed at least 6 hours of Honors credit at the time the study abroad program begins; (2) be in good standing in Honors (you may apply while on probation); and (3) have made application to the study abroad program of your choice.
- Purchase airfare and submit receipt to Beth Wilson for reimbursement. You should be able to provide proof that you’ve been accepted to the study abroad program of your choice.
- Check with the program and make sure all arrangements have been made for your trip.
- Weekly “share” of experience required to earn Honors credit.
- After trip is completed, make sure transcript is sent to UAH.
- Honors Credit will be awarded for up to 3 hours of study abroad credit. You must let the Honors College know that your credit is ready to be “honorized.”
WHAT’S EXPECTED OF ME?

- Weekly share of your experience on the Honors SAGA blog

- Let us know when your transcript has been received by UAH
Co-Curricular Opportunities Fair

Tuesday, March 12, 10:30AM – 12:30PM: Charger Union, 1st Floor

Learn about opportunities outside of the classroom that can enhance your undergraduate education, applications to graduate and professional schools, and chances for that dream job!
RESEARCH WEEK 2019

DECODING THE HONORS CAPSTONE
WHAT IS THE CAPSTONE?

CAPSTONE is an umbrella term

It could be more like a **thesis** (a thoroughly research term paper with your own arguments/interpretations included)

or

a **project** (a well-developed and documented lab report with original data and analysis)

or

a **creative project** (collection of original art work with commentary, description of development, etc.)
WHAT IS THE CAPSTONE?

Normally the term “capstone” suggests the final part of a program of study

For Honors, NOT necessarily so, but it...

Could be part of...
Senior Design or Major Capstone required for your major (don’t worry that doesn’t mean you have to do twice the work)

Could be...
Something you did for a project-based class which you decide to develop further (paper or project)
WHAT IS THE CAPSTONE?

Could be...
Something you did as part of summer research project, a co-op or internship, or study abroad

Could be...
Something you did as part of an academic club

Could be...
A LOT of things...so don’t be afraid to ask

Hopefully, it will be...
Something that you enjoy.
That will make the work more rewarding and less of a chore!
WHAT IS THE CAPSTONE?

It DOESN’T have to be...

* In your major
* Done during your senior year
* Your own idea (but has to be your own work)

MOST Honors students find their capstone *organically*...

The things that you do as an Honors student will lead you toward the Capstone

(contracting classes, academic clubs, research, internships, Study Abroad)
1. Think about it. Look at your class schedule, think about how you’re planning on spending your summers. DO SOME RESEARCH. Go to poster sessions. Let’s meet.

2. Find a Project Director
   They are the most important part of the Capstone
   –Help you define the scope of the capstone
   -Give you guidance and check your work
   -Sign off on the final product
   (Ideally, they will be the instructor of your Capstone Class)

PD should be a PhD, UAH or elsewhere, if you have any questions ask early. We’re definitely willing to work with you.
3. Determine which class will be the Capstone Course (must be 300-400 level and at least 3 credits)
   - Ideally, you can use a course that you already need for your major (keep within the block tuition)
   - Can be retroactive (course you took already)
   - Ideally, your PD will be the instructor of the course

IF THERE IS NO COURSE as above, you can use HON499
WHAT IS HON499?

HON499 is NOT required for the capstone. It’s a ”placeholder class” if a class like described in #3 is not available.

- Let Beth know when you are taking it and she will create a section for you
- HON499 isn’t a scheduled class and doesn’t meet regularly (but you should meet/communicate regularly with your PD)
- HON499 is graded S or U based on your PROGRESS, not the final project.
- You do NOT have to complete the Capstone in the semester that you take HON499 (or any capstone class), but you should keep in contact with your PD for guidance and final approval.
- If it’s within the block tuition, you don’t need to pay extra
4. With your PD, come up with a title and general description of what you will be doing (these can change a little, but not a LOT). Make sure there are no surprises for the PD so that the proposal is approved.

5. Fill out the online Capstone Proposal Form
   - Class/Semester
   - Project Director
   - Title
   - Description

Fill out the form CAREFULLY. Typos or incorrect info may mean the form will not progress through the approval process.
The Capstone Proposal Form is due no later than the 10th day of classes in the semester in which you take the class.

Once everyone has approved it, you should receive an e-mail saying so. If someone declines it, you’ll need to make the correction(s) and REFILE the form.

Once everyone has approved the form, you don’t need to do anything else, except work on your Capstone with your PD.

The Capstone is due the LAST DAY OF REGULAR CLASSES IN THE SEMESTER YOU GRADUATE.
Questions?
The Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates (RCEU) Program

- Apply in Fall Semester through Charger Path
- Selections made in Spring
- Students work with Faculty/Research Staff for 10-12 weeks, 32-40 hrs/wk during the summer as stipend employee, professional development, fall poster session (encouraged to submit to Perpetua)

The Honors Capstone Research Summer Program

- Same as above, but for Honors Students only

YOU CAN APPLY FOR BOTH, BUT ONLY DO ONE IF SELECTED
Your Capstone can also be the based on other UAH Programs & Classes

- Senior Design and Capstone Classes required for your major (don’t need to do 2 capstones!)
  - You can’t hand in the same thing non-honors students hand in for the major capstone as the Honors Capstone
  - Before the class starts work with the instructor (as your PD) to do some extended work on the project
  - Group projects are possible with advanced approval
  - The enhanced project will serve as your Capstone(s)

This can work for any project-based class
Especially for MAE Majors

- HON401 Supplement for MAE 490-491 SENIOR DESIGN
  - Sign up for Senior Design as usual
  - In the first 6 weeks of 490, you’ll develop a proposal. You will get feedback and have until the 8th week to get it approved.
  - If the proposal is not approved, you cannot take HON401
  - With an approved proposal, take HON401 (1 credit) with MAE 491 (3 credits). You earn 4 Honors credits.
  - Your final group project will also be your Capstone
OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AT UAH

Your Capstone can also be based on other UAH Programs & Classes

- Case Study/Project-based classes
- Independent Study Class
- Study Abroad Classes
- Project-based Academic Club Activities
- Voluntary research position with faculty or researcher

As mentioned before, you MAY have to do some extended work for the Capstone if it’s part of a class project.
Your Capstone can also be the based on programs OUTSIDE of UAH...

- National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU): Sites and Supplements, Offered USA-wide
- HudsonAlpha BIOTRAIN (Huntsville): biology, chemistry, graphic arts, science ed., economics, marketing, communications
- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program: chemistry, computer science, engineering, materials science, nanotechnology, information technology, mathematics, biology, or other STEM discipline
- Amgen Scholars Program: Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunities In Science & Biotechnology
- NASA DEVELOP (Huntsville): Paid research internship open to all majors (Su, F, Sp); NASA Space Flight Center Internships
GENERAL ADVICE

1. Meet with me early on. Start thinking about a plan. I suggest, one semester to plan, one to do the work, one to write up and submit.

2. Go to any posters sessions held on campus
   Fall: Summer Community of Scholars
   Spring: Research Horizons

3. Talk to other Honors students currently doing research or working on their Capstone

4. Research Faculty and Research Staff CVs
   If you find someone interesting go and talk to them about their research and about Honors
RESEARCH WEEK 2019

Campus-Wide Student Research & Creative Projects Poster Session & Reception

Graduate and undergraduate students, sharing posters of their research and creative projects. If you’re interested in getting involved in research, these are the people you want to talk to! Light refreshments.

Thursday, March 14, 1:30 - 3:30PM: Charger Union 2nd Floor

“So You Think You Can Research” Research Sharing Event

1 slide and 3 minutes to talk about your research or creative project. A fun way to share and network with other student researchers. All majors welcome!

Thursday, March 14, 3:30-5:00PM: Charger Union 227