

University Research Committee interdisciplinary research internships 2015

Purpose

As a catalyst for promoting new interdisciplinary research across the University, the University Research Committee plans to offer a maximum of 15 research internships to undergraduate students to undertake interdisciplinary research projects in summer 2015.

Scope

Any undergraduate students registered at the University of Bristol, not in the first or final year of study, may apply to undertake an interdisciplinary research project co-supervised by an academic member of staff in the school or department in which they are registered for their undergraduate degree (home school or department) and an academic member of staff in another school or department, with a different research background to that of the home supervisor. Applications for research projects co-supervised by academic members of staff in different faculties are particularly welcomed.

Description of internship

Successful undergraduate applicants will carry out the research project during the summer vacation 2015. This standard length of the research project will be eight weeks, but this may be reduced or increased by up to two weeks if the applicant requests this in advance. Students registered for a course with a shorter summer vacation may carry out a shorter research project of four to six weeks duration.

Successful applicants will receive a bursary of £270 per week, based on an hourly rate of £7.70 per hour and a 35 hour working week. Students are expected to work full time on their research project and they should not carry out any other paid work or hold any other scholarships for the duration of the project.

Research project

Interested undergraduate students should first consider the research area that they would like to undertake the research project in. Information about research at the University can be found on the University's research web-pages (<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/research/>) and via the Explore Bristol Research portal (<http://research-information.bristol.ac.uk/>).

Students should then develop a brief project outline for the research project they would like to undertake. In developing the project outline, students should consider which academic member(s) of staff in their home school or department and which academic member(s) of staff in another school or department may be interested in co-supervising the research project. If students are unable to identify potential co-supervisors, the relevant Faculty Research Director(s) may be able to provide advice:

- Faculty of Arts: Professor Robert Bickers (Robert.Bickers@bristol.ac.uk)
- Faculty of Engineering: Professor Mike Fraser (Mike.Fraser@bristol.ac.uk)

- Faculty of Medical & Veterinary Sciences: Professor Neil Williams (Neil.A.Williams@bristol.ac.uk)
- Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry: Professor Kate Tilling (Kate.Tilling@bristol.ac.uk)
- Faculty of Science: Professor Chris Jarrold (C.Jarrold@bristol.ac.uk)
- Faculty of Social Sciences & Law: Professor Paddy Ireland (Paddy.Ireland@bristol.ac.uk)

Students should ensure that project ideas are discussed with the potential co-supervisors at an early stage.

Application process

To apply, students must complete and return the attached application form. The form must be signed by the two academic members of staff prepared to co-supervise the project if the application is successful.

Any general queries about applying to the scheme should be emailed to the Interdisciplinary Internships Mailbox (interdisciplinary-internships@bristol.ac.uk).

Selection criteria

Applications will be reviewed by members of the University Research Committee. The Committee will base its judgement on the academic merit of the applicant and the research proposal and will also consider the extent to which the research project will potentially act as a catalyst to promote new interdisciplinary research at the University.

Final agreement of research project

Following the announcement of the award, successful applicants must explicitly agree the final project with both of their co-supervisors, and a copy of the final project plan must be sent to the University Research Committee as sponsors.

Report

In the autumn term 2015, successful applicants will be asked for a brief project report for University Research Committee.

Timetable

Deadline for submission of application forms:	Friday 13 February 2015
Review and selection of projects by University Research Committee:	Thursday 5 March 2015
Agree final project plan:	Friday 27 March 2013
Interdisciplinary research project (4 to 10 weeks duration – see above):	Summer vacation 2015
Project report for University Research Committee:	Autumn term 2015