

Research Experience Program (REP)

<http://www.servicelearning.ku.edu/rep.shtml>

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The Research Experience Program (REP) is one of three undergraduate certificate programs at KU aimed at providing official recognition of an identified experience on a student's academic transcript. REP provides KU students with a unique learning opportunity grounded in KU's role as a major national research university. Students earn REP through a combination of coursework and independent research. The REP is based on the premise that, as a major research university, the University of Kansas should provide learning opportunities grounded in a research tradition that is not found in smaller universities or liberal arts colleges. All students should be familiar with the research methods of their respective disciplines and should have opportunities to participate in research experiences with the faculty.

Successful completion of this program is noted by a stamp on the student's transcript.

STEPS TO CERTIFICATION

Students must complete two requirements for the research experience certification, which are *research competency* and an *independent research project*.

Research Competency

Choose either option A or option B to fulfill this competency.

Option A: Coursework

- Students must complete 3 research methods courses with a grade of C or better. Options include:

LING 307 Phonetics II
LING 314 Phonology II
LING 326 Syntax II
LING 416 Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition II
LING 420 Research Methods in Linguistics
LING 437 Psycholinguistics II
LING 440 Linguistic Data Processing
LING 441 Field Methods and Linguistic Description

Option B: Coursework + Research Experience

- Complete at least 2 of the research methods courses listed above with a grade of C or better
- Participate in a faculty-led research experience for at least one semester

Independent Research Project

Students must complete at least one semester of LING 490 Independent Study or Ling 496 Honors Essay in Linguistics, where they will pursue a research project under the mentoring of a Linguistics faculty. Each student's completed project must be shared with a wider audience. Options for sharing the research/creative project include:

- a. Presentation at the KU Undergraduate Research Symposium (occurs each Spring)
- b. Written thesis
- c. Presentation at a national meeting
- d. Submission of the paper as author/co-author for publication

Upon completion of these requirements, fill out the REP certification form (http://www.servicelearning.ku.edu/forms/REP_reg_form.pdf) with the Linguistics REP Coordinator (Dr. Fiorentino).

The REP is a more flexible program compared to the departmental Honors program. The departmental honors program has a set GPA requirement (3.50 in the major; 3.25 overall). The departmental honors program also requires completion of LING 496 (Honors Essay in Linguistics). The REP has no GPA requirement (although students must earn a C or better in the research/creative methods courses) and only requires a semester of research activity (LING 490 or LING 496). Thus, the REP may be more appropriate for students who do not meet the departmental honors program GPA requirements or those who have more restricted schedules.

Students are able to “double count” the research experience. That is, those completing the departmental honors program also meet the requirements for REP and can apply for REP certification. In addition, completion of REP or departmental honors can fulfill one of the six requirements of the University Honors Program.

Students interested in the REP should contact Robert Fiorentino (fiorentino@ku.edu, 864-4091) for more information.

Funding: It may be possible to obtain funding for your research/creative project or presentation of your research/creative project through one of the following:

1. Undergraduate Research Award (UGRA) – This program is administered through the University Honors Program and is open to all students. Applications are accepted each semester and consist of a 4-page research proposal and 2 letters of recommendation. Awards vary from \$500-\$1200. See <http://www.honors.ku.edu/research/ugra.shtml> for more information.
2. University Scholars Program – This program is administered through the University Honors Program and is open to all outstanding sophomores. Applications are accepted in the fall. Selected students complete a 3-hour seminar course and are paired with a faculty mentor to complete a research project. Students receive \$500 per semester for 5 semesters. See <http://www.honors.ku.edu/scholarships/universityscholars.shtml> for more information.
3. Programs for minority students – There are a number of different programs for minority students interested in pursuing research. Applications are typically accepted once per year for each program, and there is often a preference for enrolling students in the program early in their college careers. Thus, students are typically eligible to apply in their freshman or sophomore years. The programs include the Bioscience Initiative (<http://www2.ku.edu/~imsd/>); Haskell Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (http://www.haskell.edu/academic/art_sci/rise/RISEHOME.htm); and the Haskell BRIDGE Program (<http://www2.ku.edu/~bridge/>).
4. Undergraduate Research Assistantship (URA) – This program is administered through the KU Center for Research. Applications are accepted each semester. The program provides half the funding (maximum amount \$1250) for KU faculty members to employ undergraduate research assistants on research projects. See http://www.rgs.ku.edu/depts/training/ura_fund/ura_fund.shtml for more information.
5. J. Michael Young Opportunity Grant – This program is administered through the University Honors Program and is open to all students. Applications are accepted 5 times during the year to fund students (\$300) to travel to professional conferences or to travel to conduct research off-campus. See <http://www.honors.ku.edu/scholarships/jmyoung.shtml> for more information.