Welcome back to school!

Join us for our back-to-school newsletter and Fall 2020 semester updates!

In this issue:

01 Fall 2020 Events
02 Student Features
04 Center Updates
05 New Opportunities
Check out our Fall 2020 Program Info

FALL 2020 EVENTS

All events are VIRTUAL and will be available on Zoom at the following link:
https://albany.zoom.us/j/6822984478
with the Meeting ID 682 298 4478 and Password: CURCE2020

Intro to CURCE 9/3 5:00-6:00pm
Learn about the supports and services available to undergraduate students through CURCE!

International Grant Opportunities 9/23 4:00-5:00pm
Join us to learn about international funding opportunities or teaching English abroad!

CURCE Virtual Fall Fair Week 10/5-10/9
On our CURCE Blackboard Community
Join us online in our student favorite event - This year we are holding this event on the CURCE Blackboard Community Page!

Alumni Panel 10/29 7:00-8:00pm
Hear from recent UAlbany Alumni who have been a part of CURCE and how their experiences helped them achieve greatness after graduation!

Applying for Summer Research 11/17 7:30-8:30pm
Interested in applying for a summer research position? Join CURCE for an interactive virtual workshop on preparing for the application process.
What were your plans for Summer 2020?
Initially I planned to work as a lab technician and continue research as an undergraduate research assistant here on campus in the Polous Lab.

Did this change because of COVID-19?
Due to COVID-19 the campus closed and students were sent home so I was unable to be in the lab this summer.

Why did you apply to NSURP and what is your research project?
I applied to NSURP because I wanted to be able to expand my research skills from home and do something productive with my time. Right now I am currently working with the Meredith Lab, who study the effects to rain water harvesting on soil microbial communities at the University of Arizona. The project I am working on is using R (a coding language and environment for statistical computing and graphics) to analyze and visualize some of their data. After my project ends I do plan to continue working with the Meredith Lab in some capacity.

What has it been like doing virtual research?
Doing virtual research has been a very enjoyable experience. I have been able to pace my own learning and don’t need to leave my house, because I am doing data analysis and the only thing I need is my computer.

What resources have you used?
I have found that there are many resources available for my virtual research. R is a widely used tool in STEM research so there are many workshops, lectures, and websites available to help me learn and troubleshoot. One of the best resources for R that I have used has been StackOverflow. StackOverflow is a website where programmers post and answer questions about all types of computer programs. It is great for troubleshooting error messages I get in my code.

Any advice for students whose research plans have changed because of COVID-19?
My advice to anyone who has had their research opportunities disrupted by COVID-19 would be to continue learning. You don’t have to physically be in the lab to continue learning, the internet has many great tools for you to learn new things on your own!
Your podcast has intertwined two passions for you - folk music and history - did one lead you to another?

I’ve always been interested in history, and wondering what daily life may have been like for people who came before; it seems like life was simpler in many ways, but full of different hardships than we deal with today. And music has always been a big part of my life. It wasn’t until I came to SUNY Albany that I realized there is a career path for people like me who love music and history...musicology.... There is so much we can learn from studying what previous generations went through, more specifically through their artistic and creative outlets and inspirations.

What was the process for your research?

I started at the SUNY Albany library; although it might seem like Anglo-American folk balladry is a small sphere of study in the grand scheme of things, I was astonished at how many books our school has that covered different areas of knowledge within the topic!

Was this part of coursework at UAlbany?

This was a part of my coursework at Albany! I’m a Musicology major, and I felt really fortunate to be able to research the topics I’m passionate about by being able to set up multiple Independent Study courses here on campus.

How long did the process of research, writing, recording and editing your podcast take?

Two semesters! There weren’t many classes available that discussed the specific subjects I’m interested in—folk ballads from England, Scotland, and Ireland—so I was able to set up an Independent Study with the Music History Professor, Dr. Nancy Newman, in Fall of 2019 [and] another with Music Professor, Dr. Albin Zak, this past spring. At first I was going to culminate my research with a live performance....This seemed a daunting task, and at one point Professor Newman suggested turning my research into a podcast so that the work would be more accessible and widely available.... After classes went online due to COVID-19, I spent a few weeks writing out a script and organizing the research I had compiled... re-recording until I was satisfied with how it sounded. It took a few more weeks to edit all of the audio clips and rearrange them in a way that let the research flow. I think that was the hardest part: getting to a point where I felt like I was honoring each song I had chosen to focus on, and giving each topic within the podcast room to breathe within the podcast as a whole.
Check out our Blackboard Community Page

Enroll to stay up-to-date on CURCE events, funding announcements, and undergraduate research opportunities!

Check out our website for updates & new information
https://www.albany.edu/ugr

Enroll in the CURCE Community Blackboard Page

1. Log in to your UAlbany Blackboard account
2. In the upper right-hand corner, click “Community”
3. Find the “Organization Search” function, and search “CURCE”
4. Hover over our “Organization ID” labeled “NS-2020-Undergrad-Ed-Curce” and click “Enroll”
Senate & Assembly Opportunity

NYS INTERNSHIPS INFO SESSIONS

SENATE & ASSEMBLY

Sept. 16 4:30pm & Sept. 24 4:30pm

Join us via Zoom
Meeting ID: 682 298 4478
Password: CURCE2020

Stay up-to-date on the latest COVID-19 developments at the University here:
https://www.albany.edu/covid-19

Advertisements:

Applications accepted
SEPT. 7 - OCT. 16, 2020

NYS GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIPS

Receive a STIPEND and COURSE CREDIT while working in the POLITICAL realm

Senate:

Assembly: