Learning Objectives for Undergraduate Researchers

LUROP, the Loyola Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, aims to facilitate quality undergraduate research between students and mentors and to bring students into a community of scholars within their field. Here are some general learning objectives LUROP promotes for undergraduate researchers.

Through research, students should learn to be able to:

- articulate a clear research question or problem and formulate a hypothesis
- identify and demonstrate appropriate research methodologies and know when to use them
- define, articulate and use terminology, concepts, and theory in their field and know how to use them
- use library and other tools to search for existing body of research relevant to their topic
- know existing body of research relevant to their topic and explain how their project fits
- identify and practice research ethics and responsible conduct in research
- know and apply problem solving skills to constructively address research setbacks
- work collaboratively with other researchers, using listening and communication skills
- work autonomously in an effective manner, setting and meeting deadlines
- reflect on their own research, identifying lessons learned, strengths, and ways to improve
- communicate confidently and constructively with graduate students and faculty as mentors
- explain their research to others in the field and to broader audiences through research presentations
- articulate the relevance of their research to their coursework and professional future, synthesizing their research, academic, and professional interests and goals
- identify and describe what they could expect as a graduate student
- reflect constructively on their research experience in making decisions about their future, whether for grad school or the work force