CREATE-U
Combining Research Experience and Technical Electives for Undergraduates
WHY RESEARCH?

Because you like asking questions

Because you can learn how to find answers

Because you want to know more

Because you want to make a contribution to what we know
WHY CREATE-U?

A supportive environment and cohort approach to research

Courses that complement and support your work

Counts as two* technical electives + Co-op!

Broad based entrance (minimum GPA 76% in 200-level +)
WHAT CREATE-U LOOKS LIKE

**Application Process**
- Students apply and rank projects
- Pooled decisions
- Matching Process

**Summer Kickoff 3 weeks**
- Onboarding: welcome, safety
- Course 1: Research Skills Bootcamp

**Summer Session 12 weeks**
- Research project work term with honourarium
- Course 2: Research Communication
- Networking Events

**Dissemination 1 week**
- End of summer poster session
- Option: MURC
APPLY

November 23 – December 13

- 4 questions + unofficial transcript
- Project posting ranking

Minimum GPA - 76% average in 200-level and higher courses

Exception: GPA for students in Year 2 will include 100-level courses

What motivated you to apply for CREATE-U?

What is something you are (or have been) curious about? How have you explored this interest?

Describe a challenge you have faced - academically, professionally, or personally - and how you overcame it.

Describe a problem you had that did not have an obvious path to a solution. What did you do?
POOLED DECISIONS

8 spots available for summer 2021

Broad-based admission – GPA is 1/6 of score

Looking for indicators of research potential
- Direct experience not necessary
- How you solve problems, technical or otherwise
MATCHING PROCESS

Top applicant = 1st choice placement
2\textsuperscript{nd} place applicant = 1st choice placement unless same as top applicant, then 2\textsuperscript{nd} choice

etc.

After placements – informational interview
- Applicant or supervisor can decline if the match is a poor fit
MECH 410G RESEARCH SKILLS

Bootcamp format at start of summer - 3 hours / day for 3 weeks

By the end of this course, students should be able to:
• Explain how research is funded and disseminated
• Conduct a literature review
• Critically evaluate papers from the literature, including statistics
• Create a clearly defined and measurable research question
• Describe the purpose and structure of research conferences
• Explain how research structures (eg. funding, hiring) influence equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in research, and how this impacts the public
SUMMER MAIN SESSION – 13 WEEKS – RESEARCH WORK TERM

30 hours / week for 13 weeks

$6000 compensation

Research lab in UBC Mech
MECH 410H/550U RESEARCH COMMUNICATION

By the end of this course, students will be able to communicate their research through a variety of genres, in a way that is understandable, relevant, and persuasive to audiences of varied backgrounds. Specifically, students will present their research in the following forms:

- Narrative literature review that builds on work done in MECH 410G
- NSERC Outline of proposed research
- Extended research abstract
- Poster presentation, which can then be presented at the Multi-disciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference (MURC)
- Academic journal article (for 500-level only*)

* Students who meet the Faculty of Graduate Studies requirements can take this course at the 500 level
NETWORKING EVENTS AND MENTORSHIP

Graduate student mentor assigned to each student (typically working on the same or similar project)

Networking events for all students and mentors, and select faculty members
- Topics will vary
  - What a career in academia looks like
  - What an industry research career looks like
  - Communicating with your supervisor
  - What you do when you hit a research roadblock
TIMELINE

- Apply! November 23 – December 13
- Results Announced: January 6
- Informational interviews: early January
- CREATE-U Dates: May 3 – August 24, 2020
- + Poster Session (early September)
- MURC (optional): March 2022