



## Research project for NSF STEM Scholars

In coordination with your Faculty mentor or research advisor, design and conduct a research project that will be eligible to compete in the Skyway STEM poster competition.

- This is **strongly** encouraged for second year STEM scholars, highly recommended for others
- Timeline
  - **Summer** – propose ideas to faculty mentor or research advisor and develop research question
  - **First day of Fall semester** (August)– have research questions developed and begin to design research procedures. Enroll in IND200, 1 credit hour.
  - **Fall semester** – conduct research. This will probably take 10 to 15 hours of lab or experimentation time. You will likely have to do more than a single 3 to 4 hour session, depending upon your experiment and results. **PLAN ACCORDINGLY.** Intermediary deadlines in the Fall semester to be determined with consultation with faculty mentor or research advisor by the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the Fall semester. This is **STRONGLY** recommended to identify equipment or to purchase supplies that may be needed.
  - **End of Fall semester** – research is completed
  - **Intersession** – evaluate and interpret data
  - **Beginning of Spring semester** – start to develop conclusions and prepare poster for Skyway STEM competition. Enroll in IND200, 1 credit hour.
  - **Spring semester** – compete in Skyway STEM poster competition and write a 2 page summary of your research, your results discussion, and a reflection of the research project
- You may work in groups of 2 STEM scholars.
- Your research advisor may or may not be your faculty mentor, depending upon the scope of your research project.
- You may not use an Honors project as your research project.
- You will be asked to enroll in IND200, Independent Study for 1 credit, with your research advisor as the instructor. Registration for IND200 requires a separate form that you will complete with your faculty mentor or research advisor.
- If you complete the research by the end of the Fall semester, you will receive credit for the 2 on-campus events in the Fall semester, and you will not be required to give a presentation at a monthly meeting. Presenting at the Skyway STEM poster competition will count for the off-campus event for the Spring semester. **IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE YOUR RESEARCH BY THE END OF THE FALL SEMESTER, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND 4 ON-CAMPUS EVENTS IN THE SPRING SEMESTER, AND GIVE A PRESENTATION AT THE FEBRUARY STEM MEETING.**

Remember, that we may be able to identify resources for your research projects at FermiLab, Argonne National Labs or Roquette International.

If there are questions or issues not addressed by the above, please ask David Voorhees, Amy Del Medico, or Dani DuCharme. If you would like information about how to design an experiment, you may contact Nancy Christensen or Dan Ward.