



2017-2018 UGS Assessment Plan

General Information:

Unit	Center for Undergraduate Research
Unit Mission	The Center for Undergraduate Research seeks to transform undergraduate education through research. We do this by working with instructors and mentors to develop and promote curricula and models for mentoring; engaging and advising students in their development as researchers; and by providing campus-wide programs that celebrate undergraduate research at KU.
Unit Student Learning Outcomes	Students who utilize or interact with the programs and services offered by the Center for Undergraduate Research will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the steps to get involved with undergraduate research. (CLD 1) 2. Identify the steps of the research cycle. (CLD 1) 3. Articulate their research experiences to a broad variety of audiences. (CLD 6) 4. Develop expertise in relation to a specific research question through synthesis and analysis in accordance with the discipline-specific tools of that discipline. (CLD 1 & 2)

Program/Service Specifics:

Program/Service	Undergraduate Research Awards (UGRAs)
Description of Program/Service	UGRAs give students an \$1,000 award to pursue research and creative projects mentored by faculty or research staff.
Staff Contact(s)	Dyan Morgan dyan.morgan@ku.edu John Augusto jaugusto@ku.edu
Applicable Student Learning Outcome(s)	SLO #3 SLO #4
Criteria for Success	On average, students will score a "2" (i.e. good) or above on all rows of the rubric.
Direct or Indirect Assessment	Direct
Assessment Method	<u>Rubric</u> . Students will write a four page research proposal to apply. Proposals will be evaluated by Center staff and faculty reviewers who will use a standardized rubric. We have two rubrics for the UGRAs (one for research projects and one for creative projects) that were developed in conjunction with our Faculty Advisory Board several years ago. We will send out rubrics with each student proposal to our faculty reviewers and they will fill out one for each student proposal. Center staff will also read each proposal and fill

	out a rubric for each one. Center staff will then review the faculty and staff rubrics and comments to decide which students receive awards (between 40-50% of applicants has been typical) and email students a copy of their rubric and written feedback. Center staff will calculate and average scores for evaluation.
Population/Sample	All students who apply for the UGRA are evaluated in this way, which is around 150 students per year.
Timeline/Frequency	Two times; Fall 2017 & Spring 2018
Use to Inform Current Practice	We can use areas of student strengths and weaknesses to inform our website guidelines and workshops that we give to coach students on how to write their proposals. Results will be used to determine if reviewers need extra training or additional information needs to be added to the website/guidelines. Results will also inform decisions to revamp rubric categories.
Results Reporting	The results will be shared with the UGR staff (via meeting) as part of our regular evaluation and improvement. Information will also be shared with the Faculty Advisory Board if we find general patterns that might involve larger changes.

Program/Service	UNIV 101: Research Unit
Description of Program/Service	One day of the UNIV 101 class is dedicated to understanding the research cycle and exposing students to the idea that they could do research. There is a standard lesson plan that is incorporated into the Information Literacy unit that the Libraries coordinates. Students watch a video about the research cycle, follow some discussion guidelines, and instructors deliver a short powerpoint outlining the Center's services.
Staff Contact(s)	Nikki Perry nikkip@ku.edu John Augusto jaugusto@ku.edu
Applicable Student Learning Outcome(s)	SLO #2
Criteria for Success	On average, students will receive a proficient score (or better) on the rubric.
Direct or Indirect Assessment	Direct
Assessment Method	<u>Rubric</u> . The libraries administers an exam at the end of the Information Literacy unit. There will be one question that relates to the research cycle on this assessment that asks students to identify parts of the research cycle in a video that they watch of a faculty member talking about their research. Instructors will be charged with grading their own students' work, and will be provided with a rubric that includes a row on how to grade student answers related to the research cycle question. The OFYE and the Libraries collect this data, so we will look at their information for this one row on the rubric. Center staff will calculate and average scores for evaluation.
Population/Sample	The population will consist of approximately 800 students who are enrolled in UNIV 101.
Timeline/Frequency	One time; Fall 2017

Use to Inform Current Practice	The results will be used to check for instructor bias. The information will also be utilized to determine ways that the research unit for UNIV 101 can be revised.
Results Reporting	The results will be shared with the UGR staff during a staff meeting in Spring 2018. Information will also be shared with external partners including FYE, the libraries, and the UNIV 101 work group via a 1-page update letter.

Program/Service	Undergraduate Research Symposium
Description of Program/Service	The Center puts on a ½ day event where students give oral and poster research presentations. Students must submit abstracts to register to present, and they attend workshops to help prepare them for their presentations. The audience at this event is primarily other undergraduate students, so undergraduate researchers must learn to present to a general audience.
Staff Contact(s)	Nikki Perry nikkip@ku.edu Dyan Morgan dyan.morgan@ku.edu John Augusto jaugusto@ku.edu
Applicable Student Learning Outcome(s)	SLO #3
Criteria for Success	Students will score an average of at least 2 (i.e. intermediate) on the coded open-ended survey questions.
Direct or Indirect Assessment	Indirect
Assessment Method	<u>Survey (Open-Ended)</u> . The Center will send out a survey to all faculty mentor and student presenters following the event. There is an open-ended question on the survey that asks students to discuss what they learned in the workshops that they used in their presentation. The responses will be reviewed and scored: 1. beginner, 2. intermediate, or 3. expert. A coding system will be developed to specify the criteria for each level. This will involve outlining categories/sub-categories for responses and determining values for each. All data will be coded by the same individual to avoid issues with intercoder reliability. Coded scores will be tallied and averaged electronically.
Population/Sample	The population will consist of approximately 170 student presenters.
Timeline/Frequency	One time; Spring 2018
Use to Inform Current Practice	If students are not able to articulate how they used something from the workshops in their presentations, that may be an indication that we need to adjust what we are doing in those workshops. If students are able to articulate what they learned, we can look at what they found to be most useful and can make sure we are emphasizing that in the workshops.
Results Reporting	In Spring 2018, the center staff will hold a meeting about two weeks after the Symposium to do a de-brief and talk about any changes we might want to make for the following year. We look at the results of the survey every year as a team and make notes about possible adjustments to future years.