

BSURP Submission Guide

Thank you for your interest in *The BioScientific Undergraduate Research Publication (BSURP)*. It is a publication we, the Biology Students' Association, are establishing to act as a **prestige collection of research carried by Biological Sciences (BioSci) undergraduate students**. We especially want to highlight amazing research that's happening within our department but, aware that a lot of BioSci students take on research outside of our department, we are also accepting those types of projects in our publication.

To apply, you must fill out our submission template with an introduction of yourself and a summary of your research then submit it through our Google form. All these documents are found on our website at bsaucalgary.ca. The deadline to send in entries is **11:59 PM on Wednesday May 12th 2021**. In this document, we provide you guidance on how to fill out each section of the template and share what we are looking for in entries.

Here is a bit more information on our publication and its entries:

- Highlighted projects must have taken place between May 2020 and May 2021
- Your summary must be **2 pages max** (excluding the introduction to yourself and references)
- We currently plan on including **35 entries** in our publication
- We are reserving a specific space for projects in each BioSci program, related to how many students are in each
- Submissions will be **reviewed by graduate students**

Help us recognize the fantastic work happening in the BioSci department, or by BioSci undergraduates elsewhere, by submitting your research to be featured in our publication and helping spread the word about it! Please reach out at any time with any concerns or questions at contact@bsaucalgary.ca.

Template guidance

Overall, you are expected to write in a scientific manner including writing in third person. Please keep all the fonts, spacings and styles of the different parts of the document as they are. They should mostly be 12 points Arial with a single space between headers and their text and 1.15 line spacing in paragraphs. Again, the maximum length of the summary (excluding your introduction and the references) is 2 pages, the length of each section is up to you. Here is now a detailed guide on filling out each of those sections!

About the Researcher:

Include a nice photo of yourself if you wish, as a replacement for the orange rectangle. The top edge of your picture should be below the first line of your introduction. If you do not wish to have a picture of you in our publication, please remove the orange rectangle, center the text box to the middle of the page and make the text align to the center instead of the left.

Introduce yourself to the readers! Please mention your program, including double majors, combined degrees and, or, minors, and year of study. Share what interests you in your program, in research or any scientific topic that is of interest to you. Also share a bit about what you enjoy outside of science; hobbies, favourite TV shows or extracurricular involvements are examples of what you could include. Please also answer at least one of the following questions on your experience carrying this project. Please keep your introduction **between 150 and 170 words**.

Question bank for experience of project

- Why did you get involved in research?
- How does this research experience complement your future career goals?
- What resources would you suggest to students trying to get into research?
- What approaches would you suggest to students trying to get into research?
- What was your main takeaway from doing this project?
- What did you learn from doing this project?
- What do you wish you knew before starting this project? (What is an advice you would give to someone looking to get started on a research project?)
- What is something you'll take with you from your experience with this project?
- What did you enjoy the most about carrying this project?
- Did carrying this project instigate or expand an interest of yours?
- What did you learn about yourself doing this project?
- In what area did you grow the most doing this project?

- What was the most difficult aspect of your project? (optional addition: How would you suggest others go about it/what did you learn around handling it? or What did you learn from it?)
- What surprised you doing this project?
- What significance does this project have to you as a researcher?

Title of project:

Any title you would like to be displayed. In **'Sentence case'**, not **'Title Case'**, and having a **maximum length of two lines**.

Type of project: 507, 528, 530, Summer project, Year-long project (outside of credits) or Semester-long project (outside of credits)

* 'outside of credits' is not a side note for you, please do copy-paste that as part of the type of project

* if you did a 507, 528 or 530 in the summer, denote it as that, not 'Summer project'

Supervisor(s): Dr. [First name] [Last name] and Dr. [First name] [Last name] (co-supervisor)

Department (only for research external of Biological Sciences): [Name of department of your principal investigator], [Its faculty]

Background

Please provide brief background on your project: a bit on what is known about your topic and what is trying to be figured out, including why it matters. Outline what your objective(s)/research question(s) were (ideally not by bluntly saying "Our research question was...").

Methods

Outline what methods were used to achieve your objectives/answer your research questions.

Results

Summarize the data obtained from each part of your project (you may stick to the most important portions of your project for the sake of the page limit). You may include tables and figures if you wish, with short captions above or below respectively. If you do, please still include text that covers the main points or trends observed from them.

Styling for the captions:

- Start with **"Figure #."** or **"Table #."** bolded

- 11 points Arial
- Single spaced

Significance

Discuss your results and their implications. Please answer the first question and feel free to use any of the other questions to guide a further discussion on your findings.

What does each of your results mean in regards to your objective(s)/research question(s) it concerns?

What are the implications of your findings? (narrow and/or broader)

What other questions come to mind in light of your findings?

What are the real-world applications of your research?

How novel is your work?

What were surprising findings?

References

Please do your in-text and list of references in **APA 7th edition** format. A resource on that style can be found at the link below.

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html

Where to find more on the project? (optional)

Here you can provide links to web pages on your project, including social media posts if you wish and more importantly, **links to your full project write-up if available.**

Please **remove this section** if you do not put anything in it.

The ideal entry

Here is what we're looking for in entries to be included in our publication:

- Interesting background
- Important research question(s)/objective(s)
- Clear layout of methods
- Results section covers the outcome of each method listed
- Statistical analysis is shared when appropriate (or at least, whether or not differences are statistically significant is outlined)
- Insightful discussion of results
- Nice grammar and flow



All the best preparing your submission! Again, feel free to reach out to us at anytime at contact@bsaucalgary.ca.