The Office for Undergraduate Research (OUR) was established in 1999 to expand the opportunities for undergraduates at Carolina to engage in innovative research, mentored scholarship, and creative performance. It seeks to make research a distinctive feature of the undergraduate educational experience at this vibrant research university. By engaging in research, students learn how discoveries are made and become well prepared to address the unsolved problems of the future. The office is located in 220 Graham Memorial and is a part of the Johnston Center for Undergraduate Excellence.

All undergraduates are invited to register for the Carolina Research Scholar Program (CRSP). Requirements for CRSP include

1. Completion of one (1) of the following courses:
   a. IDST 184 Research beyond Academia
   b. IDST 194 Modes of Inquiry
   c. One (1) research-methods course
   d. One (1) research-exposure course

2. Completion of two (2) research-intensive courses (or a total of 6 credits) OR one of the following options:
   a. One (1) research-intensive course (or a total of 3 credits) AND 150 hours of mentored research (equivalent of one semester at 10 hours per week)
   b. 300 hours of mentored research (equivalent of two semesters at 10 hours per week)

3. Attendance at two (2) CRSP workshops (e.g., getting started in research, research ethics, literature/database searches, citation/reference management software, digital media, etc.)

4. Presentation at the UNC–Chapel Hill Celebration of Undergraduate Research, a campus conference that is open to the public, or a professional conference.

All courses require a grade of C or better with the exception of IDST 184 and IDST 194 (Pass/Fail).

Participants who complete these requirements receive official University recognition on their transcripts for their contributions to undergraduate research.

The OUR maintains several searchable databases. These include listings of research methods courses, research-intensive courses in which over half of class time is devoted to students’ conducting original research and presenting research conclusions, and research-exposure courses that provide students with research experiences guided by Graduate Research Consultants (GRCs). The OUR sponsors the Celebration of Undergraduate Research each spring, allowing students to present their results to the campus and community. In addition, OUR offers opportunities for undergraduate students to apply for Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURFs) and for travel awards to present their research at professional meetings.