

# Engaging Undergraduates in RESEARCH and INQUIRY: A Scholarly Dialogue

## Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)

Project 1: Multiculturalism, social judgments and decisions

Project 2: Corporate Reputation & International Relations

### Course Instructor/Project leader

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## Project/Course Objectives

The research projects aim to:

- (1) enhance students' critical thinking ability,
- (2) provide students with in-depth knowledge about social sciences and business studies research,
- (3) equip students with hands-on research experiences,
- (4) prepare students to pursue post-graduate education.

## Inquiry Based Learning Activities

- Students completed a thorough literature review in the first semester by evaluating the existing literature critically, synthesize existing literature, and proposing an integrative idea.
- Students presented their literature review summary in front of their peers to receive feedback and completed a written final report at the end of the first semester.
- During the second semester, students carried out the research projects including designing questionnaire and experiments, piloting testing study materials, facilitating data collection, processing and coding data.



## How did you assess the effectiveness of students' learning?

Students' learning outcomes were assessed by several components:

- (1) Presentation—Content e.g. clarity, ability in analyzing the literature and integrating research ideas and overall structure.
- (2) Final report—Content, overall structure, and writing.
- (3) Research operation performance—Coding reliability, data processing, survey construction, and critical evaluation of research ideas and research designs.

## What were the major outcomes of this project/course? Do they match with your objectives?

The research projects enhanced students' critical thinking ability and provided students with an in-depth knowledge about social sciences and business studies research.

Students have gained a better understanding about research work and acquired basic research skills, which helped to prepare them for post-graduate education.

All of the senior UROP students have applied for post-graduate programs in areas such as psychology, public policy, and economics.