

RICE UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM (RUSP) (HONS 470/471)

Applications are now being taken for the Rice Undergraduate Scholars Program (RUSP) for the 2008-2009 academic year.

For further information and an application form, please consult the RUSP web page: <http://www.owl.net.rice.edu/~hons470/>

RUSP is designed for juniors or seniors from any department who are considering graduate school and/or academic careers. Each student accepted into the program undertakes an independent research project mentored by a faculty member chosen by the student. Research grants in the range \$250-\$1,700 per year are awarded to help pay the costs of RUSP projects. Many students attend a professional conference and present a paper.

During the first semester (3 credits), each student writes a funding proposal, prepares oral and written progress reports and begins work on the research project. Weekly class meetings deal with a variety of topics related to research and scholarship. In the second semester, (variable credit, usually 3-6 credits), students focus on research/writing and present their results orally and in the form of a scholarly paper.

The RUSP faculty coordinators are:

Don Johnson	ECE	(dhj@rice.edu)	x4956
Lora Wildenthal	History	(wildenth@rice.edu)	x3526

The RUSP web site includes information about applying for the 2008-2009 program. It also contains a FAQ list and the names and email addresses of current RUSP students. Please feel free to contact any of the faculty coordinators or current students.

Application deadline: April 2, 2008

**Application for 2008-2009 Academic Year
Rice Undergraduate Scholars Program (RUSP)
HONORS 470 (Fall, 3 credits)
HONORS 471 (Spring, variable credit)**

RUSP differs from other Honors programs in that participants are from many different departments across the University. The students receive funding and are provided an excellent opportunity to learn about academic careers. As might be anticipated for an Honors program, the participants must display significant motivation for research/scholarship and identify a mentor to provide the guidance necessary to undertake their specific project.

The application consists of five sections. Since admission to the program requires a faculty mentor, the faculty person who agrees to provide direction for the project must sign the bottoms of the pages for the first three sections. Applications should be submitted to

Dr. Don Johnson
Mail Stop 380
Duncan Hall 2041
email: dhj@rice.edu

(Note: You are encouraged to submit your application as an email attachment to the above email address. Your faculty mentor can send his/her endorsement by email also).

DEADLINE: April 2, 2008

Section 1: Student and Faculty Information

Student's Name _____ Rice ID: _____

College _____

Local Mailing Address _____

E-mail address _____

Expected Standing in This Coming Fall (Junior, Senior, 5th year) _____

Major(s) _____

Faculty Research Advisor's Name/Department/Extension/E-mail Address

Section 2: Research Prospectus (REQUIRES commitment of faculty to direct your research). Provide a brief summary of your prospective research project and a brief account of anticipated funding needs (including potential travel for a conference or collecting materials). Please have your proposed mentor sign the bottom of this page to indicate agreement to undertake supervision of this project or contact us by email indicating his/her willingness to supervise your project. [You will not be strictly held to this project description. Your ideas, and your advisor's ideas may evolve between the time you submit your application and when you actually take up the research. All we ask is that you clear any major departures in direction with both your faculty advisor and the RUSP faculty coordinators].

Signature of Faculty advisor for project _____
(If you are submitting by email, ask your faculty advisor to send an email indicating her/his willingness to supervise this project to dhj@rice.edu).

Date _____

Section 3: Statement of Interest in RUSP and in research. Please provide a brief statement (< 1 page) detailing your interest in the Rice Undergraduate Scholars Program, emphasizing how you expect the program to facilitate your decisions regarding future endeavors.

Section 4: Attach a resume that summarizes your accomplishments and reflects the activities in which you have participated. (OK to send by email)

Section 5: Attach a copy of your unofficial Rice transcript. (If you are submitting your application by email, send a copy of your transcript to Don Johnson at MS380, with an explanatory note. An unofficial transcript is OK).