

LRDC Learning Sciences Research Experiences for Undergraduates



About Us

The mission of the Learning Research and Development Center (LRDC) at the University of Pittsburgh is to advance the science of learning by bringing together leading researchers in the cognitive, social, and educational sciences. This mission has guided LRDC in its programs of basic and applied research, its demonstration projects, and its direct support of school improvement and reform.

REU Program

The Learning Research and Development Center (LRDC) at the University of Pittsburgh is seeking undergraduate students to promote interdisciplinary training in the Learning Sciences. See next page for details.

WHO WE ARE

We aim to train students at LRDC to conduct leading edge research at the forefront of the learning sciences (research on instruction and learning). Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) students will gain experience in the learning sciences by working on a project with a faculty member who specializes in this area. Students may also work with advanced graduate students or postdoctoral fellows in the faculty members' labs. Students will contribute their perspectives, questions, and approaches, which will impact the work beyond the course of the summer experience.

LRDC faculty have primary appointments in the Department of Psychology, and the Schools of Education, Law, and Computing and Information. For a list of potential faculty mentors and research topics, see:

<https://www.lrdc.pitt.edu/learningsciencesreu/mentors>

This program is most appropriate for students who will be entering the second year of undergraduate study, but third or fourth year is possible also.

Email questions to the intern program co-directors, Timothy Nokes-Malach, Scott Fraundorf, Diana Leyva, and Natasha Tokowicz, at LRDCREU@pitt.edu. Application deadline is 2/8/26 and should be completed at the following website:
<https://etap.nsf.gov/award/8302/opportunity/11401>.

Applicants will be informed of the decision on or around 2/18/26.

OUR PROGRAM

The program includes professional development seminars and will provide valuable experience for students who intend to apply for graduate programs in the learning sciences. We especially welcome applications from students who are interested in applying to one of our PhD programs.

The REU program will run from June 1 - July 31, 2026. Travel funding, a stipend, and on-campus housing will be provided. Students will be expected to devote up to 37.5 hours/week to the position.

Eligibility requirements: Students should have a primary field of study in an area relevant to the learning sciences. GPA should be over 3.0; however, promise can be demonstrated through other means, such as student background, research experience, the required letters of recommendation, etc.

To be eligible, you must be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. The University of Pittsburgh is an equal opportunity employer.

