

Research Experience Reflections 1: Entering Research?

Advanced Undergraduate Trainee Materials

Learning Objectives

Trainees will:

- Explore realistic expectations for working in a research group.
- Self-evaluate their readiness for graduate research.

Outline your expectations for your graduate training experience by writing brief answers to the following questions. Once you've answered all of the questions, pair with someone in the group to share.

1. Why do you want to do research and earn a graduate degree?
2. What specific goals do you hope to achieve with your graduate research?
3. What are your expectations of working with a research team? Please list them below.
4. What do you think will be expected of you as a graduate student conducting research as part of a thesis advisor's research team? Please list them below.
5. What contributions will you bring to your research team?
6. What is your greatest concern, and what are you excited the most about?
7. Explain your understanding of the scientific process as you see it today. How does a scientist approach a research question?
8. What do you think are important abilities/skills for an individual to have to be able to conduct research at the graduate level?
9. Which of those abilities/skills do you have?
10. Which of those abilities/skills do you lack? What can you do to develop the abilities that you think you may lack?