HS RESEARCH INITIATIVE
DUAL ENROLLMENT

At UT Austin’s College of Natural Sciences, students dive into scientific research right from the start through our Freshman Research Initiative (FRI). Now, high school students can do the same. The pioneering High School Research Initiative (HRI) gives high school students the opportunity to initiate and engage in real-world research experience with faculty and graduate students at The University of Texas. HRI is a dual enrollment course where high school students receive college credit for NSC 309 (HRI-Research Methods) and high school credit for SRD (Scientific Research & Design PEIMS: 8716.H).

The idea for the High School Research Initiative came from a partnership between UTeach and the Freshman Research Initiative, both of which have become national models for science education. FRI students are more likely to stay in college, complete science and math degrees, and graduate better prepared to pursue advanced degrees or jobs in industry.

Like the freshmen in FRI, students in the HRI are engaged in authentic student-driven research, a cornerstone of project-based learning. In the first semester students develop two of their own research projects and in the second semester students are paired with University research educators to work on projects related to current University research. Teachers are prepared to teach this exciting unique course through detailed curriculum and a three-week professional development program in the summer.

The first two weeks are familiarization with the curriculum and the Canvas platform. The third week is hands-on-experience in the research laboratories.

"It was one of the best PD’s I’ve had as a science educator, because this is what I’ve been wanting to do with my students, but didn’t know how to approach it, especially while teaching content."

Jennifer Giannou-Moore, Austin High School

Information Tours / Q&A sessions are Oct. 8, 2018 11:30 am - 3:00 pm (CPE available)

Professional Development is June, 2019 at UT.

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