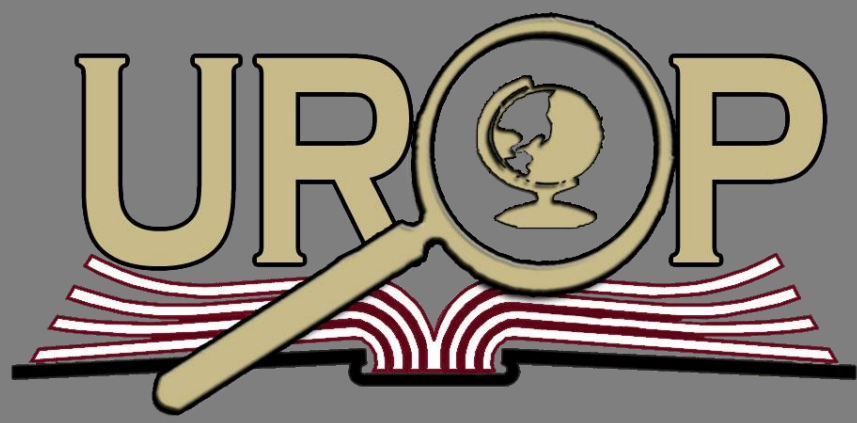




# UROOP Leaders 2018-2019



Florida State University  
Center for Undergraduate Research and Academic Engagement  
Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program



## 2018-2019 UROP Leaders

Alex Adams  
David Advent  
Luis Andrarde  
Cara Axelrod  
Aidan Barbato  
Giovanni Beltran  
Sierra Biastre  
Jessica Bissey  
Linnea Blackmore  
Richard Brito  
Vanessa Burden  
Travis Burhart  
Ayanna Camara  
Rebekah Cammuse  
Allison Cantrell  
Sergio Carlos Tamez  
Shayna Cohen  
Elizabeth Dash  
Ashley Dawdy  
Caroline Deyoe  
Tiffany Efanayi

Alexis Federico  
Jessica Folsom  
Alejandra Gancedo  
Morgan Gibson  
Ravital Goldgof  
Jacob Goldstein-  
Greenwood  
Julia Gorday  
Anna Hale  
Arria Hauldin  
Noah Hertz  
Maiya Hinton  
Megan Hoadley  
Anna Jara  
Lea Lafrance  
Reef Landrum  
Serena LeMand  
Paige Levanti  
Gabriela Maduro  
Sierra Maguire  
Brendan Manor

Lauren McGarry  
Kimberlee McMillin  
Grace Michaels  
Elsie Michel  
Ashley Moses  
Selina Nevin  
Grace Nystrom  
Brandon Osowski  
Allison Overholt  
Emma Rodriguez  
Alyssa Rogers  
Ian Schlander  
Michela Sieman  
Federico Simon  
Courtney Simoncelli  
Cara Steinberg  
Anastasia Stichter  
Gemma Sunnergren  
Kayla Wagler  
Sarah Warren

Some responses have been edited for length and/or clarity.

## Alex Adams



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Political Science and Spanish

**Research Project:**

I'm currently conducting research on economic mobility and American voter values, particularly individualism

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP made me feel like research was something I could do. Before I got to FSU, I did not have much exposure to research, and thought that it was something only graduate students and professors did. UROP showed me that I could also do research and contribute to the knowledge base of my discipline.

## David Advent



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** English Literature and International Affairs

**Research Project:**

Currently, I am conducting my Honors in the Major Thesis concerning dialectic constructions of spatio-temporal frameworks in Thomas Hardy's novels. Essentially, the thesis looks at how space and time, at an intersection with geographic landscapes, influence characters' self-understanding.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP leader?**

I hope to instill within my students the same love of research that I had after completing UROP. Research is such a wonderful opportunity that allows you to explore something you love while simultaneously gaining valuable communication, inter-personal, and time-management skills. I hope that my students will have a better understanding of how research has impacted them and of themselves.

## Luis Andrade



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Biology  
**Minor:** Chemistry

**Research Project:**

I am currently working with Dr. Glueckauf in the College of Medicine in research involving treatment fidelity for the ACTS 2 program.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP was my segway into research at FSU and it has been a highly enjoyable journey ever since; I wish I would have been able to take it my 1st year instead of my 2nd since it has opened a wide variety of opportunities ever since and made all my classes seem much more meaningful.

## Cara Axelrod



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** SAS Programming & Data Analysis, Leadership Studies

**Research Project:**

I am currently doing research in the Department of Psychology where I study newlyweds, communication styles, and relationship satisfaction within the first three years of marriage, as well as structural repetition effects I question answering.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

As a UROP Leader, I hope to help students find their "why" within their field and their FSU experience. I want to help them discover the same love for learning and academia that I did in my time as a first-year student in UROP.

## Aidan Barbato



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Biology and Psychology

**Minor:** Chemistry

**Research Project:**

I am currently involved in biomedical sciences research.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to encourage young students to go beyond the scope of the classroom setting and believe in themselves to make a difference on campus.

## Giovanni Beltran



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Family and Child Sciences

**Minor:** Psychology

**Research Project:**

I am currently involved in research on family and child development.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has shown me the ins and outs of working within the FSU research community. I have worked alongside great research mentors gaining real research experience, as well as implementing my own research endeavors.

## Sierra Biastre



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Exercise

Physiology

**Minor:** Biology and

Chemistry

**Research Project:**

Sierra conducts research in the Department of Food, Nutrition, and Exercise Physiology with Dr. Arjmandi who's focus is in functional foods and their role in the treatment and prevention of chronic conditions and diseases including pre-diabetes, type-II diabetes mellitus, metabolic syndrome, and osteopenia.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to instill an interest in and appreciation for research in my students. I hope to expose them to aspects of research that they did not previously consider. I hope to help them understand the importance of research and how it can play a role in their future career.

## Jessica Bissey



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Economics

**Minor:** International

Affairs and Political

Science

**Research Project:**

My current research is in the Art Education Department. We are studying why individuals dedicate their time to projects without being monetarily compensated.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has given me the opportunity to connect with other individuals, present at multiple conferences and expand my knowledge of the world. I have experienced different areas of FSU that I would not have had the opportunity to experience without the doors that UROP opens for students. My time at FSU is so much more valuable to me as a student because of my time spent in the UROP program.

## Linnea Blackmore



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** International

Affairs and Political

Science

**Minor:** Political

Philosophy

**Research Project:**

I am currently involved in European politics and human rights research.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope that they will learn a lot about opportunities at FSU and continue to do research regardless of profession or grad schools intentions.

## Richard Brito



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Child Development

**Research Project:**

I work for the College of Social Work in investigating trauma and resilience.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to inspire, guide, and motivate them through this journey they are about to embark on. I hope to be a helping hand to any of my students that ever need my help.

## Vanessa Burden



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Literature

**Minor:** Business

**Research Project:**

I am not currently performing research, however, my current focus is to monitor my mentor's work to continue my interest and participation in the project as he has just transitioned to Duke University.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has increased my involvement with FSU organizations by allowing me the opportunity to network within a social and academic setting.

## Travis Burhart



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Environment and Society

**Minor:** Leadership Studies and English

**Research Project:**

I'm exploring storytelling in outdoor leadership education. My current project focuses on interviewing and collecting stories from field faculty at the National Outdoor Leadership School. While it has a creative component, the work also probes how faculty experiences can shape and refine course the School's course curriculum and instructor facilitation.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP served as the springboard for my great interest in research. Even though I branched off from my original project, I am just as excited about research and have found the niche area that I hope to focus on.

## Ayanna Camara



**Class of 2019**  
**Major:** Political Science and History

**Research Project:**  
After my work with Dr. Jesse Klein, who used to be a part of the Sociology department, I plan on either pursuing a honors in my history major or doing a DIS.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**  
Had it not been for UROP, I would not have discovered my passion for human rights, as my research focused primarily on the sociology behind the depiction of gender in comics. I am now aware of what I want to pursue (international human rights), if I am to attend law school. I am now aware that research gives us the opportunity to share our ideas, messages, and passions with society.

## Rebekah Cammuse



**Class of 2019**  
**Major:** Management and Information Systems  
**Minor:** Business Analytics

**Research Project:**  
Through the help of the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce, I collected data to understand how Tallahassee compares to Shapiro's criteria of a university city. By understanding how Tallahassee compares to other university cities, the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce is able to promote policies to enhance our overall economic, social, and political climate.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**  
Throughout my experience at FSU, I have worked with many mentors who have guided me on a path to success both in my academics and in my personal life. Entering a major university can be overwhelming so my goal is to help UROP students find the opportunities that are best suited to their personal needs and interests.

## Allison Cantrell



**Class of 2019**  
**Major:** International Affairs and Economics  
**Minor:** Law in Philosophy

**Research Project:**  
I currently conduct research on International Economics.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
It has introduced me to the world of research and helped me find a way to make the world a better place through my field!

## Sergio Carlos Tamez



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** History and Classics

**Research Project:**

I am currently participating in research in both history and classics.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has introduced me to the research community at FSU . It was the springboard for my involvement in classics research

## Shayna Cohen



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Economics and Actuarial Science

**Minor:** English, Political Science, Business, Mathematics

**Research Project:**

I am currently narrowing the topic down for my Honors Thesis. I would like to conduct a project within the field of Economics. Currently, I am looking to apply economic models/theories to the structure of homeless shelters in order to find a way to utilize resources more efficiently and maximize the benefit of shelters for those who need them.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to be a mentor to my students as a UROP Leader. I want them to learn a lot from me throughout the year, and feel comfortable coming to me to share their problems and excitement as they begin their journeys through research.

## Elizabeth Dash



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Political Science and Communications

**Minor:** Business

**Research Project:**

I am currently conducting research in the College of Communication and Science Disorders.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

If it weren't for UROP I would probably not have chosen my Second major. It has given me the opportunity to grow as an individual.



## Ashley Dawdy



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Marine Biology

**Minor:** Chemistry and Environment and Society

**Research Project:**

My current research focus is elasmobranch ecology. My current project involves tracking bull sharks in Apalachicola Bay to see how their spatial use changes with fluctuating tidal cycle and river flow rate.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

Participating in UROP during my first year at FSU really opened the door to undergraduate research for me. I learned the in's and out's of being part of a laboratory group, became comfortable communicating with faculty and staff, and was also able to narrow my focus of interests during the process. Building on my UROP experience has allowed me to end up where I am today, working on an honors thesis that I am incredibly passionate about.

## Carlonie Deyoe



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Food and Nutrition Science

**Minor:** Chemistry and Biology

**Research Project:**

I worked in an Exercise Physiology Lab with Dr. Hwang in the Biomedical Research Facility researching the role of the p62 protein in oxidative stress induced heart failure.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

Engaging in research is extremely beneficial because it fosters curiosity and exposes students to topics they might realize they are passionate about. I hope to help my students explore questions and find new interests. Fostering this curiosity will strengthen my students' minds by opening them up to new ideas. I also hope to help them develop research skills as well as problem solving skills that they will utilize throughout their academic and professional career. I want to be a mentor that they can look up to and a mentor they can relate to.

## Tiffany Efanayi

**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Business Marketing and Management Information Systems

**Research Project:**

I have worked as a research assistant under the College of Business. The research consisted of evaluating the retention rate of Executives within companies during CBA's (Cross Border Acquisitions), and the effect on company performance.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I want to ensure they make the most of this opportunity. UROP provides the opportunity for students to have a firsthand experience in research. I like to think of UROP as the starting point for many students, as it can open so many doors as far as conducting further research or even taking on their own projects. I hope to be a point of contact to help each of my students reach their full potential, and to even begin to think bigger.

Alexis Federico



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Child Development

**Research Project:**

I am currently completing research through the Autism Institute here in Tallahassee. My research is focused on looking at emotional regulation in toddlers with and without Autism Spectrum Disorder.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

As a UROP Leader, I hope to make my students excited about research. Beyond that, I hope to equip them with the skills to feel confident in any research field and to continue research throughout their time at FSU.

Jessica Folsom



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Biology and Psychology

**Research Project:**

I research channels in the smooth muscle of cerebral and uterine arteries. Specifically, we looked at the expression of proteins in the BK potassium channel under several conditions such as traumatic brain injuries and various points in hormone cycles. These particular proteins play an important role in arterial contractility, so this research could provide insight into medical treatments for conditions affected by blood pressure.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

My time in UROP was very beneficial to me and helped me realize how many research opportunities are available to undergraduates at FSU. My hope is that after completing this program, my students will have the knowledge and skills they need to continue their research experience beyond UROP.

Alejandra Gancedo



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Political Science and English Literature

**Research Project:**

My current research focus is within the Department of Management.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to affect my students positively, so that they gain new knowledge and an appreciation for research and the benefits it will have for them in the long run. My goal is to aid my students in any way that I can, ensuring that they succeed and prosper throughout the course. I want my students to garner the tools necessary to achieve success in the research arena.

## Morgan Gibson



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Criminology and Psychology

**Research Project:**

My current research focus is on recidivism rates in prisons and women and solitary confinement.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has brought me closer to a community of research-oriented people that share the same love for knowledge that I do. I hope to extend the same to my UROP students.

## Ravital Goldgof



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** French and Political Science

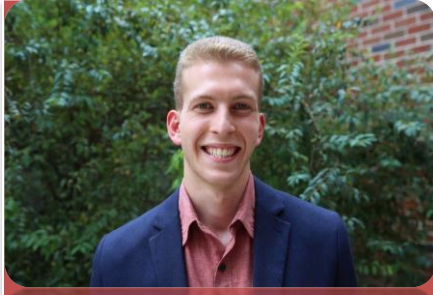
**Research Project:**

I am currently working on an honors thesis that focuses on the myth of Phaedra in four different retellings, which span over hundreds of years and four very distinct cultural backgrounds. I am tracking the mention of free will, destiny and certain emotions over the four works to learn more about the nature of retellings.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

My UROP experience taught me to embrace my love of language, despite others telling me of "more practical" majors. I hope to inspire my students to embrace their authentic passions, whatever they may be.

## Jacob Goldstein-Greenwood



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Statistics, Mathematics, and French

**Research Project:** I am currently conducting research with Dr. Paul Conway in Moral Psychology.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope that they become careful methodologists. Especially in the social sciences, strong experimental designs, high-powered studies, and careful analyses are critical!

Julia Gorday



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Psychology and Classical Civilizations

**Minor:** Anthropology and Child Development

**Research Project:** My current research focus is on the development and maintenance of anxiety and suicide. I currently work as a lab coordinator in Dr. Meyer's lab and a research assistant in Dr. Joiner's lab.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

UROP has introduced me to a community of undergraduate research and opportunities that have helped me grow and develop as a researcher. The community of peers that UROP has welcomed me to has been inspirational and has been a great place for ideas and research interests to flourish. UROP has also provided me with an amazing mentor that has taught me all about research beyond UROP such as applying to present at conferences and for my own research grants.

Anna Hale

**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Finance

**Minor:** Economics

**Research Project:**

I am currently conducting research on leadership and identity within the Department of Management.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has connected me with a larger network within my field of interest through my assistantship. I have also gained the confidence to be a leader, which is something I never expected from research and UROP. Going forward, I will be able to apply the knowledge, skills, time management, and confidence I gained from UROP to the rest of my time at FSU and after graduation.

Arria Hauldin



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Anthropology and Sociology

**Research Project:**

I am currently researching social trends in young adults who identify as LGBTQIA+.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I want students to know that they are not alone and that I am there for them because there were times where I felt alone in my UROP colloquium and I want them to feel like they can come to me if they need to.

Noah Hertz



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Political Science and International Affairs

**Research Project:**

I am currently conducting research in History on World War II and the Holocaust.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

It has helped me branch out into new areas of study that I find interesting. It has also pushed me to do something that I was entirely unfamiliar with.

Maiya Hinton

**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Management and Information Systems

**Research Project:**

After completing UROP my sophomore year, I do not have any current research focus for the future. I am currently thinking about doing the Honor Thesis my senior year because I think it would be a great experience.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope as being an UROP Leader I add to the student's UROP experience. I want my students to enjoy UROP as much as I did and want to help make their UROP experience as best as it can be.

Megan Hoadley



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Pre-Biochemistry

**Research Project:**

I am in the process of transitioning my research focus.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope for students to be able to leave the experience feeling as if they know more about the research process and how to get involved on campus. I hope that they can take the skills that they learn and apply them, to help further themselves in their own academic and research related endeavors.

Anna Jara



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Spanish

**Research Project:**

My current research focus is on neurodevelopmental and anxiety disorders.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

As a UROP Leader, I want to make the research process feel less intimidating and more exciting. I hope to give other students a chance to explore the world of research and discover what they're passionate about.

Lea Lafrance



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Family and Child Sciences

**Minor:** Education

**Research Project:**

I am currently assisting in research in the School of Communication Science and Disorders, examining the longitudinal growth of preschool children's language skills and content through comparison of narrative feedback collected at the end of each school year.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

As a UROP Leader, I hope to inspire and provide an environment for learning, curiosity and creativity for my students to grow into the best version of themselves and be successful in research as well as personal skills during their time at FSU. I hope to be one stepping stone in the journey of my students' lives, providing guidance, being relatable, and serving as a positive mentor.

Reef Landrum



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Physical Science and Political Science

**Minor:** Mathematics and Biology

**Research Project:**

I conduct research in political science. I am currently in between projects.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to introduce my UROP students to the opportunities that undergraduate research brings and help them to develop as both upcoming researchers and college students in a changing world. UROP showed me that even college freshmen can have an important role in new research, and I want others to have that same experience.

## Serena LaMand

**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Marketing

**Minor:** MIS - Analytics

**Research Project:**

I am currently conducting research in Marketing.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has taught me about how to conduct research and has given me the confidence to reach out to professors for DIS and for internships. Without UROP, I would never have learned about the amazing opportunities that FSU has to offer, such as DIS, SCURC, and endless grants. UROP has taught me that research is not just for STEM majors, but for ALL majors, and I feel privileged to have the chance to teach my students what I have learned!

## Paige Levanti



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** International Affairs (Certificate in Emergency Management and Homeland Security)

**Minor:** Economics

**Research Project:**

I am currently working with the Emergency Management Program coding and analyzing UAS (drone) images and video collected after Hurricane Irma. FSU response teams conducted building and infrastructure damage assessments in Collier County and the data must be cleaned and organized prior to being published.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP was my first experience with research at the university level and the connections I made through the program have helped me throughout my collegiate career. I have been able to use my experiences in UROP as a spring board for future projects and the lessons/skills learned are transferrable to nearly every class I take.

## Gabriela Maduro

**Class of 2019**

**Major:** History, German, and English (Editing, Writing, and Media)

**Research Project:**

Currently, my research focuses on Germany and Austria in the World War II era. Primarily, I have worked on helping to digitize and translate a letter collection written by a family that fled from Vienna in 1939

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has shown me how multi-faceted and dynamic research in the humanities can be. Throughout my UROP project, I worked in analyzing the experiences of Hessian soldiers employed by the British in the American War of Independence. UROP, therefore, provided me with the opportunity to learn how to conduct hands-on research with British Parliamentary documents and soldier diaries, in addition to learning how to synthesize my research through projects such as website posts.

## Sierra Maguire



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Family and Child Sciences

**Research Project:**

My current research focus is in the college of Human Sciences. I have been working on a project that looks at the work-family balance within Qatari families.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has provided me with an opportunity to learn academic information outside of the classroom. I have been given the opportunity to get hands-on experience outside of the classroom, while learning more about the research process.

## Brendan Manor



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Criminology/Criminal Justice and Political Science

**Research Project:**

I am continuing with my previous project on 501c3 funding through election cycles.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has given me the opportunity to cultivate and hone my skills not strictly as a student, but as a researcher, presenter, and person. Meeting the incredible people I have during my time with UROP has awakened a drive for research and scholarship that I did not know I had. UROP has truly opened the door for me to discover nearly limitless possibilities at Florida State and beyond.

## Lauren McGarry



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Biochemistry  
**Minor:** Biology

**Research Project:**

I am conducting research on Sulfite Reductase in Mycobacterium Tuberculosis.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has been such an amazing experience. I have loved getting to share and teach others about something that I am so passionate about.



## Kimberlee McMillin



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Political Science and Sociology

**Minor:** English and Statistics

**Research Project:**

I am currently conducting research on women in politics.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has shaped my academic focus; I went from un-interested in research to potentially continuing into graduate school. Through the program, I became involved in political science research both in the RIBC program and the Honors in the Major. Without UROP, I would not be the critical thinker and academic-enthusiast I am today.

## Grace Michaels



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** International Affairs and Russian

**Minor:** Humanities

**Research Project:**

I am conducting research projects involving the Social Sciences, Humanities, and Language.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to inspire my students to actually be engaged in research, as opposed to using UROP as a resume booster. I would also like to serve as a resource for incoming students, as well!

## Elsie Michel



**Class of 2020**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Child Development

**Research Project:**

My current research is teaching vocabulary - emotion intervention words to student with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has impacted my time at FSU by pushing me to step out of my comfort zone and try something new. UROP surrounded me with helpful leaders, faculty members, and form relationships where I was able to understand the process and make it through my experience. It has challenged me to think outside the box and problem solve when obstacles faced me, improve my work ethic along with time management, motivated me to go and reach for my potential, and provided resources additionally with insight on opportunities and graduate school in and out of Florida State University.

## Ashley Moses



### **Class of 2020**

**Major:** Biology and Psychology

### **Research Project:**

Currently, I work in Dr. Hammock's lab in the psychology department doing neuroscience research involving oxytocin in mice. My research focus is neuroscience and neurobiology specifically.

### **How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I really hope to get my students excited about research. Research opens doors to so much knowledge about our world and FSU provides such amazing opportunities for research. I hope that my students see the benefit in that and find their passion somewhere in research. Personally, I have been in three labs and the first two did not work for me so I really hope to demonstrate to the students that it is not always easy, but it is so extremely worth it and can teach you so much..

## Selina Nevin



### **Class of 2020**

**Major:** International Affairs and Political Science

**Minor:** Law Enforcement Intelligence

### **Research Project:**

I am involved in research on the radicalization of Muslims in the West.

### **How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I want my students to feel capable of venturing outside of the traditional classroom and delving into the world of research knowing that they're prepared to handle all sorts.

## Grace Nystrom



### **Class of 2020**

**Major:** Food and Nutrition Sciences

**Minor:** Chemistry

### **Research Project:**

I am currently working on identifying the proteins present in the flight muscle, specifically the z-disk, of *Drosophila* in Dr. Taylor's molecular biophysics lab.

### **How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

Being involved in research as an undergrad at FSU has opened many doors for me by helping me form valuable connections with faculty and professors who are helping me learn more each day and work towards my goals of attending medical school after I graduate at FSU.

## Brandon Osowski



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Economics and Political Science

**Research Project:**

I conduct research on economic policy and its effect on Poverty Rates.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I want to provide a platform for my students so they can have hands-on experience with research. UROP is not about forcing students to research, it is about introducing them to research so they can make the autonomous decision if they like it or not. I want to provide my students with information and enthusiasm towards research so they can make an informed decision on their liking or dislike towards research.

## Allison Overholt

**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Religion

**Minor:** Spanish

**Research Project:** I am currently working on an Honors Thesis which addresses the impact of indigenous healing practices on modern Pentecostal faith healing in Latin America.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

When I got involved in UROP as a sophomore, I had no idea how research was conducted at the university. I learned so much from my research mentor and I saw every step in the process, from collecting information to the many drafts of the final manuscript. I gained the confidence to begin my own research, where I can design my own project and gain knowledge about things that I am passionate about.

## Emma Rodriguez



**Class of 2020**

**Major:**

Media/Communication Studies and Marketing

**Research Project:**

My current research focuses on Anti-Establishment women in the Parliament of the European Union. Specifically, we are studying how they differ from their establishment counterparts in both level of political activity and agenda-setting behaviors.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to provide my students with the resources they need not only to be successful in UROP, but to make the most of their time at FSU!

## Alyssa Rogers



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Biology

**Minor:** Italian and Chemistry

**Research Project:**

I have just finished research involved with sports psychology and EEG capping.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP gave me the opportunity to branch out into something unfamiliar and gave me worthy experience of working in a lab with other like-minded individuals. Without UROP, I would have not pursued research due to my lack of knowledge on how to get involved, but UROP handed me the opportunity and made the process so much easier.

## Ian Schlander



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Biology

**Minor:** Chemistry

**Research Project:**

I am currently studying molecular biology of drosophila with a focus on the genetics of the roots required to form neurons and characterizing the functions of each gene involved in the process. I am also working on a research project as a team of FSU iGEM, where we have yet to decide exactly what the project is that we will be focusing on for the competition.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to motivate my students to achieve the most throughout their undergraduate careers and help prepare them to the best of my ability for their career aspirations.

## Michela Sieman



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** History

**Minor:** Italian

**Research Project:**

Having received an IDEA Grant for the summer of 2018, I will be partaking in the Medici Research Archive Project Junior Research Internship Program at the State Archives of Florence. I will be looking into the lives of women artists and determining their varied impacts on an early modern society.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

Having received an IDEA Grant for the summer of 2018, I will be partaking in the Medici Research Archive Project Junior Research Internship Program at the State Archives of Florence. My research will focus on women artists, such as Artemisia Gentileschi and Lucrezia Quistelli, during the Renaissance. I will be looking into the lives of these women and determining their varied impacts on an early modern society.

## Federico Simon



### **Class of 2019**

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering

**Minor:** French

### **Research Project:**

I have worked at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory under Dr. Song studying antimicrobial peptides. Currently, I plan on furthering this research and applying it to nano-structured materials for biomedical use with the College of Engineering.

### **How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has given me the opportunity to get into research and share my experiences with others. I was able to apply what I learned in different classes to my project and gain hands on experience working in a laboratory setting. Additionally, I was able to develop both professional and technical skills serving as both a UROP student and leader.

## Courtney Simoncelli



### **Class of 2019**

**Major:** Commercial Entrepreneurship

**Minor:** Hospitality Management

### **Research Project:**

My past research was focused on studying the factors in the literacy environments of bilingual children that affect their attitudes and early interest toward reading. I participated in this research through the School of Communication Science & Disorders.

### **How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

Applying to be a part of UROP was one of the best decisions I ever made and has opened up so many doors for me. Participating in the program my freshman year exposed to so much on the FSU campus that I would have never been exposed to otherwise and allowed me to meet awesome people while getting hands-on research experience. This program led to me becoming a UROP Leader, which I am so passionate about and I absolutely love.

## Cara Steinberg

### **Class of 2020**

**Major:** Family and Child Sciences

**Minor:** Education and Psychology

### **Research Project:**

I currently study the early numeracy skills of students with autism in the lab of Dr. Jenny Root. Specifically, the effectiveness of the Early Numeracy Skills builder, a research-based curriculum.

### **How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

Participating in UROP has been one of the best decisions I have made while at FSU. Through engaging with research, I have built confidence in my abilities and have learned valuable skills from my incredible mentors. Most of all, I truly feel that I am capable of making a difference within my community.

## Anastasia Stichter



### Class of 2020

**Major:** Exercise Physiology

**Minor:** Child Development, Biology, and Chemistry

### Research Project:

I am currently conducting research in Sport Psychology.

### How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?

UROP opened a door to a whole other side at FSU that you usually only ever hear about as an undergrad - the groundbreaking research side. It's fascinating to know what questions are being researched and what problems are being tackled, whether they are in your area of study or not. For me personally, UROP has driven a lot of personal growth by teaching responsibility and giving me confidence I wouldn't have acquired without my experience as a research assistant.

## Gemma Sunnergren



### Class of 2019

**Major:** Middle Eastern Studies, Political Science, and International Affairs

### Research Project:

My current research is on the King-Crane Commission in Greater Syria following World War I and its place among movements for and discussion of independence in the region along with the changing approach to international law.

### How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?

I hope to provide my students with the tools and confidence necessary to pursue research opportunities throughout their time at FSU. Research is an incredibly rewarding experience, and I want my students to feel comfortable seeking the resources and knowledge they may need to succeed.

## Kayla Wagler



### Class of 2019

**Major:** Psychology and Spanish

**Minor:** Biology

### Research Project:

My current research focus is on anxiety management and treatment, and its relation to suicidality and depression. I also am interested in development of children and adolescents, and positive development of emotional regulation skills.

### How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?

I hope to empower my students in involvement in research, and be a part of building their confidence as young professionals who can make an impact on this campus. I hope to be a source of support and inspire their identity as student leaders, both inside and outside of undergraduate research involvement. I plan to take after my UROP leaders as constant cheerleaders for my students, being present and engaged in all of their accomplishments and challenges.

# Sarah Warren



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** Political Science

**Minor:** English

**Research Project:**

I previously researched judicial politics. I currently research the Hitler movement, politics in academia, Theodore F. Abel, and Nazi women.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to help them get comfortable with the research process, talking to professors, and help them integrate into the larger FSU community, as well as the smaller FSU research community.