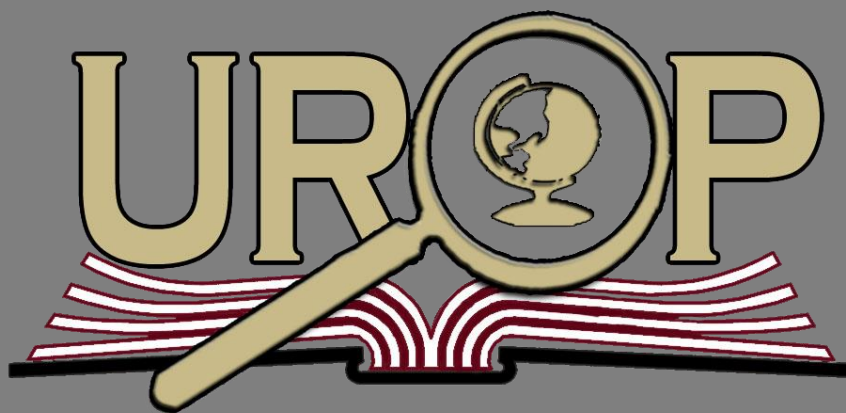




# UROP Leaders 2020-2021



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



## 2020-2021 UROP Leaders

Autumn Aniello  
Emma Bernstine  
Grace Castillo  
Emma Chapman  
Casey Copeland  
Catherine Cosgrove  
Guissella Cruz  
Jose Cruz  
Lauren Daley  
Spencer Dechert  
Damamli Dorsey  
Amber Dudek  
MacKenzie Ellis  
Brittany Ernst  
Marjorie Fitzsimmons  
Mary "Cailan" Gerety  
Matthew Gomes  
Hana Grubb  
Christina Hayworth  
Madison Hedge

Amber Hedquist  
Gabriela Herrerias  
Elizabeth Holton  
Alexa Kellenberger  
Lauren Kessler  
Olivia King  
Trystan Loustau  
Emma Masters  
Meagan McLaughlin  
Emma Metzler  
Grace Metzler  
Avie Montoya  
Genevieve Murdoch  
Maegan Nation  
Morgan Neal  
Grace Nystrom  
Kaitlyn O'Connor  
Deborah Olivier  
Caroline Oteri  
Adrian Othon

Emily Oxford-Pickeral  
Jennifer Poggio  
Amanda Prozeralik  
Mason Rademaker  
Abelardo Riojas  
Grace Robbins  
Maricela Rubio  
Jordan Rundle  
Camila Sanchez  
Raechel Sanger  
Richard Schonour  
Korrin Sheahan  
Lena Shepulski  
Juliette Sosa  
Sarah Suber  
Diamond Taylor  
Mannat Thakur  
Maya Vazquez  
Caitlin Violette  
Robyn Wilson

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

## Autumn Aniello



**Class of 2021**  
**Major:** Nursing

**Research Project:**  
Coaching Parents of Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder to Use Visual Supports (with the First Words Project at the Autism Institute)

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
UROP has made me a part of a community of motivated students, who all share very different interests. Learning about the process behind the wide-range of projects has shaped my view of research- it is so essential to stay curious about the world around you, not only in STEM fields. Being a UROP Leader has revealed to me that I have a passion for teaching, and I eventually want to pursue a career in nursing academia.

## Emma Bernstine



**Class of 2022**  
**Major:** Commercial Entrepreneurship & International Affairs

**Research Project:** My UROP research focused on the Cold War era Christian Crusaders. These prominent religious leaders used their religion to increase anti-communism, while simultaneously created the American Conservatism we know today.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP leader?**  
As a UROP Leader, I hope that I can connect students will different campus resources that will help them succeed in the future. Also, I want to guide my students through the research process to show them that conducting research is achievable.

## Grace Castillo



**Class of 2021**  
**Major:** Criminology  
**Minor:** Family and Child Sciences

**Research Project:**  
I was focused on elementary education. Specifically, how to teach STEM topics to preschool students.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP leader?**  
I hope to be able to help them not just with their research projects but all the other aspects of college. The first two years of college can be a very difficult and confusing time for students, I want to be able to alleviate some of the stress by guiding them through it. My own UROP leaders helped me to get the most out of my UROP experience and my sophomore year as a whole and I hope to do the same for my students.

## Emma Chapman



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** French & International Affairs  
**Minor:** Russian

**Research Project:**

I am currently 19<sup>th</sup> century French Literature.

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

I hope to be able to show my students all the possibilities that undergraduate research offers.

## Casey Copeland



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Dance

**Research Project:**

My current research is focused on the dance sciences, and I am interested in increasing awareness of mental health issues in the field of dance.

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

As a UROP leader I hope to inspire my students to see the beauty of re- search and what is has to offer them both on sociological and personal levels. I hope they leave their UROP experiences with a love of learning and an insatiable desire to go and find out.

## Catherine Cosgrove



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Literature & Sociology

**Research Project:**

I am currently involved in research with schools, social media, and students. I am focusing on social media and education.

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

UROP is my favorite memory so far at FSU. Participating in UROP led me to being involved on campus and introducing me to great research mentors who have helped me shape my future career path. It has helped me be more ambitious and driven in my studies.

Guisabella Cruz



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** Sociology

**Minor:** Political Science

**Research Project:**

My current research focus is on the patterns and trends of human trafficking with Dr. Terry Coonan and the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. I am also researching the relationship between confederate monuments and hate crimes with Dr. Brendan Lantz at the College of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

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

Students with tools to understand and excel in the research process. UROP students will be encouraged to engage in research and will be introduced to a plethora of research opportunities. Our goal is for students to leave well prepared in their professionalism and academic careers.

Jose Cruz



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Business

Management and Political Science

**Research Project:**

My current research focuses on the sources of people's motivation to express their underlying partisan prejudice and engage in negative and aggressive behavior toward a member of the political outgroup.

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

I hope to provide the students with all the resources they may find helpful to succeed and get through their freshmen and sophomore years, and most importantly, help the students build confidence and focus in their future at Florida State.

Lauren Daley



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering

**Research Project:**

I currently conduct research at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, with the 21.1 T MRI scanner (the strongest in the world!), to determine and define the viability of cell therapy on ischemic rats with biomedical imaging. My emphasis is on resting state functional MRI to establish neural network connectivity between regions of activation, and subsequently if the cell therapy restores the default mode network.

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

Prior to joining UROP, I had no idea what to do with my future. However, my first foray into a research lab was an extremely positive experience and made me realize my passion and enthusiasm for research. I wanted to pass this experience along and help other students find their path, so I became a leader!

## Spencer Dechert



### **Class of 2021**

**Major:** IMS Clinical Professions

**Minor:** Child Development

### **Research Project:**

Currently, I am working with the Autism Institute at the FSU College of Medicine. My project is investigating early childhood interventions for autistic children ages 2-5.

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

As a UROP leader, I hope to not only teach my students about research and engage them in a research project but enable them to learn more about themselves. Through their research projects, I also hope my students can build life skills within their labs and gain a new perspective on the research process.

## Damamli Dorsey



### **Class of 2022**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Chemistry & Italian

### **Research Project:**

My current research focus is understanding the correlation between women directors and women characters in Bollywood Films.

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

UROP has helped to open my eyes to all the ways research happens around this campus. Normally research is seen as something that only happens in lab, but with UROP you see how research occurs in every major and the interesting implications. Also, UROP has given me many connections with faculty around campus and a mentor. I really enjoy my time in UROP because I always learn new ideas and different research projects around campus.

## Amber Dudek



### **Class of 2022**

**Major:** Exercise Physiology

### **Research Project:**

My current research is with the College of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences in Dr. Hickner's lab. We research the role of NADPH oxidase in relation to endothelial function for obese individuals.

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

As a UROP leader, I hope to inspire my students to get involved in research and other activities on campus because there are so many opportunities that we are provided with as students. I also want to make sure that my students feel comfortable and enjoy learning about the various aspects of research.

## Mackenzie Ellis



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Behavioral Neuroscience

**Research Project:**

My current research is focused on the effect of social isolation on anxiety- and depressive-like behaviors and the alterations social isolation has on the central immune system. My interests are social isolation, stress, and the central immune system.

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

I hope that I can get my students interested in learning the myriad of skills that they can from research and use those skills to jump over hurdles and obstacles that research and college will throw at them. I hope to inspire others to work hard and help them understand that they have so many opportunities. I want them to understand they can achieve these opportunities with the information and guidance from all the resources at FSU.

## Brittany Ernst



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Accounting

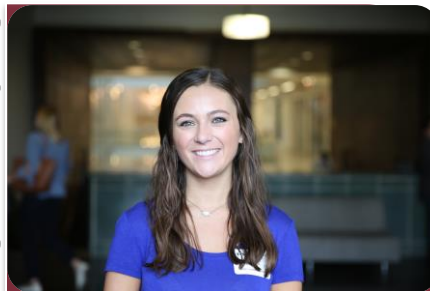
**Research Project:**

My current research focus is on the HINTS data set analyzing patient engagement in medical research. I'm hoping to move into accounting/business research as well in the fall.

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

As a leader, I hope to show my students that it's beneficial to do research both within your field and outside of it! I want to show them all the good that comes along with undergraduate research and the transferable skills you will develop from participating. I can't wait to be there for them during this exciting time in their academic career!

## Marjorie Fitzsimmons



**Class of 2019**

**Major:** IMS Clinical Professions

**Minor:** Law in Philosophy

**Research Project:**

I have conducted research in cognitive affective neuroscience (CAN) and evolutionary psychology.

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

UROP has definitely been one of the most rewarding experiences I have had at FSU. This program has opened my eyes to all of the incredible research going on at my university and helped me to understand what research really is and the impact it can have. Being a UROP leader has helped me to grow this appreciation for research even more, as I have been amazed at all of the work that our UROP students have done. I am so proud to have been a part of this program and so thankful for all of the ways it has helped to make my undergraduate years so great!



Mary Gerety



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Communication & Science Disorders  
**Minor:** Child Development & Psychology

**Research Project:**

The past two years, I have been working alongside a doctoral candidate in the department of Communication Science and Disorders.

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

I hope to make every student's experience in UROP as positive and enlightening as possible. UROP is not only a great way to experience research at FSU for the first time, but a gateway to learn more about how to get involved on campus and meet amazing people with the same interests! I hope my students are inspired by this program and will find an appreciation for research and continue it throughout their years at FSU!

Matthew Gomes



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Psychology  
**Minor:** Business

**Research Project:**

I am currently doing psychology/neuroscience-based research under the Dewan Lab. Researching the olfactory system within nice subjects

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

My UROP experience was very unique. I was fortunate enough to get my top pick for my assistantship and had a wonderful PI and Grad Student lab leader who both taught me so much while helping me along the way and sometimes all of the information could be stressful, but it was all manageable. Of course, the online format had a learning curve and the virtual symposium also required adjustment, but this has taught me how to adapt to any given situation and staying professional through so many circumstances.

Hana Grubb



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Biochemistry

**Research Project:**

I have worked on projects in the fields of biology, polymer chemistry, biological engineering, and biophysics.

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

FSU's Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program has been one of the most transformative programs I have had the joy of participating in during my undergraduate career! This program formally introduced me to the world of research, provided me with a community that has supported me throughout my time at FSU, helped me refine my research interests, and even granted me the opportunity of teaching as an undergraduate of which I have found to be immensely rewarding! There are so many ways this program has helped me grow and I am incredibly appreciative of my time with the UROP community at FSU.

# Christina Hayworth



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Biology and Social Welfare

**Research Project:**

I am currently involved with research in the Department of Psychology with Dr. Wen Li. Our research focuses on the neural underpinnings of emotion and cognition, specifically anxiety and sensory perception and sensory gating, through EEG and fMRI neuroimaging techniques.

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

Getting involved in research during my freshman year was a really motivating experience for me, both personally and academically. As a UROP leader, I hope not only to communicate the same level of excitement about research that I have, but also to guide them as they explore what they are passionate about.

# Madison Hedge



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** Behavioral Neuroscience

**Research Project:**

My current research is studying the neuroendocrine markers associated with poor sleep quality and short sleep. We hope to make connections between sleep, stress, trauma exposure, and obesity to help future treatment and interventions.

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

UROP has had a huge impact on my undergraduate career and I hope that as a UROP Leader, my students can have a similar experience. I want to be a mentor to my students for all things they may need both in and out of research at FSU. To me, research encourages our curiosity about the world around us and I hope my students come out of UROP looking at the world in a new way.

# Amber Hedquist



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** English

**Research Project:**

My current research project is entitled "Investigating Perceptions of Space Within the Tallahassee Community". How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader? I am also conducting research as part of the Students, Social Media & Schools research team housed in the College of Education

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

Research is more than data and analysis. Research opens doors, inspires communities, and challenges world views. I hope to inspire my students to pursue research projects beyond the symposium and into their futures. Above all, I want my students to gain the tools and perspective that inspires them to seize and create opportunities during their FSU tenure and beyond.

## Gabriela Herrerias



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** Clinical Professions

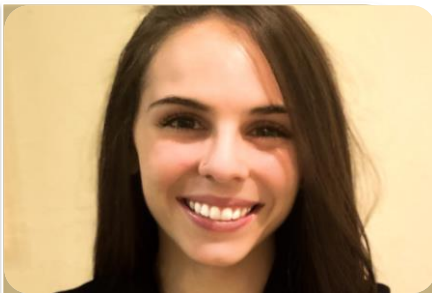
**Research Project:**

I am involved in more research oriented towards health-related and medical research.

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

As a UROP leader, I hope to share my passion of research with all my students and encourage them to make the most out of such an amazing program that we have the honor of being a part of. I look forward to inspiring my students to explore the world around them and constantly remain curious about it. I want to make this an enjoyable experience for all my students, and I hope that at the end of the program, my students feel confident and excited about research just as I did at the end of my time as a UROP student.

## Elizabeth Holton



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Child Development

**Research Project:**

I am currently involved in research focus on psychology.

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

UROP has impacted my time at FSU by helping me learn more about research resources on campus and the importance of research. Without UROP, I would not have the same goals and passion for research that I do today.

## Alexa Kellenberger



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** English & Italian

**Minor:** Religion

**Research Project:**

My current research involves medieval and old English literature.

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

Participating in UROP my freshman year really cemented that FSU was the right place for me. It led me to work with really wonderful, passionate, and supportive faculty, to connect with an intelligent and diverse group of students, and to really find my footing in such a large academic community, even leading me to the decision to enter the dual degree program to study Italian in addition to my English major. It has helped me build confidence in myself and my abilities, helping me grow as a person and achieve academic goals.

Lauren Kessler



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Biology

**Minor:** Chemistry

**Research Project:**

I am currently researching calcium and magnesium binding in carpenter and TnC.

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

UROP introduced me to research and encouraged me to explore my interests, even if they are not related to my future career. Research has taken me places I could've never imagined.

Olivia King



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences

**Research Project:**

I am currently working on research within my interests.

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

UROP helped me make new friends who were also interested in research, as well as obtain a better understanding of my academic and career goals and shaped me as a leader.

Trystan Loustau



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Statistics & Computer Science

**Research Project:**

I am currently conducting research social, moral, and media psychology.

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

I hope to provide my students with both enhanced knowledge about research methods and opportunities and practical skills for conducting and pursuing research and related opportunities.

## Emma Masters



### **Class of 2021**

**Major:** Environmental Science & Spanish

### **Research Project:**

I currently synthesize data on those involved with my FSU job, the Seminole Organic Garden.

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

By enticing students to pursue their curiosities and to reflect on how far research can advance any given field or industry. I hope to share the fundamental and current research conducted in fields of ecology and the environment. When students leave a UROP class, I hope they say "Wow, that abstract from the research paper on coral reefs that we read really got me thinking...". We all have to start somewhere, and UROP is an awesome steppingstone.

## Meagan McLaughlin



### **Class of 2020**

**Major:** International Affairs & Political Science

**Minor:** French & Urban and Regional Planning

### **Research Project:**

I am currently involved in research with NGO's and West African migration trends.

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

I hope to encourage my UROP students to see the value in their projects and how applicable the skills they learn are to their future career aspirations.

## Emma Metzler



### **Class of 2021**

**Major:** Communication Science Disorders

### **Research Project:**

My current research focus is in acoustic measures of acting voice training.

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

UROP has opened so many doors for me, as my gateway into my major, it helped me learn so many skills but it also helped me make contacts that led me into other research and opportunities that have made me into someone who is ready for academic challenges.

## Grace Metzler



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Risk Management & Insurance

**Research Project:**

I am currently conducting research focused on student veteran decision making at Florida State University.

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

UROP gave me the confidence to reach out to professors and the skills I need to be a competent and effective public speaker.

## Avie Montoya



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** International Affairs

**Research Project:**

I am currently involved in research within social sciences.

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

Throughout my involvement with UROP, I have learned a handful of knowledge that has allowed me to excel in my academics and exceptionally further my involvement with on-campus opportunities. Additionally, I have established professional relationships with mentors, professors, and other students.

## Genevieve Murdoch



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** Family & Child Sciences

**Research Project:**

My current research focuses on how interpersonal consciousness within middle aged couples relates to cognitive aging and the risk of developing Alzheimer's later in life.

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

UROP has broadened my perspective since arriving at FSU. Being involved in UROP and research has allowed me to grow as a person, push me outside of my comfort zone, and expand my knowledge.

Maegan Nation



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Psychology & Criminology

**Research Project:**

I am currently working on my honors in the major thesis with Dr. Pamela Keel in the Psychology Department. My research focuses on the effects of body-positive media on Instagram.

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

UROP helped me transition into engaging in research and helped me develop a passion for research that I do not think I would have developed without it. I have met an amazing community of like-minded individuals at FSU through UROP.

Morgan Neal



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** IMS Clinical Professions

**Research Project:**

Currently, I am in a lab with Dr. Ai in the College of Social Work conducting literature searches about psychological indicators involving patients undergoing open-heart surgery.

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

I am hoping to encourage and motivate my students to be involved on campus and to find their interests and passions as a student at Florida State.

Grace Nystrom



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Dietetics & Exercise Physiology

**Minor:** Chemistry

**Research Project:**

I have previous research experience in Molecular Biophysics working with insect flight muscle structure and proteins.

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

I began the UROP program when I transferred to FSU my sophomore year and it opened up so many opportunities to me in research and other academic pursuits. I have been a UROP leader for the past two years and I enjoy being able to help students explore their passions through research.

## Kaitlyn O'Connor



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** English Education

**Minor:** Psychology

**Research Project:**

I am currently not in research; however, I am interested in both English and education research

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

I hope to be a supportive mentor that they feel comfortable coming to with any scholastic concerns. I hope to encourage my students to get involved on campus.

## Deborah Olivier



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** Environmental Science & Music

**Performance**

**Minor:**

**Research Project:**

My current research is through the Biology department and focuses on marine sponges in the Caribbean.

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

UROP was my introduction to research and my current research mentor at FSU. I also met several of my close friends through UROP and the opportunities I was able to engage in through my research.

## Caroline Oteri



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** IMS Clinical Professions

**Research Project:**

My research was focused on measures to improve the field of conservation biology. I am currently not conducting research, but I plan to engage in clinical research in the future.

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

I hope to help my students gain a strong foundation in research, one that will spark curiosity and confidence. I also want to help my students to learn more about themselves, discover their passions, and pursue them.



Adrian Othon



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Exercise Physiology  
**Minor:** Chemistry & Biology

**Research Project:**

My current research focus is on understanding the relationship between Brain-derived neurotrophic factor, cortisol and glucose release in ultra-endurance athletes.

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

UROP exposed me to the world of research during a pivotal moment in my undergraduate career. It has allowed me to engage in interdisciplinary research while pursuing my undergraduate thesis.

Emily Oxford-Pickeral



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Art History  
**Minor:** Museum studies & French

**Research Project:**

My current research is art history and research for museum galleries

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

I hope to provide support to my students as they begin their research and teach them how to manage research responsibilities and class demands.

Jennifer Poggio



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Psychology

**Research Project:**

My current research focuses on efficacy of the CKLA Read aloud program from kindergarten-2nd Grade

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

I hope that each student in my class feels proud of all of their accomplishments during their time in the UROP program! It can be daunting to start research, but I hope to guide them every step of the way!

## Amanda Prozeralik



### Class of 2021

**Major:** Communication Sciences & Disorders

**Minor:** Child Development

### Research Project:

I am currently working on a research project that I worked on as a student in UROP, looking at children's language development in the classroom and how that can be affected by teacher's language use.

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

I hope to help students navigate their time through UROP by providing resources and being a mentor for my students in any aspect of their life. I know the first few years of college can be stressful, so I am here to help make that transition as smooth as possible.

## Mason Rademaker



### Class of 2020

**Major:** Psychology, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

### Research Project:

My current research is within the Cognitive Affective Neuroscience. I am focusing on anxiety disorders, threat detection, and a potential non-invasive therapy for the aforementioned anxiety disorders.

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

I hope to affect my UROP students in the same way my UROP leaders affected me. Though my UROP leaders guided me through the research process and helped me start my research career, they inspired me far beyond the world of research. From simple friendly check-ins, to graduate school connections, or even professional life advice, they did it all; my leaders cared for their student's well-being and pushed them to be the best versions of themselves and I hope to do the same for my future students!

## Abelardo Riojas

### Class of 2022

**Major:** Computational Science

**Minor:** Mathematics, & Statistics

### Research Project:

My current research focus is in AI and Machine Learning. I am looking at ways to optimize streetlights in a city given traffic flow data.

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

Above all else, I want my students to come out of their UROP experience with more than just a research project under their belts. I want them to be more confident in approaching faculty and staff, to be able to network efficiently, to enable them to explore their own research interests.

## Grace Robbins



### **Class of 2022**

**Major:** Classical Archaeology

**Minor:** Museum Studies

### **Research Project:**

My current research focus is on the intersection of digital humanities and archaeology, working with 3D modeling and printing to enhance interaction with artifacts.

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

UROP was the catalyst for my continued involvement in undergraduate research because of the connections and opportunities it ended up providing me throughout the year I was involved in the program. Even though I did not continue my actual UROP research after my freshman year, it was my experience presenting my UROP research at FURC, the Florida Undergraduate Research Conference, that made me realize I wanted to pursue research as a potential career path.

## Marciela Rubio



### **Class of 2021**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Communication & Criminology

### **Research Project:**

My UROP project focused on increasing inclusivity for people of color at predominantly white institutions. I also worked in a lab that conducted research on suicide.

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

I hope that my students come out of UROP realizing their capability. The term research can be a bit intimidating (I know it was for me upon entering UROP); however, it's not. Anyone can do it. Anyone can do it; you just have to believe you have those capabilities and you do.

## Jordan Rundle



### **Class of 2022**

**Major:** Actuarial Science, Statistics, and Economics

**Minor:** Mathematics & Finance

### **Research Project:**

I currently perform different research-related tasks at the campus' Askew Student Life Center in order to tailor its programs for audiences' tastes.

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

UROP has instilled in me a passion for research and teaching, and I hope to impart some of what makes me so happy about research onto my students.

## Camila Sanchez



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Finance

**Minor:** English & Psychology

**Research Project:**

I conduct research in humanities.

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

I hope my students develop confidence in their work and presenting it to the public.

## Raechel Sanger



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Statistics

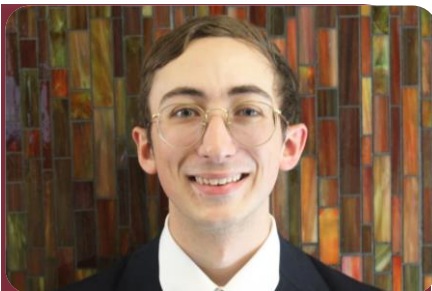
**Research Project:**

My current research draws from an evolutionary psychology perspective to examine romantic relationships.

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

UROP gave me my first chance to participate in research. UROP taught me about the research and gave me experience to continue to advance at FSU.

## Richard Schonour



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Clinical Professions

**Minor:** Statistics

**Research Project:**

My current research investigates the tempo and pattern of ontogenetic shifts in venom composition of two rattlesnake species and tries to determine whether factors including testosterone concentration or variation in diet are associated with the magnitude of these changes in venom composition.

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

As a UROP leader, I hope to not only instill in them a passion for research but also give them more tools in the form of campus resources and overall abilities to where they can be more successful both inside of the lab and out. That way, when they have finished their time in UROP, I genuinely hope that they have been able to develop a real sense of curiosity in their chosen field and see the numerous opportunities for advancement present within the research domain.

## Korrin Sheahan



### Class of 2022

**Major:** Communication Science and Disorders

**Minor:** Child Development; Interdepartmental Developmental Disabilities

### Research Project:

My research focus is on children with disabilities.

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

Next year I hope to build professional connections with my students. I want to create a safe place for them and want my class to feel comfortable with each other while learning about different aspects of research and FSU. As a UROP Leader, it is my job to act as a mentor and teacher to my students. I am very excited to implement creativity in this learning process while also forming a professional relationship with my students to help guide them through UROP, academics, and as students of FSU.

## Lena Shepulski



### Class of 2022

**Major:** Cell & Molecular Neuroscience

**Minor:** Chemistry

### Research Project:

My current research project is in the Department of Psychology focusing on suicide research and the risk factors involved in suicidal ideation.

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

As a UROP Leader here at FSU, I hope to be able to show my students that research can really change our perspective of what learning truly is. There may be a lot of uncertainty when first approaching research as an undergraduate student, so my goal is to help them along the way and show them just how impactful conducting research can be.

## Juliette Sosa



### Class of 2021

**Major:** Biology

**Minor:** Chemistry & Psychology

### Research Project:

I am conducting research on sleep and trauma, focusing on the physiological effects that trauma and sleep type (sleep duration, etc.) can have on sleep.

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

As a UROP student, I was able to learn so much about the different resources at FSU as well as how to properly and efficiently conduct research. UROP also prepared me to present my research and feel confident while doing so. Conducting research has become a very important part of my college career and UROP gave me the chance to really participate in research which I will always be grateful for!

Sarah Suber



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Accounting

**Research Project:**

My UROP research project was focused on analyzing government expenditures.

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

UROP has put me ahead of the competition within the College of Business. The skills I developed in UROP are transferrable to jobs, internships, and other opportunities.

Diamond Taylor



**Class of 2022**

**Major:** Behavioral Neuroscience

**Minor:** Chemistry

**Research Project:**

My current research focus is on the relationship that depression and anxiety have on cognitive functioning and cognitive decline. I

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

UROP is the primary reason that I have become so interested in research and why I plan on continuing to conduct research with my UROP research mentor. I have gained many valuable skills as a UROP student that have benefitted me both personally and professionally. I am extremely grateful for my experience as a UROP student and all that I have learned from the program.

Mannat Thakur



**Class of 2021**

**Major:** Neuroscience

**Minor:** Chemistry

**Research Project:**

I current research focus is physical chemistry, nanoparticles and quantum dots.

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

UROP has given me a community of students who have the same mindset as me and an uplifting community to encourage me to do the best I can to succeed. It was helpful to bounce ideas off each other and discuss topics that interested us as well as talk about our future plans career-wise and research-wise.

Maya Vazquez



**Class of 2021**  
**Major:** Political Science

**Research Project:**  
My current research focuses on the ability of congresswomen to pass legislation during their terms.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
UROP has helped me grow in more ways than I can express. Before participating in UROP, I had no idea that I would enjoy or benefit from research as much as I have. This program has allowed me to take charge of my time at FSU by engaging in research that is interesting to me and challenges me to be a better student.

Caitlin Violette



**Class of 2021**  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Minor:** Biology

**Research Project:**  
I am currently working as a behavioral coder at FSU's Autism Institute studying the early identifying signs of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
I got involved in UROP and in the Center for Undergraduate Research and Academic Engagement (CRE) in my sophomore year when I was looking for my own niche in the FSU community. There I found people who were willing to help guide me and answer any questions I had about getting started in research. UROP helped me to find my passion for research and has motivated me to continue in research in the future. Being a UROP leader has also been such an impactful experience for me. Seeing my students choose research projects, get involved in the research community at FSU, grow as researchers throughout the year, and finally present at the symposium is a very rewarding experience.

Robyn Wilson



**Class of 2022**  
**Major:** Nursing

**Research Project:**  
My current research focus is on the environmental factors of children due to parental educational levels, specifically maternal, and how it can predict their academic performances throughout primary and secondary schooling.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**  
I am so eager to show my students that hard work, diligence, and patience can open doors they never thought they had the key to. I plan to give my students a welcoming atmosphere so that they will feel free to ask any questions or give any input that will aid them along their research journey.