

## INFORMATION THAT MAY HELP GET AN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH POSITION

Faculty member:

Last Name **SHORTRIDGE**

First Name: **RANDALL D.**

1. What do you look for in a potential undergraduate researcher?  
**Being self-driven and capable of going things independently. Moreover, there should be a genuine interest in doing research for the enjoyment rather than solely to further career goals**
2. What are the best times of the year for students to look for a spot in your lab?  
**Near the start of each semester, but not limited to that.**
3. What do you expect from an undergraduate researcher?  
**Genuine interest in the project; ability to interact with the graduate students in the lab; ability to operate independently with guidance from the graduate students and me.**
4. What can the student expect to be doing in your lab?  
**(i) Laboratory training in a variety of molecular techniques as well as training in experimental design and critical thinking, (ii) credit in independent study; (iii) in rare instances, payment through work-study or programs such as REU from NSF.**
5. What is the best way to approach you about getting research in your lab?  
**See me or my graduate students personally. Graduate students in my research lab have a voice on who comes in.**
6. What kind of repayment can the student expect?  
**Usually credit in independent study, the benefits of the experience, and a letter of recommendation to assist in furthering their career.**
7. If course credit is given, what does it take to get an A?  
**The student needs to spend adequate time in the lab to carry out a meaningful project and show progress. Progress is not measured solely on obtaining valuable research data, but on moving a project forward.**
8. Do you have room in your lab now, or foreshadow when you will?  
**I currently have two undergraduate research assistants \*URA's) in my lab and these are directly supervised by two of my senior level graduate students. Normally, I do not expect to have more than two at a time**