Swarthmore offers many research opportunities in classes and seminars, as independent projects for academic credit, in paid positions during the academic year, and in funded projects over the summer.

Swarthmore’s transformative research experiences help students develop vital competencies crucial for professional careers and responsible citizenship, and are important co-curricular opportunities that expand a student’s academic program.

In the Division of Natural Sciences & Engineering, students conduct research under close supervision of their faculty adviser; it is not uncommon for these students to earn co-author credit with professors in peer-reviewed publications and present their research at prestigious conferences.

In the humanities and social sciences divisions, research is more independent, with students consulting faculty members on the initial research ideas and project development.

Students in the humanities and social sciences have researched topics as varied as endangered languages, solid waste management, international trade flow, activism, Russian children’s books—and beyond.

**WHAT MAKES RESEARCH HERE UNIQUE?**

- Approximately two-thirds of Swarthmore students participate in research or independent creative projects with the mentorship of faculty members.
- Students enjoy the close research oversight and collaboration with faculty that can only be had with our low student-faculty ratio.
- Several sources, including the Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility and the academic divisions, provide funded research opportunities for students.
- Each year, Swarthmore commits close to $1 million toward funding summer projects. And, thanks to the generosity of our donors and alumni, that number continues to grow.

Nick DiMaio ’19
Incoming Global Markets Analyst, Nomura

“As a President’s Sustainability Research Fellow, I worked closely with alumni mentors to complete a project on climate protection and carbon pricing that will help make a real-world difference.”
 LANG CENTER FOR CIVIC & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Named for the late philanthropist Eugene Lang ’38, H’81 and facilitating Swarthmore College’s commitment to intellectual excellence, ethical engagement, and social responsibility, the Lang Center connects curriculum, campus, and communities through engaged scholarship and collaborative action with multiple research options.

Students can apply for funding for projects and research to build bridges between academic pursuits and the people and issues they care about.

Regardless of a student’s major, the Lang Center will help them find relevant courses, research, internships, and volunteer opportunities in:

• Arts, Media, and Culture
• Economic Development
• Education and Access
• Environment and Sustainability
• Ethics and Human Rights
• Identities and Inequality
• Public Health
• Politics and Public Policy
• Refugees and Immigration
• Science and Society

To discover how to become part of the Lang Center’s ongoing story, visit swarthmore.edu/lang-center.

SUMMER RESEARCH AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Swarthmore’s co-curricular summer learning experiences, such as research collaborations, allow students to develop intellectual skills while deepening human understanding. Summer research within natural sciences & engineering is conducted in close collaboration with faculty; within humanities and social sciences, independent research projects are more common. Students may apply for a summer stipend of $4,800 to pursue a project that expands research engagement or professional exposure via:

• laboratory and field research
• archival and/or desk research
• internships
• creative and performing arts
• intensive language study
• academically informed activism

“What motivated me to study chemistry is my curiosity about the atomic and molecular world and its invisible but detectable influence. Thanks to Swarthmore, I’m excited to pursue a Ph.D. and a research career in organic synthesis.”

— SOOYUN CHOI ’18, PH.D. CANDIDATE IN CHEMISTRY, YALE UNIVERSITY

“My project sparked my acute interest in endangered languages and represents useful, tangible work happening around the world. Maybe it will inspire someone’s career.”

— KEVIN MURPHY ’19

“My summer experience taught me how to come up with a research question, figure out how to address it, and collect and process the correct data. Research, which had seemed so complicated to me, now seems a lot less overwhelming.”

— MARIA ISABEL BARROS GUINLE ’19

swarthmore.edu/summer-research-opportunities