

SPARC: Register for the ACCESS course

Blackboard → Courses → Search “Biomedical Research Prep” → Use grey arrow next to “ASE.BIOMED_RESEARCH_PREP” to select Enroll

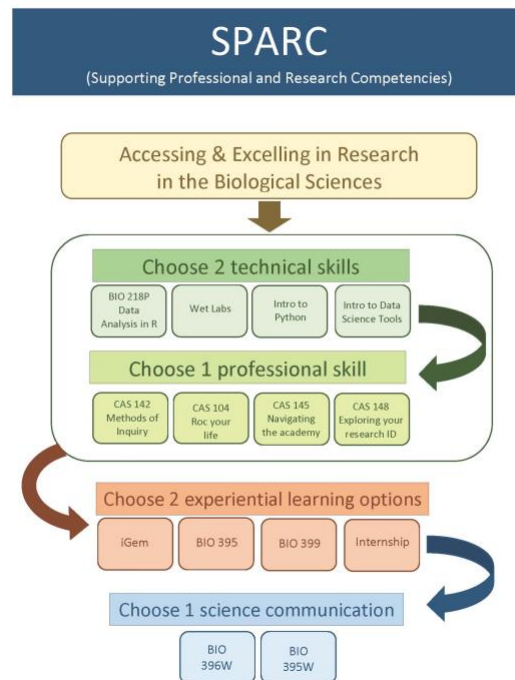
Why might I want to complete this course?

If you are interested in research in the biological sciences, this free, online course is a great starting place for you! As the first step of the SPARC pathway, Accessing and Excelling in Research in the Biological Sciences (ACCESS) is a launching pad for a positive, successful research experience. Completing all of the required modules will provide you with the resources to help you:

- Explore and articulate your interests as a student and as a researcher
- Increase your marketability as a candidate for research and internship opportunities in the biological sciences
- Complete the first step of the SPARC pathway!

How does this course work?

This training course can be completed entirely online at your own pace. In each of the 4 course modules, you will find links to requisite resources/guides and two "assignments" through which you can upload evidence of completion. Students will be marked as having successfully completed the course only when all 8 assignments have been successfully uploaded. Your "grade" when completed, *which does not affect your GPA or show up on your transcript*, should be 8/8 points. At the end of each semester, a list of students who have completed the ACCESS course will be shared with the SPARC coordinator.



Module 1: Defining and Navigating “Research”

Nuts and bolts of research at Rochester—exploring your interests and the departments that align with them

- Assignment 1: Interest Table
- Assignment 2: Seminar Reflection

Module 2: Communicating Your Interests

Articulating your interests and goals to peers, staff, and faculty members

- Assignment 3: Draft Email
- Assignment 4: Informal Interview

Module 3: Finding and Interpreting Relevant Literature

Asking informed questions using discipline-specific literature

- Assignment 5: Finding Literature
- Assignment 6: Annotating Literature

Module 4: 60 minutes

Introducing ethical concerns and considerations in research

- Assignment 7: Mini-Ethics Scenarios
- Assignment 8: CITI Responsible Conduct of Research Training