

# The Giovale Library Undergraduate Research Awards

The Giovale Library Undergraduate Research Awards recognize students producing outstanding research projects such as: papers, videos, blogs and more- that demonstrate information literacy and the effective use of Library resources.

A judging committee comprised of faculty, students, staff and librarians will select first and second place winners of \$200 and \$150 prizes respectively.

## Eligibility

To be eligible for the 2011-2012 Giovale Library Undergraduate Research Award you must:

- Be currently enrolled as a undergraduate at Westminster College;
- Have completed the research project under consideration for a credit course or under the direction of a faculty member at Westminster College during either the May/Summer 2011, Fall 2011 or Spring 2012 semester;
- Agree to allow Giovale Library and Westminster College to use your research project and application materials to promote the Award and undergraduate research conducted at the College.



Questions about eligibility should be addressed to the chair of the Library's Undergraduate Research Award Committee, Emily Buzicky ([ebuzicky@westminstercollege.edu](mailto:ebuzicky@westminstercollege.edu)).

## Award Application Process

Completed application packets must be turned in by Tuesday, April 3rd, 2012 to be considered. A complete application packet will include:

1. Award application cover sheet. ([Cover Sheet on page 2.](#))
2. A cover sheet and letter of support from your instructor. ([Faculty Cover Sheet page 3.](#))
3. A description and reflection upon your research process and use of library tools and resources. ([Reflection Tips page 4.](#))
4. A final version of the research project including a complete bibliography with citation style appropriate to your discipline. (The Writing Center has [handouts](#) if you need guidance with your bibliography).

**Deadline:** Tuesday, April 3rd, 2012, at 5:00 p.m.

Deliver your application packet to the Circulation Desk at the Giovale Library. Or, email electronic applications to: [ebuzicky@westminstercollege.edu](mailto:ebuzicky@westminstercollege.edu).

Applications will be retained by the Giovale Library and will not be returned.

**Westminster College, Giovale Library's Undergraduate Research Award  
Application Cover Sheet**

**Application Deadline  
Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012, at 5:00 p.m.**

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Student ID Number\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Faculty Sponsor\_\_\_\_\_

Department\_\_\_\_\_

Course or program for which submitted project was completed\_\_\_\_\_

Department\_\_\_\_\_

Application Check List

- Letter of Support and Cover Sheet from Faculty Sponsor
- 500—700 Word Essay about Research Process
- Final version of Research Project
- Complete Bibliography

**Westminster College, Giovale Library's Undergraduate Research Award  
Faculty Letter of Support Cover Sheet**

**Application Deadline  
Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012, at 5:00 p.m.**

**Date:**

**Instructor Name:**

**Department:**

**Student name:**

Please attach your comments focusing on how this student's work meets the [award criteria](#). Discuss the overall intellectual quality of this undergraduate research project and its contribution to the scholarship of the discipline. Your thoughts on how the project demonstrates the following will be especially helpful to the judges in their selection process:

- sophistication, originality and/or unusual depth or breadth in the use of library collections, including, but not limited to, printed resources, databases, primary resources, and materials in all media;
- exceptional ability to select, evaluate, and synthesize library resources and to marshal them in the creation of a project in any medium that shows originality and/or has the potential to lead to original research in the future; and,
- evidence of significant acquisition of information literacy skills, and the development of a habit of research and inquiry that shows the likelihood of persisting in the future.

You may give the letter of support to your student to submit with his/her application, or you may submit it directly to judges by dropping it off at the Library Circulation Desk or emailing it to [dvanderpol@westminstercollege.edu](mailto:dvanderpol@westminstercollege.edu).

For more information, please contact the chair of the Library's Undergraduate Research Award Committee, Emily Buzicky ([ebuzicky@westminstercollege.edu](mailto:ebuzicky@westminstercollege.edu)).

*Letters of support will be retained by the Giovale Library and may be used to promote the Award and undergraduate research conducted at the College.*

## Reflection Tips

In addition to reviewing the judges' [selection rubric](#), you may find the following questions useful as you reflect on your library research experience.

- Did this project build on a previous paper or ideas from other classes?
- In what ways did the library and its resources help shape your ideas for your projects?
- What did you discover about the tools and techniques for research in the library?
- What did you learn about finding and evaluating information on your topic, or in your discipline?
- What discoveries did you make in the library by chance or coincidence? And, which through thoroughly planned research strategies?
- What lessons about the general research process did you take away from the experience?
- Would you do anything differently as a result of what you learned from this research process?

Please note that the judges rely heavily on what they learn of your research through this reflection. You will probably need at least a page or so or a comparable length multimedia project to conduct a quality reflection.