OUR Mission

Promote
mentored research across all disciplines by partnering with faculty and staff in all academic programs, administrative units and within the community.

Assist
students, faculty, staff, administrators and community leaders in establishing research experiences that are designed to enhance a student's academic progression and foster deeper immersion in the field.

Elevate
the research experience by providing all participants professional development and mentoring workshops, research training and publication and funding opportunities.

Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr!

Office for Undergraduate Research
http://lib.usf.edu/undergraduate-research/
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Cover Photos by RIAS Scholarship Students
ABOUT THE RIAS SCHOLARSHIP

The Research in Arts Scholarship (RIAS) represents a creative partnership between the USF Office for Undergraduate Research (OUR) and the Department of Art and Art History, which aims to foster student passion for inquiry and discovery. Two essential elements comprise the RIAS Scholarship: financial support, and comprehensive training in research skills and professional development. Under the direction of faculty mentors and OUR Program Directors, RIAS Scholars who participate in the USF School of Art and Art History’s Summer Study Abroad Paris Program develop and produce research-based art projects from idea to installation.

RIAS SCHOLARS IN LONDON

RIAS TESTIMONIALS

“This Research in Arts Scholarship was one of the best opportunities that I have been given at my time at USF. This project allowed me the ability to more fully delve into my experience in Paris, pushing me to examine and analyze myself and my work more fully. Taking part in an undergraduate research project with my art allowed me the opportunity to push my work to cross interdisciplinary boundaries”. (2013 RIAS Scholar)

“Overall, I found this to be an enlightening and highly-influential experience, both for my artwork and for my life. I believe that there are many other students who would receive just as much from this program as I did, and I hope that the OUR will continue to enhance the experiences of study abroad students in the arts”. (2012 RIAS Scholar)

“I want to be a curator, so this experience not only gave me insight into what would be expected of me professionally, but it also helped form my research approach. Because of the amount of work that was involved in researching and formulating ideas and developing a finished product I can use that experience by applying it to my research style”. (2013 RIAS Scholar)

The OUR would like to acknowledge Summer Art in Paris Program Director, Lou Marcus. Professor Marcus has been involved with this initiative since its inception in 2012, and has graciously shared his vast knowledge of study abroad programming and artistic research. He has successfully mentored several RIAS Scholars since 2012.
KARA LAVIN

**Project Title:** Be the Light  
**Mentor:** Lisa M. Piazza  
**Research Question:** How can the movement of light as expressed in the stained glass windows of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, be explored through a contemporary narrative?

ADRIANA MATALLANA

**Project Title:** The Way  
**Mentor:** Cesar Cornejo  
**Research Question:** What is the Way of St. James for a twenty-first century pilgrim?

JESSICA SYLVESTER

**Project Title:** Art in the Streets  
**Mentor:** Anne Jeffrey  
**Research Question:** How is Street Art reflective of the culture in which it is produced, and how is the practice of street art developing as a unique subculture?

(NOTE: URL is case sensitive)

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**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

- RIAS is a two-semester initiative that involves a summer study abroad component followed by the completion of a research-based art project during the fall semester.
- The OUR awards approximately six scholarships each year.
- Student projects are displayed in an art exhibit within the OUR office suite for one academic year.
- Research-based art projects include the following work products: final work of art, supplementary research poster, and supplementary research web content on OUR website.

**RIAS LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- Design and create a research-based art project.
- Compose a research question.
- Develop supplementary materials to describe and explain a work of art.
- Discuss a work of art at a public forum with members of the USF community.
- Participate in the logistics and installation of an art exhibit.
- Learn how to locate scholarly resources on the topic of artistic research.
JESSICA BARBER
Project Title: The Thread of BearingWitness
Mentor: Anne Jeffrey
Co-Mentor: Tracy Midulla
Research Question: How can exploring the connection between printmaking and relief sculpture support the idea of fabrics and textiles as Fine Arts?

ELLA DIZDAREVIC
Project Title: Transience
Mentor: Wallace Wilson
Research Question: How can layering in privatized street art and graffiti capture the transience of the experience?

SARAH DYER
Project Title: Repair: New Growth
Mentor: Anne Jeffrey
Research Question: How can the process of creating sculpture that utilizes the Japanese technique of Kintsugi represent and promote the notion of new growth?