

2021 SURS Program

Welcome to the 2021 SURS program! We look forward to working with all of you, students, mentors, faculty and staff, over the summer. We're excited to welcome almost 30 students across seven schools in a mix of remote, hybrid, and in-person experiences. We are grateful for the hard work and flexibility of the entire STROBE community that has allowed us to continue the SURS program during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Expectations

SURS are expected to

- Attend and engage in all professional development workshops, Research in Progress talk sessions, and official welcome events
- Present a 10 minute Research in Progress talk between June 20-July 27
- Complete a final written project (several options are available)
- Attend two check-in meetings with SURS leaders to review progress and discuss assignments

Graduate and postdoc mentors are expected to

- Work with their mentee to develop an expectations document (templates and guidance will be provided)
- Attend a Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training
- Assist mentees with their research talks and final products (formal workshops are provided for these assignments, the mentors are only expected to assist with technical content, although they are welcome to assist in other ways as well)
- Be aware of mentee program obligations when scheduling meetings and deadlines

Assignments

Research in Progress talk

- A workshop on making and giving presentations will be provided
- 10 minutes total, plan for a 7 minute talk, with ~3 minutes for questions
- We recommend no more than five slides

Final Written Project

This is designed to provide you with a supported and guided opportunity to reflect on your research experience and summarize it in a way that will be useful to you in the

future. You may choose any of the following options, and guidance will be available for all options

- A 2-page research proposal, similar to those required for the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)
- A research statement or cover letter tailored to a specific application (grad school, specific job sector)
- A research highlight, similar to those posted to websites, social media, etc

Communication and Information

Website

There is a SURS [website](#) with a calendar of events, zoom links, all of the information in this onboarding guide, and recordings of prior events, when they are available. The website is password protected, the password is 'strobasures', all lowercase letters.

Email

Please make sure you have shared your preferred email address with SURS coordinators (see Personnel, below). We will use this to communicate about program events and information and you are responsible for checking it at least once per day.

Slack Workspace

You can join the SURS Slack workspace using [this link](#), and are welcome to create your own channels to communicate with colleagues and other SURS. We will use this workspace to make announcements about events and answer questions. You are not required to use Slack, but we strongly encourage it as a way to connect and engage with community members.

Google Calendar

We have created a Google calendar with SURS events on it. If you would like this to be shared with you, please send the email address you would like it to be shared with to Ellen (kathryn.keister@colorado.edu). This works best if we share with a gmail address, but others will also work.

Video Conferencing

STROBE primarily uses the Zoom platform, so please make sure you download and install the application and keep it updated. Your research group and/or mentor may use other platforms.

Personnel

Working with your mentor

You will have a primary mentor for your research project, who may be a faculty member, graduate student, or postdoc. We will provide guidance and support for working with your mentor to align your expectations.

Who to contact

Each school has a SURS coordinator, and there are also overall SURS program coordinators that anyone can contact. If you are unsure who to contact, send your question to the program coordinators.

If you have a question about	Contact
General questions	Program coordinator
Stipend, payment or employment documents	School coordinator
Remote work technology issues	Program/school coordinator
Assignments, events, workshops	Program coordinator
Working with your mentor	Program/school coordinator
Travel, housing	School coordinator
Research questions	Primary research mentor

Coordinators

Program (also CU Boulder)

Ellen Keister (kathryn.keister@colorado.edu)

Sarah Schreiner (sarah.schreiner@colorado.edu)

Lauren Mason (masonlw@colorado.edu)

UC Berkeley

Jessie Woodcock (jwoodcock@berkeley.edu)

UCLA

Françoise Quéval (queval@physics.ucla.edu)

UC Irvine

Franklin Dollar (fdollar@uci.edu)

Fort Lewis College

Jaimee McCullough (jlmccullough@fortlewis.edu)

Florida International University

Jessica Ramella-Roman (jramella@fiu.edu)

Andrew Green (agree@fiu.edu)

Norfolk State University

Doyle Temple (datemple@nsu.edu)

Events

Welcome Event

We will hold a welcome event on Thursday, June 3rd. For those whose program has not started yet, we encourage you to join if you are able, as the event will be held virtually. We will work with those unable to attend to schedule a time to welcome them! There will also be a welcome social hour on Monday, June 21, by which time all programs will have started.

Social Events

Building community is a very important part of the SURS program, and one we recognize has gotten more difficult due to pandemic restrictions. We strongly encourage you to join weekly social events, as getting to know people is critical to building your networks.

Research in Progress talks

As mentioned under Assignments, you are expected to present a 7-10 minute Research in Progress (RIP) talk about halfway through your research program. You are expected to attend all Research in Progress sessions, and to participate and engage by asking questions of other presenters.

Professional Development

We will be offering professional development workshops approximately once a week over the duration of the program. Some will be offered more than once due to the differences in scheduling between different schools. You are expected to attend and participate in these workshops. For workshops offered more than once, you are welcome to attend whichever one you prefer. Topics will include giving presentations, science communication, responsible conduct of research, networking, career discernment, and graduate school preparation.