CDE2605R: Undergraduate Research Experience (UREx)

Briefing on UREx

College of Design and Engineering & Office of the Provost
National University of Singapore

Briefing Agenda

- What is UREx?

  - Eligibility, application procedures and timelines

  - Grant

  - Deliverables

- Withdrawal from UREx

- Comparing UROP to UREx

- Contact details

What is UREx?

- **CDE2605R** – **U**ndergraduate **R**esearch **Ex**perience **(UREx)**
- **Course Units**: 4
- **Duration**: Up to two semesters (regular)
- Credits from UREx can be counted to major internship requirements

- UREx projects are **student-proposed**
- **Individual** or **group** projects (max of 4 members per group)

Will be offered from Sem 1 AY24/25 onwards during **regular semesters only**

UROP (EG2605) cannot be upgraded with REx. Students who wish to benefit from the REx programme while doing a research project under CDE can opt to take UREx.

Eligibility and Other Conditions

- Must be a registered CDE student
- Have at least stage 2 standing
- Have at least two regular semesters of study remaining prior to graduation

- UREx can only be taken once
- Students can take both UROP and UREx but not concurrently
- UREx can be taken concurrently with FYP but projects (scope of work) must be significantly different
- Main supervisor must be a full-time academic staff from CDE (including those with joint appointments with CDE). Co-supervisors need not be from CDE

Application Procedure and Timeline

- Completed and endorsed **REx Fellows' Grant Application Form** to be uploaded on CDE Enhancement Programmes Portal

- For a group project, only the **group leader** needs to submit application

- Applications will be routed to supervisors for approval. Once approved, applications will be routed to PVO for final review

Activity	Semester 1	Semester 2
Submission of REx Fellows' Grant Application Form via the CDE Enhancement Programmes Portal	Week -1 to Week 2	Week -2 to Week 2
Enrolment of CDE2605R in EduRec by **Dean's Office** Onboarding to REx CANVAS page (REX1000)	Week 4	Week 4

Grant

For UREx projects, REx Fellows can claim up to:

- Individual projects: **$2500**
- Group projects: **$5000** per project

REx Fellows will have access to grant monies until their final semester in NUS.

Claim Procedure

- Students are to submit endorsed **reimbursement forms** with all relevant receipts via CDE Enhancement Programme Portal which will be reviewed and approved by PVO.

- PVO will inform supervisors and students of approved claims. PVO will liaise with finance BP at CDE to release the funds respectively to the student/supervisor's WBS.

Deliverables

In order to receive a CS grade, students will need to satisfactorily complete/submit the following deliverables within two regular semesters:

- UREx report

- 5 workshops

- Executive summary

For group projects, UREx deliverables are to be completed by each group member individually

Deliverables

UREx Report

- 10-20 page technical report

- Assessment Criteria

    ➢ Project Design, Execution and Outcomes

    Major Attributes: Problem definition and rationale; Methodology, execution and analysis; Project outcomes

    ➢ Competencies

    Major Attributes: Ability to troubleshoot and solve problems; Commitment; Independence

    ➢ Report Writing

    Major Attributes: Organization and formatting; Mechanics of writing

Deliverables

Workshops

- Attend a minimum of 5 REx workshops within 2 semesters including Ethics in Research and Research Methodologies
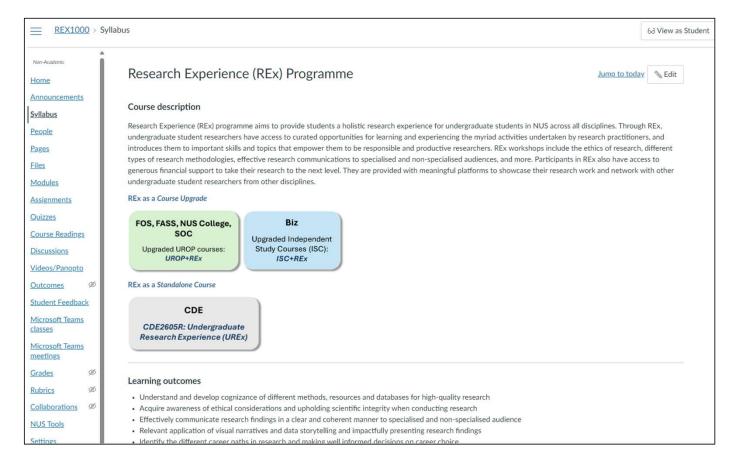
Executive Summary

- 1-2 page non-technical report meant for laymen audience

CDE REx Fellows are required to complete the deliverables within 2 regular semesters

Deliverables

- UREx report and executive summary to be uploaded via CDE Enhancement Programmes Portal

- UREx report will be graded by supervisors and executive summary will be reviewed by PVO

- UREx workshops

  - Announcements and materials will be uploaded on **REX1000 CANVAS** page

  - Tracking of workshop attendance by PVO

REX1000 CANVAS Page

- All communications and materials for REx workshops will be made available through REX1000 CANVAS page by PVO.

- PVO will be onboarding CDE REx Fellows to REX1000 upon approval of UREx applications.

- CDE REx Fellows will have access to REX1000 until their final semester in NUS unless they withdraw from the course.

Timeline for UREx Deliverables

UREx commences	Deadline to complete UREx deliverables	Grading
Start of Sem 1	End by Sem 1	• Receive 'CS/CU' grade at end of Sem 1
	End by Sem 2	• Receive 'IP' grade at end of Sem 1 • Receive 'CS/CU' grade at end of Sem 2

UREx commences	Deadline to complete UREx deliverables	Grading
Start of Sem 2	End by Sem 2	• Receive 'CS/CU' grade at end of Sem 2
	End by Sem 1 of next AY	• Receive 'IP' grade at end of Sem 2 • Receive 'CS/CU' grade at end of Sem 1 of next AY

PVO will issue UREx e-Certificate of Completion via Accredible to students who have received CS grade

Withdrawal from UREx

Withdrawal procedure

- Requests to drop UREx to be made via CDE Enhancement Programmes Portal

  - Go to Undergraduate Research Experience (UREx) > Withdrawal of Interest > Indicate the reason(s) for withdrawal > Submit

Affects on grades (for Sem 1 and Sem 2)

- Drops between Week 3 and end of Recess Week: Receive 'W' grade

- Drops after Recess Week: Receive 'CU' grade

Access to UREx grants

- Students will cease having access to grant monies upon withdrawal from UREx. For group projects, remaining group members will still have access to the grant

- Monies will not be clawed back from students in the event of withdrawal from course

Comparing UROP to UREx

Aspect	UROP (EG2605)	UREx (CDE2605R)
Units	4	4
Eligibility	Stage 2 standing	Stage 2 standing
Offered in	Sem 1, 2 and Special Term 1	Sem 1 and 2
Project initiated by	Staff (mostly)	**Student**
Nature of project	Typically academic research	**Any technical project is fine** as long as it serves to facilitate: • Independent learning • Critical and creative thinking

Comparing UROP to UREx

Aspect	UROP (EG2605)	UREx (CDE2605R)
Student(s)/project	One	Can be conducted **individually** or in **group** (max 4 students)
Supervised by	CDE Academic staff	CDE Academic staff
Grant	Little to none	• **SGD 2500** (Individual) • **SGD 5000** (Group)
Deliverables	UROP Report (10-20 pg technical report)	• UREx Report (10-20 pg technical report) • Executive summary (1-2 pg non-technical report) • Attendance for 5 workshops
Commitment	130 hr (minimum)	130 hr (minimum)

Contact Details

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More information can be found on the UREx website