SciX @ UNSW

Student Guide
2021 - 2022
The SciX Experience

SciX@UNSW supports Science Extension students and other keen senior high school students to complete research projects by providing them with access to UNSW Science's world-leading researchers, research tools and facilities.

Students are placed in small groups focused on a particular research area and technique. Each group’s UNSW Science mentors, current PhD students and practicing researchers, will introduce students to research and tools at the frontier of scientific knowledge, supporting students in developing their individual hypothesis and carrying out their independent research project.

The centrepiece of the SciX experience is a one-week intensive summer school. SciX2022 will take place on 17th - 21st January.
SciX 2022 Schedule

Online Prework: November
- Project pre-work released progressively during November
- Research and transferable skills training
- Programming training for select projects

Virtual Welcome: late November
- SciX program introduction and 1 hr project Q&A opportunity

SciX Summer School, 17th–21st January 2022

Learn research and explore your own hypothesis in supportive environment

See and hear about current research
Experience life as a uni student

Post-summer-school check-ins: February and May
- Two virtual project Q&A opportunities in late February and early May
- Particularly valuable for Science Extension support
SciX Mentors

Your SciX research mentor will be a practicing researcher from UNSW, chosen specifically for their skills and enthusiasm for sharing their love and science with others.

During ten sessions, mentors will:

• Provide you with access to and training in a specific research technique to utilise for your scientific research project, suitable for Science Extension.
• Suggest potential research areas you could explore within your project’s specific research context and technique, and provide preliminary readings.
• Support you in accessing, understanding and citing relevant peer-reviewed scientific literature.
• Support you in developing your research question and hypothesis that can be explored based on the project’s research technique.
• Answer your questions about the research methodology, and the rationale for this approach.
• Support you in developing your research plan.
• Provide suggestions and some training in how to analyse, present and discuss the data you obtain with your research technique.
• Support you in considering future improvements in your methodology.
• Support you in understanding the sources of systematic and random errors in your experiment, and understanding the reliability, accuracy, validity and limitations of your methodology.

Your mentor will be unable to provide post-summer-school project support outside the scheduled two Q&A sessions. Full report reviews are unavailable, but you are encouraged to prepare writing snippets and figures to the Q&A sessions for review. We also strongly encourage peer review through your SciX project group.

SciX @UNSW
All participants must adhere to the core values within the UNSW Student Code of Conduct. The Code details UNSW’s agreement to create a safe environment that fosters the potential of all participants to achieve their academic potential. It also outlines the obligations of students to behave in an ethical and safe manner and treat others and university resources with respect.

**UNSW Science Responsibilities:**
• To provide a learning, teaching and research environment that enables students to achieve their full potential.
• To provide an experience for students consistent with the University’s values and guiding principles.
• To ensure the well-being of all students is maintained in accordance with relevant Child Protection Legislations.
• Ensure that the research techniques you are using during the Summer School are safe and ethical, providing an explicit risk assessment for non-computational projects and discussing ethics for relevant projects.

**Student Responsibilities:**
• An obligation to act with integrity in academic work, to ensure that all academic work is conducted ethically and safely. Plagiarism undermines academic integrity and is not tolerated at UNSW.
• An obligation to observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the University community.
• An obligation to use and care for University resources in a lawful and appropriate manner.

**Program Fee Payment Terms & Conditions:**
• Tickets will be made available via EventBrite with applications opening Monday 11th October. Students will be allocated to projects on a first-come, first-serve basis, with second preferences and waiting lists implemented.
• The standard SciX@UNSW program fee is $415+ GST per student that partially covers the cost of resourcing the program. This is to be paid via Eventbrite as part of the application process, with refunds available for two weeks.
• Fee-waived positions are available based on financial need and for regional, rural and Indigenous students. Students can apply for these positions through EventBrite.
• Large school groups (10+ students) can be invoiced separately with a discounted price of $400 + GST per student. Registration and project selections are made through EventBrite.
• All students are required to have the permission of a parent/guardian prior to completing their application. Science Extension students should also consult with their teachers.
• SciX@UNSW continues to monitor the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 and will decide on the final delivery mode in late November with refunds available if there are significant changes to the on-campus delivered program. Updates will be provided on the SciX@UNSW website as additional information becomes available.
• We are currently urging all in our UNSW community who can get vaccinated to do so as soon as possible to help keep you and our community safe, especially as we get closer to living with COVID-19 as part of our normal everyday lives.
Program Enquiries

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