



# Commerce Scholars Program

Information Session  
February 7, 2019

# Introduction



- UG students get an enriched opportunity to study the research process under the mentorship of distinguished faculty mentors.
- Draws on research excellence and the reputation of the Sauder School of Business.
- Advances student future career and educational prospects.



# Program Overview

- A Faculty/Student Mentorship partnership forged by you and your mentor
- A research assistantship appointment that includes \$5000 paid to you over a two year period
- Attendance at the Faculty Research Seminar Series
- Participation in the CSP Research Conferences
- Commerce Scholar Designation on Transcript



# Program Overview- Timeline

- June 2019:** Cohort of scholars selected
- Sept 2019:** Commerce Scholars Welcome Reception
- Sept 2019:** Research methods course COMM 311 (Term 1) (3 credits)
- Fall 2019:** Seminar series and mentor meetings begin
- Jan – Aug 2020:** Research Assistant appointment (approx. 200 hours);  
Time frame determined between faculty mentor and student;  
\$5,000 for the RA work
- April 2020:** Mid-Program Review
- Sept 2020:** COMM 490 (Term 1 & 2 – September to April) (3 credits)  
Develop research proposal & attend research seminars
- Nov 2020:** Project proposal presentation
- April 2021:** Final-Program Review;  
Final research presentation and paper

# Program Overview



## Academic Requirements

- You will take a research methods course COMM 311 (3 credits) in the fall of the first program year;
- You will assume a mentor-supervised research assistant appointment;
- You will register for COMM 490 (3 credits) in Term 1 & 2 (September to April) of the second program year
  - attend and engage in a series of monthly Scholars research seminars; and
  - complete an individual research project that includes a presentation and final report.





# Program Overview

## Academic Requirements

You will be graded on the following:

**COMM 311 is graded like a normal course.**

**Positive Scholar's Progress Reports**

**COMM 490 is graded in sections as follow:**

25%	Active participation in monthly seminar series
75%	Regular meetings with your mentor Final research project and presentation

# Is the Commerce Scholars Program right for you?



# Research Methods Course



- Fundamentals of scientific research
- Theory, research design, methods, and criticism
- Develop research questions and test your ideas
- Learn to evaluate other people's research designs



# Research Project



- Generate original research
- Topic developed by you with your faculty mentor
- Approach faculty members with whom you would like to work
- Perhaps even those who taught something you think was wrong



# Admission Requirements

- Advancing to third year of B.Com program (or 4th year in case of co-op students);
- A minimum of a First Class Average 80% in all COMM 2XX with an overall strong academic record; and
- Successfully completed C290, 291, and 295.
- Attained a minimum of 76% or a “B+” in UBC ENGL 112 or acceptable equivalent course.

# Admission Requirements



## Selection Criteria:

- Think critically;
- Show strong motivation for research;
- Demonstrate creativity and potential for research;
- Demonstrate ability to work collaboratively and independently; and
- Agreement from a Sauder faculty member to have you work with them on a research project and mentor you as a Commerce Scholar.

# Mid-Program Review



Review conducted by the Steering Committee  
in April 2020

- Committee check-in with Mentor
- Scholar's available grades since entering the program
- Scholar's Progress Report

# Rules for non-residence



- Approval by Steering Committee
- For students graduating in 4 years, maximum period of non-residence is a single term (either 2nd term year 3 or summer between year 3 & 4)
- The scholars completing their degree in 5 years can request to substitute the year 4 residency requirement with year 5 with approval of the Committee



# CSP Ambassadors



- **Evan Flater**, Internal Strategy Consultant, TimberWest
- **Margaret Fong**, Ph.D. Candidate in Accounting, UC Berkeley
- **Bruno Lam**, Research and Advisory, Sauder S3i & Pacific Impact
- **Laura Lam**, Marketing Strategist, e@UBC
- **Florence Lee**, User Experience Architect, ITHAKA (Michigan)
- **Jack Leung**, Senior Consultant, Deal Advisory at KPMG (Toronto)
- **Dennis Ma**, Ph.D. Student, OBHR, UBC Sauder School of Business
- **Stefanus Soegiarto**, Analyst, Coast Mountain Bus Company
- **Jessica Su**, Marketing Specialist, TELUS Health
- **Justin Yee**, Accountant, KPMG

# Interested? Things to think about.



- One of the problems students face is over-extending themselves.
- Think carefully about time constraints.
- Take time to consider your involvement.
- Conduct research into whom you would like as your mentor and approach him/her well before you apply to ensure it will be a good fit.



# Plan Ahead



- Read the questions required of you on the application (provided in the handouts).
- Contact CSP Ambassadors to discuss the benefits of the program
- Submit the NOI and contact potential mentors early



# Application Process

- **Notice of Intent (NOI) form opens on Feb 8, 2019.**
- **NOI Submission deadline: Feb 15, 2019**
- **On-line application opens on May 3, 2019.**
- **Application Deadline: May 17, 2019.**
- **Acceptance notification: by end of June, 2019.**

Title of Presentation

Commerce Scholars Program

# Questions?

## Contact:

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Manager, Research Support Services and Special Projects

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**Commerce Scholars general info page:**

<http://sauder.ubc.ca/csp>

