

**Auburn University Honors College**  
**Honor Your Teaching: Research Venture Lyceum Design Fellowship**  
**For Fall 2025**

The Auburn University Honors College's "Honor Your Teaching: Research Venture Lyceum Design Fellowship" is a pilot program to support AU faculty in the creation of "Research Lyceums" that will provide small groups of students with an introductory experience in research or creative endeavor.

**What is a Research Lyceum?**

The Honors College will offer up to ten "Research Venture Lyceums" for the Spring 2026 semester as sections of the HONR.1087 Lyceum course. Lyceums, named after the gymnasium where the ancient philosopher Aristotle taught, provide a curricular setting for highly interactive forms of learning in the Honors College. As one-credit courses with satisfactory-unsatisfactory grading, they also offer opportunities for students to explore ideas and fields without worry about the impact of intellectual risk-taking on their GPA.

Through the curricular vehicle of the lyceum, AU faculty will supervise up to five students on a semester-long research "venture" or project. The Honors vision for research venture lyceums is that the project and course will be structured so that students can make meaningful contributions even if they are at an early stage of their studies. Proceeding through a pedagogical philosophy of active and collaborative learning, the lyceums will be structured so that students learn by working with each other and their instructor, developing a cohort identity through their shared venture. Ideally, the research lyceums will provide a low-stakes setting for undergraduates to learn first-hand what it is like to do research in the relevant field, and for faculty to mentor undergraduates whom they may want to invite to join more advanced research collaborations. These are guidelines, not firm rules: *faculty are free to design research ventures that work best for their departments and fields*. Also, while the vision for the research ventures is that students will enroll in them during their first or second year of undergraduate study, faculty may stipulate different requirements for enrollment in their lyceum.

**How will the "Honor Your Research Team Design Fellowship" Work?**

Over the course the Fall semester of 2025, fellows will design a one-credit research venture lyceum with the assistance of the Honors College academic affairs staff. The course should be offered for the Spring semester of 2026.

Through a series of two workshop sessions, fellows will learn best practices in honors education, engage in discussion of their course ideas, and receive feedback on ways to strengthen their proposed course materials. Fellows are eligible for funding in subsequent summers pending successful application.

**WHO:**

- Faculty, both tenure-track and non-tenure-track, from all disciplines, who are actively engaged in research or creative endeavor in their fields.
- Faculty who have previously taught for the Honors College are eligible to apply for the fellowship, as are those who have not yet taught for the Honors College.
- The most successful participants will dedicate considerable time outside the workshops to work on their course design project.

#### **AWARDS:**

- \$1,000 (1-hour course)
- \$2,000 (co-taught course; split between the fellows)
- Courses will also receive standard honors compensation for the semesters in which they are offered.

#### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- Fellows will secure—and provide written proof of—chair approval before applying for the fellowship, informing the chair of all requirements for the fellowship, including the expectation that fellows will teach the newly designed course at least twice over the course of the subsequent two academic years.
- Fellows will commit ample time outside the workshops to ensure that they produce high-quality course materials.
- Fellows will attend a kick-off reception in August.
- Fellows will attend two workshops hosted by Honors College staff:
  - September 4, 2025, 12:30-1:45
  - October 16, 12:30-1:45
- Fellows will submit a completed syllabus at the end of the fall for approval by Honors College academic affairs staff.

#### **APPLICATIONS:**

- Curriculum Vitae
- List of previous Honors courses taught (if applicable)
- General plan for Lyceum research project the applicant is interested in designing
- Please visit the “Faculty Resources” tab on the Honors College website for a more detailed description of the Research Lyceum and a sample syllabus.

#### **SUBMISSION:**

- **Deadline: July 1, 2025**
- Sent in digital form to the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs Suzanne Hunter (sap0005@auburn.edu) with each file labeled as: filename\_applicant last name\_year
- Please do not submit application pieces in separate emails.

*Please direct any questions to the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs, Suzanne Hunter (sap0005@auburn.edu).*

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Before the Honors College considers an applicant for the Honor Your Teaching: Research Venture Lyceum Design Fellowship, it needs the approval of the department in which the faculty member resides. Questions about the form can be directed to Assistant Director of Academic Affairs, Suzanne Hunter [sap0005@auburn.edu](mailto:sap0005@auburn.edu)

Faculty member: \_\_\_\_\_

Auburn email \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty member's home department: \_\_\_\_\_

Research Lyceum title \_\_\_\_\_

The year and semester of participation in the fellowship program \_\_\_\_\_

The year and semester the associated course will be offered  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will this course be taught in-load or as an overload? \_\_\_\_\_

Department Chair/Head

\_\_\_\_\_  
(print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)