

URGE

Unlearning Racism in Geoscience

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URGE Session 7 - Resource Map for Smith College

This document is a working draft of a Resource Map for the Department of Geosciences at Smith College. This was adapted from the "Sample Ph.D. Mentoring Plan" developed by Vashan Wright (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution) and Karin Block (City College of New York and CUNY Graduate Center), License: [CC BY-NC-SA 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/).

- Mentoring and Advising
 - All majors and minors are assigned a faculty advisor according to their class year. Information for your class advisor can be found on the [department website](#).
 - Each faculty member in the Department of Geosciences will set their own expectations for individual/group meetings with research students.
- Core work resources
 - Code-of-conduct - to maintain a safe and healthy work environment for students who engage in lab and/or field work, please review our [Laboratory and Field Safety Plan](#).
 - Communication plan and expectations: students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to communicate with each other via e-mail or the department of Geosciences Slack.
 - Reporting Policy - [This document](#) provides a list of resources for how a member of the Smith community can address/report issues related to insensitivity and harassment.
 - Equipment - In the "cave" (Burton 110) there is a field gear share program including extra field appropriate clothing, shoes, and other miscellaneous field gear. The Department owns camping gear, such as tents and stoves, that students can use for field work, please contact your research advisor for inquiries. Students can apply to the Departmental Schalk fund to cover the cost of field gear, especially hiking boots. More information about Departmental grants that can help with equipment costs can be found [here](#).
 - Conference and Field Camp: Research students are encouraged to attend regional and national conferences to present their research. Geoscience students may apply for funds to offset conference costs via the GEOSTars Fund. A

summer field course is strongly encouraged for majors, and the Department of Geosciences offers financial support via the Schalk Fund. Detailed information for the financial support for Geoscience students can be found [here](#).

- Smith students are encouraged to conduct summer research with faculty members. The Summer Research Fellowship Program (SURF) provides up to 10 weeks of summer pay for summer research experiences, for more information check the [SURF](#) website.
- All Smith students are eligible for funding of one external unpaid internship, for more information see the [PRAXIS](#) website.
- Eligible students can also apply for the McKinley Fellowship. The McKinley Fellowship gives students with high financial need the opportunity to do research rather than work-study during their junior or senior years. More information can be found [here](#).

- Community support and mental health resources
 - Smith College counseling services can be found [here](#).
 - All students interested in Geosciences are encouraged to subscribe to the geo-students listserv and the department Slack channel. Sign up for both the listserv and Slack on the [Department](#) website.
 - For extracurricular activities, check out Smith College's [list of clubs and sports](#).
 - Also, consider getting involved with [Geo-Club](#)!

- Skillset support resources
 - Some employment and research opportunities within the Department of Geosciences require that the student have certain skills or experiences, such as: driving Smith College vans (e.g. being a TA for a class), hiking/outdoors experience (e.g. fieldwork for research), compass/GPS navigation (e.g. fieldwork for research), swimming (e.g. as a safety measure for conducting fieldwork near or on water), operating rock saws and other power tools (e.g. lab based research).
 - Smith College offers a variety of programs to help learn or improve upon these skills:
 - [Outdoor Adventure Program](#) at Smith College provides opportunities for learning/practicing skills in hiking and other outdoor activities.
 - Annually in January the Outdoor Adventure Program offers a [Wilderness First Aid](#) class.
 - There are opportunities to learn/practice swimming - discuss this with your research advisor.
 - Students who will drive vans for class/College sponsored trips must first register with the [Five College Risk Management](#).
 - Students will be trained one-on-one by their research advisor or the lab support technician for how to use equipment in the department.
 - If you need to use a programming language for your research or coursework, help can be found at the [Spinelli Center](#).

- Workshops for graduate school/professional licensing: The [Spinelli Center](#) also offers workshops for math topics that are on the GRE and MTEL standardized tests.
- The [Jacobsen Center](#) offers a range of resources to help develop and improve upon writing skills.
- Professional development resources
 - The [Jacobsen Center](#) offers resources for learning/improving public speaking skills.
 - The [Lazarus Center for Career Development](#) offers resources for career preparation including career advising, preparation for graduate and professional schools, workshops, and internship/employment recruiting fairs.
 - Smith College provides some software to students at no cost, for more information visit the [ITS website](#).
 - Students are encouraged to sign up for professional societies, such as:
 - [The Geological Society of America](#)
 - [The American Geophysical Union](#)
 - [The Paleontological Society](#)
 - [The Mineralogical Society of America](#)
 - [The American Institute of Professional Geologists](#)
 - [SACNAS](#)
 - [NABG](#)
 - [GeoLatinas](#)
 - Participation in field experiences, internships, and summer research opportunities are strongly encouraged for Geoscience majors and minors. For a list of field experiences, internships, and summer research opportunities, see the Department [website](#) under 'Resources'. Additional opportunities for students can be found at the [Clark Science Center website](#).
 - The Department of Geosciences hosts lunchtime talks during the semester, see our [website](#) for more information.