

# Dr. John Archer Library Award for Best Undergraduate Research Project



Realize. Your research starts here.

## What is it?

This award has been established through funding from the Dr. John Archer Library for an undergraduate student who demonstrates written evidence of significant inquiry using the Library's resources and services along with learning about the research and information-gathering process for their research project.

## How much is the award?

The award's value is \$1,000 and will be presented annually commencing in Spring 2012.

## When will the award be given?

Librarians will choose a recipient and notify the Student Awards and Financial Aid Office before the end of regularly scheduled classes in the Spring Semester. The recipient may wish to be honoured at a special Library event.

## How can I apply for the award?

Complete the application form, submit a 250-500 word reflective essay (guidelines are on the other side of this page), and submit a copy of your original research project. Applications for the award will be available online at the Archer Library <http://www.uregina.ca/library> and Student Awards and Financial Aid <http://www.uregina.ca/awards/scholarships> websites in the first week of January 2012. Submit completed applications to the Student Awards and Financial Aid Office.

## What is the deadline for the award?

February 15, 2012 - Registrar Winter Semester deadline.

## Who is eligible to apply for the award?

The award will be given to a University of Regina undergraduate student who meets the following criteria:

- Write a 250-500 word reflective essay that shows evidence of significant inquiry using the Library's resources and services along with learning about the research and information-gathering process for completing their research project.
- Pursuing a Bachelor degree in any faculty or program (including Distance Education).
- Registered in a minimum of 12 credit hours in the semester the project is completed.
- Research project may be completed in the final semester of a student's program but not before the Fall 2010 Semester.
- Must be the sole author and have received a minimum grade of 70% for the research project in a course that was completed for credit.
- Submit original or copy of the research project.
- Must agree to provide the Archer Library with a copy of the project for possible placement in oURspace <http://ourspace.uregina.ca> (the University of Regina's institutional repository) and, temporarily, housing in a public exhibit space within the Library. License conditions for deposited materials <http://ourspace.uregina.ca/about?license> must be agreed upon as well.

**Note:** students who received financial assistance (i.e.: grants, research assistantship, etc.) to support the associated research project are eligible to receive this award.

# Dr. John Archer Library Award for Best Undergraduate Research Project Individual and Team Award Reflective Essay Guidelines



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Below are questions to consider and perhaps address when writing the Dr. John Archer Library Award for Best Undergraduate Research Project reflective essay. The essay (between 250 and 500 words) is part of the award application and must be submitted to the Student Awards and Scholarship Office with:

- Dr. John Archer Library Award for Best Undergraduate Research Project Application  
<http://www.uregina.ca/awards/scholarships/displayScholarship.jsp?id=803>
  - Copy of your of your major research project
1. How did you think about and refine your research topic?
  2. What specific strategies did you develop for finding relevant information?
  3. What specific library search tools did you use, and why?
  4. What [library services](#) (e.g. [Information Desk/Reference assistance](#), [Interlibrary Loan](#), [Archives and Special Collections](#), [Spatial and Numeric Data Services](#), [Subject Guides](#)) did you take advantage of, and how did these services and resources support your research?
  5. Did you have trouble finding some types or formats of information and, if so, how did you overcome this challenge?
  6. Did your assumptions about what information would be available change throughout the research process?
  7. Did you have reasons for not selecting specific resources, even though they appeared promising?
  8. What did you learn about finding information on your topic or in your discipline? Was it necessary to move outside your discipline to find sufficient sources?
  9. How much did the sources you used provide support for your thesis or conclusions?
  10. How did you balance the evidence that you found?
  11. What did you learn about your own research process and style?
  12. What expertise have you gained as a researcher?
  13. What do you still need to learn?
  14. What would you change about your strategies and process if given another chance to conduct this research?
  15. Which individuals (faculty, librarians, archivists, reference assistants, etc.) provided significant assistance with the research gathering process and what did they do?