

Lance & Elena Calvert Undergraduate Research Award Instructions for Students

The reflective essay carries the most weight in the judging for the Lance and Elena Calvert Undergraduate Research Award, followed by the bibliography. The points below are designed to guide you in focusing on important elements in the reflective essay and the bibliography.

Reflective Essay

The reflective essay represents the most important element used by the judges to evaluate your work for this award. The reflective essay should cover aspects of your research process including search strategies that you used to gather information and how you chose sources to support your thesis. The following points are taken from the rubric used in judging the submissions for the award and should be addressed in the reflective essay.

- How did you evaluate your resources? Tell us in the reflective essay what criteria you used to choose your information resources.
- You should explain your research process; how did you gather information for your project? What keywords did you use when searching for information?
- Your essay should also display an awareness of all the research tools available. Research tools can include books, articles accessed from databases, bibliographies, and websites - anything that helped you find information to complete your project.
- Did you have a failed search or dead ends during the research process? What did you do to compensate, how did you adjust your search if you reached a dead end?
- Don't focus on one side of an issue. Your essay should demonstrate how you investigated different points of view throughout your research process.
- Did you display persistence and initiative in gaining access to appropriate sources not available in the library? Mention in the essay if you used tools to locate materials not available in Lied Library, including Link+ and Interlibrary Loan?

Creative Works Essay

In addition to your reflective essay, please include a personal statement of no more than 500 words that provides an introduction to your creative work. There is separate Creative Works rubric on the Calvert Undergraduate Award application webpage.

You may use the personal essay to expand on, for example:

- Underlying themes or meaning of your work
- Where your work fits within the discipline
- Sources and influences

- Inspirations
- Techniques and materials used

Bibliography

Your paper's bibliography should be in a constant style appropriate to your discipline. To help the judges understand your unique list of resources, you may include an explanatory note identifying specific characteristics of these sources that were importation in your selection and use for your project.

Creative Works Bibliography

Please include references for non-traditional sources, such as original compositions, arrangements, performances, exhibitions, sound or video recordings, productions, research on individual artists and designers as well as plans and computer models.