First-Year Student Research Prize
$250 award to the First-Year Student who presents the best research poster during the 2019 Undergraduate Research and Arts Celebration on Wednesday, April 24, 2019

Prizes:  First Place, $250
        Second Place, $75
        Third Place, $25

Winners will be announced during the Honors Convocation at 4:00 p.m. on April 24.

Who is Eligible? All members of the Class of 2022

How Do I Enter? Submit a proposal to the Undergraduate Research Advisory Council which describes the research you have conducted/are conducting and will present via a poster at one of the poster sessions in the 2019 URAC. Application forms and additional details will be emailed to all first-year students and made available on the web and in Old Main 109 early in spring term 2019. Your research advisor/class instructor will evaluate the application and sign it if approved.

What Research do I Present? The research you present may be the work from any of the classes in which you are/were enrolled during either the Fall 2018 or Spring 2019 semester. It may also involve an extension of that work (i.e., you may work beyond the point at which you ended in class) or work conducted independently with a Westminster College faculty member.

How Will the Project be Evaluated? There are several criteria by which your work will be assessed:
1. Complexity and extensiveness of your research as evidenced in your poster/discussion. (40%)
2. Clarity of written presentation on poster. (30%)
3. Ability to discuss your research and answer questions about it and its implications. (25%)
4. Visual appeal and professional appearance of poster. (5%)

What Other Requirements Exist in Order to Have My Research Considered?
1. All posters must be computer generated printed posters. No hand assembled posters will be considered for this prize. Posters which will be printed in the Westminster College Print Shop must be submitted for printing by April 17. The First-Year Program will underwrite reasonable in-house printing costs associated with production of the poster.
2. Poster presenters must be present URAC on April 24.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions
1. Posters may be presented by groups of student researchers; however, should a group receive the award, prize monies will be divided equally among the participates. Alternatively, an individual may present group work if given the written permission of each group member.
2. First-Year Program faculty and advanced students will offer technical and design support for the production of student posters. Responsibility for completing the poster remains with the student researcher.
3. A faculty committee will interview researchers and evaluate their work during the poster session(s) at URAC.