What information do you need to have ready before filling out the online URSS application form?

- First Name
- Family Name
- University ID
- Home Department
- Year of study (full time equivalent if part-time)
- Email (Warwick)
- Alternative email
- Mobile number
- Are you an international student?
- If yes do you have a Tier 4 visa to study at Warwick?

Part 1 – Project details to be completed by the applicant)

- Title of research project
- What is your project about? Explain your project to an interdisciplinary non-expert audience (max 1000 characters including spaces).
- How do you plan to carry out your project? (max 1000 characters)
- How does your project fit into the research culture of the department? (eg contributing to the knowledge base, community, internationally) (max 1000 characters)
- Provide information on your public engagement activity. This can include engaging with community groups, businesses, schools, or the public; collaborative research; publishing a zine; interactive stands at a public event; arranging an online event etc (max 1000 characters)
- Will you require any training from Warwick Institute of Engagement? (Yes / No)

Please note that the online cannot accept more characters than the maximum number specified so you may need to edit if your text is too long. Some examples of responses on previous applications can be found at end of this document.

- What do you hope to gain from doing a URSS research project? (1000 characters max)
- Project department
- First name of academic supervisor (do not include title)
- Last name of academic supervisor
- Name of additional supervisor (optional)
- Proposed start date of project
- Proposed end date of project
- Will your project involve travel outside the UK?
  - If yes, please provide details. Please note that you will be required to provide a full itinerary and risk assessment if you are travelling outside the UK
- Where do you plan to travel? Please list all countries/cities. (Leave blank if you are staying in the UK)
- What is the estimated cost to carry out the project? (£1500 max for UK and overseas based projects)
• Please include a breakdown of anticipated costs that your bursary would support (eg accommodation, travel, living costs). Please note that an additional £250 if available for Warwick Scholars or those who meet specific characteristics? Contact the URSS team at urss@warwick.ac.uk if you would like further information.

• Will you require top-up funding for your public engagement activity?
• Will you be applying for any other funding?
• If yes, what funding will you be applying for?
• Have you previously undertaken a URSS project?
• If yes, please state the year, your reasons for wanting to do another project and the additional skills and experience you hope to gain from this project. Please note that you are NOT eligible to apply for a URSS bursary if you have previously received funding from the URSS to carry out a research project. You may apply for alternative sources of funding and take part in the URSS experience as an affiliate.

• Ethics considerations – you will need to discuss this with your supervisor before completing the form.
• What are the ethical considerations of your project if any? (eg. NHS, social care, human participants, data, human tissue etc) (Max 500 characters)
• If ethics approval is required please provide details of how you will manage this. (Max 500 characters)

Personal data – All successful URSS applicants will be invited to participate in other opportunities to showcase their research at University exhibitions and events such as ICUR, the International Conference of Undergraduate Research. This may involve passing your details and project information to other departments within the University. If you do not wish your details to be shared please tick here.

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• Terms and conditions of applications – Please note your application will be refused if you do not/cannot agree with all the terms and conditions. Please tick the box to show that you have read and consent to the terms and conditions set out by the URSS

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Part two – Departmental support (to be completed by your academic supervisor)

• Do you agree with the student’s research project proposals above? (Yes / No)
• Is the project part of an ongoing research project or public engagement initiative?
• How many students will be working on this project (please provide the names of all the students working on the project so we can assess the applications together by the same pair of reviewers.)
• How do you think this project will contribute to a) the student’s a) learning and development, b) the research culture, and/or c) public engagement priorities of the project department? (max 1000 Characters)
• What support will the student receive from the project department (eg. Academic/Post-Doctoral/PhD supervision, lab facilities, desk space etc)
• Please tick to show you have read and agreed with the terms and conditions
Below are some examples of previous answers taken from successful URSS applications.

**Project description**

**PAIS applicant**

When the global economy crashed in 2008, despite years of preaching the benefits of a limited, 'third way, state, the UK and US Governments intervened in the economy to, as Gordon Brown erroneously said, 'save the world'. So, my question is, why did this happen, and how could such intervention be justified? To investigate this, my approach begins with a critical interpretation of the political economy of John Maynard Keynes. Keynes theory, on this view, is a method of 'firefighting' economic crises to maintain the solvency of capitalism. Also, the methodology of my approach comes from International Relations theory; Jutta Weldes discussion of the formation of national interests through dominant discourses. So, using Weldes method, and a critical view of Keynes theory, the aim of my research project is to understand how discourse was used to maintain capitalist legitimacy through the construction of a Keynesian logic of state intervention as a universal economic interest.

**Sociology applicant**

My project explores representations of genetic reproduction by those with Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) in popular media and charity publications, with a particular focus on how women with EDS respond. EDS is a group of genetic disorders that affects the connective tissue, essentially the glue that holds the body together. Patterns of inheritance and symptoms differ between the subtypes. My research will focus primarily on type 3, the most common type and typically the least severe in terms of its effects on everyday life, although it has the potential to result in significant chronic pain and fatigue, mobility impairment and organ dysfunction. I am interested in how the prospects and possibilities of genetic motherhood for women with EDS are represented, as well as how women living with EDS make sense of them. For example, how is genetic risk constructed, how are disabled mothers with EDS represented, and to what extent do women living with EDS identify with or refuse these narratives?

**Chemistry applicant**

Crystallisation is the process in which ions or molecules arrange in a regular pattern to form a solid. Often multiple different arrangements of species are possible for the same ions, known as polymorphism. Why certain polymorphs form over others is still poorly understood. In particular, when crystallisation occurs in confined spaces (less than 100 microns in size) the polymorph often changes from that seen normally, for reasons that are currently unknown. This project will study the crystallisation of common biomineral calcium carbonate, in nano-scale volumes, investigating how and why changing various conditions affects the crystallisation and ultimately why it affects polymorphism. This topic has relevance in the fields of biology (coccolith formation), industry (scale build up), and the climate (CO2 storage in calcium carbonate).

**Law applicant**

Cambodia's progress was stalled by the violence of war and genocide where progress towards a sustainable economy is further hindered by lack of female participation. Gender inequality with regard to access to education, illiteracy and minimum healthcare have long term negative impacts on the empowerment of women and their independence. Education is a key component in effectively addressing gender inequality and potentially widening life choices of women augmenting independence and improving prospects. I will therefore be travelling to Cambodia to focus on gender issues concentrating on equal access to education and healthcare. I will consider the factors that
prevent women from gaining an education, including gender stereotyping between sons and daughters and the cultural and limiting practice of women compelled to work in agriculture. By empowering women and girls and giving them opportunities, this will in turn contribute to a sustainable economy and benefit the community at large.

How do you plan to carry out your project?

**Global Sustainable Development applicant**
For my project I would mainly carry out primary research by interviewing the members of my team, which is in charge of organising the preparation to climate conferences. Furthermore, my team has agreed to take me to the UNFCCC Conference in Bonn (17-27 June) where I could directly gather data about international climate negotiations through a set of interviews. I would also analyse secondary sources such as publicly available ministerial government reports and published papers.

**Chemistry applicant**
The project will be conducted in the Perrier group, working as a team, alongside post-doctorates, master and PhD students. I will be working in a laboratory using techniques like ligation, RAFT and catalytic ring opening polymerisation to form cyclic peptide-polymer conjugates. Data obtained will be recorded, evaluated and any structures characterised. My findings will be presented to the group, assessing any favourable structure properties for biomedical applications like drug delivery vectors.

**Law applicant**
I will be staying in Kampong Cham, where I have secured a place on a local initiative focusing on female education and empowerment in schools. My study will focus on the success of Government legal frameworks and local initiatives; improving access to education for girls and women and improving their employment prospects and quality of life. My research aligns with the 5th UN Sustainable Development Goal, gender equality being the main objective, creating equal opportunities for men and women.

What do you hope to gain form doing the URSS?

**Chemistry applicant**
I am currently planning to do a PhD and start a career in research. This project would therefore be an excellent way to see if research, and specifically electrochemistry, is really for me, as well strengthening my CV. I’d relish this opportunity to spend my summer productively, on an interesting project that may even contribute to a larger scientific endeavour.

**Sociology applicant**
Aside from the research conducted for my dissertation, I have had very little opportunity for research with human participants through the course of my undergraduate degree. I hope that doing a URSS project will allow me to fill this gap in my experience.

**Law applicant**
The gender and the law module gave me the opportunity to focus on issues in the UK and internationally, such as gendered violence and causes of bias between the sexes. This project extends my current work on India further within South East Asia focusing on the relationship between law and gender. I will consider how law and society constructs and reinforces gender inequalities through a lack of access to education which results in discrimination and a lack of rights and opportunities for women.
How will it fit with the research culture of the department? (e.g. contributing to the knowledge base, community, internationally)

**Global Sustainable Development applicant**
My department deploys an interdisciplinary approach in examining global issues while assessing the different solutions and their limitations. Therefore, the project fits in this context as it looks at a global issue, climate change; draws expertise from social (public policy, international relations and law) and natural sciences (climate and environmental studies); deploys a critical approach in assessing the role played by central governments and pressure groups in solving the climate issue.

How will the project contribute to the applicant’s learning development and research culture of the department?

**Chemistry supervisor**
The student would join a team working on crystallisation and have day-to-day supervision and direction from an experienced postdoc and work alongside a first-year PhD student. He would have the same facilities as a PhD, including office space and access to full lab facilities. The consumables and other items needed for the project would be funded by an EPSRC grant that is in place.

**Estimated cost to carry out project**

**Example of anticipated costs**
**Project dates:** 20 May - 21 July (10 weeks)

*Flight to Paris: Birmingham International £101 (Source: Flybe)*
*Flight to Geneva: From/To Paris (10th-28th June) £173*

**Total cost for the Flights:** £274

*Housing for 64 days - £900 (different costs depending on period/location/availability. Source: AirBnB)*

*Transport in town: £70 in total*

*Food: self catered £25 per week*

**TOTAL per week:** £150

Remember to keep your answers clear and concise so it can be understood by the review pair who may not be from your project department