

## Interested in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM)?

### Then, apply for Independent Study: STEM Research; An elective to help support your STEM research projects and participation in science competitions

Students selected for the course will:

- Choose and explore a topic of interest, which may come from mathematics, physical science, life science, technology, engineering, or math.
- Conduct bibliographical research to prepare and revise a research proposal to further experiments or engineering.
- Engage in an original piece of experimentation or engineering under the supervision of a mentor.
- Conduct statistical analyses of their findings.
- Explain, demonstrate, and analyze scientific writing techniques.
- Present their findings at the Synopsys Science and Engineering Championship.
- Participate in other competitions as appropriate for their interest or project.

Recommendations for Success:

- Strong interest in one area of science, technology, engineering, or math
- Have time to devote to research; experience has shown that students with heavy course loads struggle with the time commitment required.
- Mature
- Independent
- Earned a B or better in previous science classes
- Strong self-advocate

This is an elective course for students entering 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades who have demonstrated a strong interest in STEM research. This independent study class doesn't necessarily meet every day, but will require students to spend on average 6-8 hours of work a week. The year long course is a 10 unit, non-UC elective course that will be graded pass/fail. It can be taken concurrently with another science course.

There is limited space available in this Independent Study course, but students not in this course will still be able to participate in research through the MVHS Research Club, as in the past.

Students will be selected based on:

- Demonstrated interest in STEM research
- Brief statement about why you want to participate
- Field of interest (for variety in the class)
- Preference will be given to students who have more time in their schedules and are therefore, most able to benefit

Applications will be available February 12-March 4 until 3pm on the link on the Monta Vista website ([www.mvhs.fuhsd.org](http://www.mvhs.fuhsd.org)).

Selected students will be notified by mail in June.