



# University of Memphis Vertically Integrated Projects (UofM-VIP) Program:

# Engage in Research with Multidisciplinary Teams!

The "UofM-VIP Program" provides undergraduate and graduate students a unique learning opportunity that engages them in ambitious, long-term, large-scale, multidisciplinary project teams that are led by UofM faculty. **Prior experience is not necessary, but a willingness to learn and collaborate is a must!** 

Learn more here! www.memphis.edu/VIP

#### What is VIP?

VIP undergraduate students work closely with faculty, graduate students and peers. VIP teams meet weekly and operate more like small start-up companies than traditional courses. Returning students help new students get up to speed on the project, and students learn new skills, like research methods and mentoring.

#### **UofM-VIP Goals:**

The project goals are to improve academic success, retention, diversity, and inclusion in engineering at the UofM to foster the development of STEM identity and self-efficacy in undergraduate students.

The UofM-VIP program will generate new knowledge in STEM education by investigating a variety of mechanisms for supporting a diverse set of students in their development of a STEM identity.

## The Student Experience:

- Students are assigned to a VIP team with a faculty advisor and student mentors
- · 1.0-hour research-intensive course experience taken in three consecutive semesters
- Once 3.0 credit hours are earned, these hours can be applied as a technical elective
- Opportunity to continue VIP experience beyond the 3.0-hour credit via paid or volunteer experiences

### Why Join VIP?

- Develop research and problem-solving skills through exciting team-based research projects
- Build a strong, diverse network of STEM peers and mentors
- Become part of a STEM community
- · Learn about cutting-edge technologies and innovative approaches to solving STEM problems
- Develop teaming, leadership, and mentoring skills
- · Participate in special networking, mentoring, and industry workshops and seminars
- Earn credit towards your engineering degree!
- Continue participating in your VIP team as a paid researcher and mentor





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