

- **Name**

Nima Nayeri

- **Major**

Double Major in Accounting and Finance, Minor in Energy and Sustainability

- **Classification**

Junior

- **What is HERE?**

HERE is an interdisciplinary workshop designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of conducting research. As part of a two-week process, students are exposed to a number of speakers and seminars that aid in understanding a program topic. Using the topic, students prepare a research presentation that is presented at the end of the program. This year's topic was on understanding how sustainability can be incorporated into a Houston of the 21st century. Also, students selected for the HERE program are awarded a \$1000 scholarship and are invited to join the Houston Scholars in the following semester. A select number of students are invited to present their research presentation at the Grand Challenges Forum.

- **What did you research/present?**

Our research was meant to tackle a couple of goals. One, we wanted to examine how novel carbon capture and storage technology can be adapted to Houston's petrochemical refineries. We found, using an internal rate of return model, that many of Houston's petrochemical refineries can implement a version of carbon capture for a profit. Second, we were careful to present our results so that they can be available to all audiences, not just those who are literate in finance. Our goal was to bridge the gap between disciplines, a theme that was continuously repeated through the HERE seminars.

- **What steps did you take to prepare?**

Before the Grand Challenges Forum, we adapted our presentation so that it was best fit to the audience. Also, we made updates to feedback we received in our first presentation during the HERE program.

- **How did you find out about this opportunity?**

I found out about HERE in an email from the Bauer Honors College Academic Advisor, Collen Davies; in fact, I had applied on the last day of the application deadline!

- **Have you always been interested in research? If so, why?**

Because I believe the experience of undergraduate research is so important in developing a well-rounded student, I have been seeking opportunities to grow my skills in research and develop a research portfolio since I started at the University of Houston.

- **Do you want to pursue a career in research?**

The skills gained from research can be beneficial to any career both in industry and in academia. I would like to use the skills gained from my undergraduate research experience in a career as an accounting and finance professional.

- **How will this experience help you in the future?**

Going forward, I will be able to use this experience as a way to demonstrate my understanding of research. Also, I hope to use the foundational knowledge gained during HERE to aid in future research programs such as PURS, SURF or the Houston Scholars program.

- **How did Bauer prepare you for this?**

The classes I have taken so far, such as Principles of Financial Management with Dr. Piqueira and Financial Reporting Frameworks with Dr. Harris, have been so important in developing the skills I used during HERE.