Interdisciplinary research teams tackle complex societal challenges defined by three core connections:

1. Across areas of disciplinary expertise
2. Across learner levels (undergraduate, master/professional, doctoral and medical students)
3. Between the academy and the broader world
### Project Teams

- 70 teams in 2020-21: 635 undergraduates; 170 graduate students; 207 faculty; 46 teams w/ external partners
- 59 new teams in 2021-22

### Courses

- ~ 45 affiliated courses incorporating collaborative, project work
- Collaborative Project Courses Faculty Fellows Program

### Summer Research Experiences

- Story+
- Data+
- Summer Neuroscience Program
- Global Health Student Research Training Program

### Linked Experiences & Capstone Work

- Student research awards
- DukeEngage, DukeImmerse
- Master’s projects
5 Interdisciplinary Themes

Brain & Society
@ Duke Institute for Brain Sciences

Global Health
@ Duke Global Health Institute

Information, Society & Culture
@ Rhodes Information Initiative at Duke

Education & Human Development
@ Social Science Research Institute

Energy & Environment
@ Duke University Energy Initiative

+ Bass Connections Open & COVID-19 Pop-up Theme @ Margolis Center for Health Policy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME LEADERS &amp; ADMINISTRATORS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brain &amp; Society</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Len White (Neurology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dana Ripperton (Duke Institute for Brain Sciences)</td>
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<td>Anna Gassman-Pines (Sanford School of Public Policy)</td>
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<td>Ying-Chun Lin (Social Science Research Institute)</td>
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<td>Luana Lima (Nicholas School of the Environment)</td>
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<td>Bryan Koen (Duke University Energy Initiative)</td>
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<td>Robert Calderbank (Computer Science; Rhodes iiD)</td>
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<td>Victoria Szabo (Art, Art History &amp; Visual Studies)</td>
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<td>Kathy Peterson (Rhodes iiD)</td>
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<td><strong>Global Health</strong></td>
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<td>David Boyd (Duke Global Health Institute)</td>
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<td>Mary Story (Community &amp; Family Medicine)</td>
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<td>Kate Sullivan (Duke Global Health Institute)</td>
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Central Program Office & Bass Connections Open
Ed Balleisen (Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies)
Laura Howes (Director, Bass Connections)
Meghan O’Neil (Assistant Director, Bass Connections)
Sarah Dwyer (Director, Interdisc. Communications)

COVID-19 Pop-up & Health-focused Open Teams
Michael (Buz) Waitzkin (Duke Science & Society)
Sarah Dunn Phillips (Margolis Center for Health Policy)
GENERAL OPERATING PRINCIPLES FOR TEAMS

• **Length:** 9 to 12 months (with possibility of continuing)

• **Course credit:** Tutorial or research independent study
  - Exceptions: advanced graduate students; no-credit options
  - Workload = 10 hours per week
  - Grading practices and rubrics

• **Team structure:** Intact team vs. sub-team models

• **Team meetings:**
  - At least once a week
  - **Set time in advance!** (try to avoid spanning multiple class periods)
  - Space

• **Project managers**
ELEMENTS OF TEAM SUCCESS

1. Foundation setting
   • Resources to help students get up-to-speed
   • Assignment to jump start the year
   • Team building

2. Shared, clearly defined goals and roles for the project
   • Team charter; engage students in goal-setting/problem-solving
   • Expect student initiative/ownership but provide scaffolding
   • Team and individual goals

3. Clear expectations for participation and engagement
   • Syllabus guide & Team charter
   • Grading rubric
   • Team ground rules
ELEMENTS OF TEAM SUCCESS

4. Regularly scheduled and well-organized meetings
   • Use time to tackle group issues; not just reporting out/lecture
   • Assign shared ownership of meetings; roles
   • Action items and follow-up

5. Team leader engagement and partnership
   • Team leaders attend meetings
   • Team leaders communicate shared messages to students

6. Layered mentorship/leadership roles for graduate students (or advanced UGs)
   • Project managers
   • Sub-team leads
   • Technical leads

7. Opportunities for reflection and presentation
   • Blogs, journals, portfolios
   • Formal and informal presentations
OUTPUTS & OUTCOMES

• Your team defines success
• Failure (of outcomes) is an option
• Outputs and outcomes are wide-ranging:
  • New service delivery models and processes
  • Publications, policy/white papers
  • Conferences, events, symposium
  • Prototypes
  • Algorithms
  • Data collection/analysis
  • Exhibits
  • Websites
  • Grant submissions
  • Oral histories
BASIC EXPECTATIONS

• Successful recruitment of at least 5 students (inc. undergrads)
• Meet student selection deadlines
• Faculty leaders should be regularly engaged; Project managers should complement not replace faculty engagement
• Inform your theme of any travel involving students
• Notify us of roster changes
• Communicate with us about issues and successes
• Follow standard academic policies
• Stay within budget
• Recognize Bass Connections in publications, conferences, etc.
• Participate in the Bass Connections showcase
• Participate in evaluation survey and report on outcomes
A NOTE ON COMMUNICATIONS

• Refer to “Bass Connections” – not BASS

• Please do recognize the team’s connection to Bass Connections in public facing work

• Welcome to use our logos/theme logos but take care not to represent the views/recommendations of your team as that of Bass Connections or Duke University as a whole

• Don’t send outreach messages represented as being from “Bass Connections” directly (distinguish by using your team name)
STUDENT RECRUITMENT

• Student applications: Jan. 20 to Feb. 12

• Bass Connections Virtual Fair:
  • Submit short video by Jan. 22
  • Live Q&A sessions on Jan. 29 (9-11 and 2-4): Pick a one hour slot and RSVP by Jan. 15 – we will provide a Zoom link and password to all teams & students

• Application review/interviews: Feb. 13 to March 5

• First round offers: by March 5

• Students respond to offers/offers to waitlisted candidates: March 5-24

• All student selection completed: by March 31
STUDENT FAIR: QUESTIONS TO PREPARE FOR

• What types of skills/backgrounds are you seeking for the team?
• What roles do you envision for students? How will students contribute?
• When and how will the team meet?
• Does your project include summer research? **If yes:** Is it mandatory?
• Does the project include travel? **If yes:** Will all students have the opportunity to travel? When will travel take place?
• Do you have paid roles for graduate students (e.g., project manager/TAs)?
• Do I have to participate the whole year? What if I’m studying abroad?
• Will I receive credit? What is the time commitment?
A NOTE ABOUT COVID CONTINGENCIES

• Bass Connections follows all university policies related to COVID including travel, safety, events, and spending

• We cannot guarantee that students will be able to travel or participate in on campus research this summer – should hedge on travel and summer opportunities with students

• Summer work can continue virtually but there may be complications related to student pay

• We will keep you informed and help teams adjust course as needed
SETTING EXPECTATIONS EARLY

• Set a meeting time before forming the team or before student registration

• Consider using interviews to provide students a “realistic job preview”

• Consider a spring kick-off meeting

• Set clear expectations for attendance at meetings and participation on the team

• Don’t oversell
FINANCE

• Funding period: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

• Themes will provide a designated fund code

• Transactions processed by faculty’s home departments

• Students generally set up on department payrolls – standard rates and payroll processing (see hourly rates for all students)
  • May not pay and offer credit for same work
  • Advise discussing offers to PhD students w/student’s DGS/DGSA

• May not charge unbudgeted faculty/staff time w/out approval

• Unspent funds will be returned at end of year; extensions available for continuing work with students

• Be mindful of asking students to incur expenses
RESOURCES

• Team Resource Center
• Grading and Crediting Guidance
• Student & Team Leader Policies & Expectations
• Project Manager Trainings & Resources
• Grant support: Office of Campus Research Development or SOM Office of Research Development

• Duke Libraries:
  • Workshops
  • Subject matter and research specialists
  • Data consulting; Data visualization & digital project support

• Social Science Research Institute:
  • ModU (videos on social science research methods)
  • Data security and management
  • Workshops and custom training/consulting
  • Help desk
TEAM EXAMPLE AND Q&A