Summarize your proposed experiential learning activity, including the primary focus of your activity, your intended actions, and the expectations of your supervisor and/or organization/partners.

I will be contributing to an existing research project: a storage manager for video analytics. The focus of the project is improving the storage of videos for machine learning and other applications that require accessing subsets of a video.

I will begin by learning what I need to know to contribute - for example, understanding the project's existing code and working on a starter issue - and then develop an extension to the project.

I hope that my supervisor will be open to answering my questions and help guide me in making a useful contribution to the larger research project.

Explain how your activity demonstrates the values of the Honors Program Experiential Learning area you selected. Rather than reiterating our definition, outline how your activity embodies this definition.

This activity allows me to engage with current research by working with a graduate student to contribute to the project. I will also be receiving research credit through CSE 499.

How and why did you select this engagement? What skills or experiences do you hope to gain from it?

When I first learned about this research, I was drawn to it because of its applications to the sciences, such as research using video data of animal behavior. I'd previously been interested in scientific computing, but I hadn't before considered how the tools that enabled this field were built. I am excited to learn about database management and its importance.

Through this activity, I hope to gain technical experience by working with an existing codebase and learning a new programming language. I also hope to build soft skills, such as planning and problem-solving, and explore a new field of computer science.

How does this activity connect to your concurrent or past coursework? How does it speak to your broader education goals and experiences?

I have taken introductory computer science classes and am beginning my core coursework. This activity will give me an opportunity to apply the basic computer science concepts and skills that I learned in these classes while also expanding on them. In terms of broader goals, I hope to have a variety of experiences in areas related to my major, and this will be one such experience. I also hope to better understand the impact I could have in computer science.

How will your activity contribute to the larger goals of the organization/your partners?

The goal of the UW Database Group is to research novel database management techniques, such as the one implemented in the storage manager project that I am working on. I hope to contribute by improving the efficiency and functionality of the existing storage manager, which supports the goal of improving database management.