RJ Fellows

"The RJ Fellows program is one of my favorite things I am involved in at Muhlenberg. I have met some of my closest friends through the program and have gained countless leadership skills, through questioning the world around me and pursuing change in our community. It gave me the opportunity to travel to Costa Rica, volunteer around Allentown and explore new topics in my classes. I love being an RJ, and I am excited for the years to come!" -Riley Minkoff '20

A \$5,000 annual scholarship is awarded to each entering first-year student selected into the RJ Fellows Program. Financial need is not a condition for receiving this scholarship.

For more information, contact:

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To view G.P.A. requirements for selected RJ Fellows visit muhlenberg.edu/academics/rjfellows.



LEADERSHIP AND CHANGE

The RJ Fellows Program is an honors community bringing together high–achieving, imaginative students who have an intellectual curiosity and ethical concern with change in the world. The program was created to help students develop the knowledge and capacities to contribute positive change, and to prepare students for productive, informed and conscientious lives within our ever–changing landscape.

The RJ Fellows program provides opportunities for students to participate in challenging courses in the arts and humanities, sciences and social sciences that develop their intellectual understanding of and capacity to effect change. RJ Fellows are exceptional not only for their intellectual achievements, but also in their contributions to the social vitality of their communities, on campus and beyond. It is this combination of intellectual curiosity about change in all its complexity and direct engagement with change that characterizes RJ Fellows.

RJ Fellows are diverse in their range of scholarly interests, backgrounds and talents. Whether pursuing studies in the sciences or education, art or economics, RJ Fellows are on the cutting–edge of their disciplines and know the value of thinking about change from multiple perspectives. Whatever their future endeavors, every RJ Fellow exhibits the capacity to lead innovation in their chosen field.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- The RJ Fellows Preorientation Program provides an opportunity for first year Fellows to come to campus a week early and participate in a variety of activities that will allow for group bonding and an introduction to the campus and surrounding community. This student run program is filled with both service and social activities that have included a biking and boating river clean–up, service at a rehabilitation facility and explorations of inner–city Allentown and local restaurants and cultural attractions.
- The RJ Fellows First-Year Seminar (FYS) introduces the Fellows to the work of exploring change in an intellectual environment that emphasizes critical reading and analytical writing. Students intensively analyze, interpret and discuss academic and social issues, developing the intellectual tools to identify, conceptualize and meaningfully encounter the many manifestations of change in the world.
- RJ-Designated Courses focus on change in a particular area or historical moment. Students are required to take at least four, and these courses are generally interdisciplinary in nature and typically fulfill other College requirements.
- **Regular social and service activities** are organized by RJ Fellows, and an annual field trip to important regional cultural, scientific or natural sites are signature elements of the RJ Fellows Program.
- The Capstone Senior Seminar serves as a culminating experience for the years of change-oriented learning pursued by RJFellows. The Capstone Senior Seminar is project-oriented, community-based and student driven. It has involved partnerships with various local organizations, ranging from hospitals to art museums. The Seminar serves as a space for RJ Fellows to reflect on their previous course and research experiences and to develop a project based on this work to be presented at the Annual Symposium.
- The Annual RJ Symposium is an event that highlights the diverse scholarly pursuits of RJ Fellows. At the Symposium, senior RJ Fellows present their work and interests in a formal setting to the RJ and campus community. RJ Fellows play a leading role in planning and organizing the symposium.

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