Dana Scholars

PROGRAM

"Being a Dana Scholar has structured and informed my time at Muhlenberg in numerous invaluable ways. From our FYS and immediately having a group of people to rely on to now working on the Dana Forum projects and seeing everyone come into their own as scholars and engaged citizens, the Dana program has given me a second family. Not only do I have peers to push me academically and make me a more well-rounded thinker, I also have friends who have been a support system since we first stepped into a classroom together. I've been so lucky to be a Dana here at Muhlenberg, and I know I'll be not only a better academic, but a better person for it."

-Sara Kass '18

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

For more information, contact:

Mohsin Hashim Director, Dana Scholars Program Professor of Political Science 484-664-3445 mohsinhashim@muhlenberg.edu

To view G.P.A. requirements for selected Dana Scholars visit

muhlenberg.edu/academics/dana-scholars



ENGAGED CITIZENSHIP

The Dana Scholars program offers outstanding, intellectually versatile students an opportunity to belong to a community of scholars that fosters conversations across disciplines, rigorous academic inquiry and promotes engaged citizenship and leadership. The program expands the traditional liberal arts concept, linking the classroom with the outside world through progressively more sophisticated work opportunities.

Apart from being some of the brightest students, Dana Scholars demonstrate a unique level of engagement in their extra-curricular involvement. All Dana seniors engage in collaborative research projects on issues of public concern and interest.

Dana Scholars can major in any academic department or program. Across all disciplines, Dana Scholars are encouraged to be both reflective and assertive: to think, act and learn both collaboratively and independently in order to be the most engaged and well-equipped citizens for the future.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- The Dana First-Year Seminar (FYS) allows for the students to meet as a group for a writing intensive course of readings and discussion in an area specially developed by select faculty. The Dana FYS professor is also the faculty advisor for each of the Dana Scholars until they choose a major.
- The Dana Sophomore Seminar is organized as a bridge from the community building and intellectual foundation of the FYS to the upper-class years. The emphasis is on thinking and engaging as citizen-scholars within and beyond the Muhlenberg community. The Seminar is linked to the annual theme of Muhlenberg's Center for Ethics.
- Dana Faculty Mentorships allow Dana Scholars to forge key relationships to faculty mentors with whom they work on a research-related project. While experiences will vary in duration, the common thread is the opportunity to begin learning through direct, hands-on experiences. The mentorships place greater responsibility on the student, involve closer faculty-student collaboration and include an ongoing discussion of the "why" behind the assignment. Many Dana mentorships culminate in conference presentations.
- The Dana Internship gives the Dana Scholars a tangible sense of what will be required of them, and what they are capable of, after graduation. They have a chance to engage their ideas in a real-world context in a variety of disciplines. Internship opportunities are generated by the student, with the full support of the Dana program and the College.
- The Dana Forum is designed as a senior-year capstone experience to deepen a greater sense of intellectual and civic community among Dana Scholars and to enrich the intellectual climate on campus. Each year the Forum helps Dana seniors develop and execute interdisciplinary collaborative research projects that are tied to the College's Center for Ethic's annual theme. As collaborative groups, students will engage in an interdisciplinary research project of their choice and identify a faculty mentor for the project, which they will research and present at the annual Forum.

