Muhlenberg Scholars

PROGRAM

"I'm grateful to the Muhlenberg Scholar Program for providing us with the opportunity to independently pursue our research passions and meet like-minded individuals who share an interest for interdisciplinary study."

-Christopher Chin '19

A \$5,000 annual scholarship is awarded to each entering first-year student selected into the Muhlenberg Scholars 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 Muhlenberg Scholars visit **muhlenberg.edu/academics/**

muhlenberg-scholars.



INTELLECTUAL EXPLORATION

The Muhlenberg Scholars Program is designed to nurture talented students by providing a rich and stimulating environment in which they can pursue their fullest academic potential. Through innovative course offerings and a close student–faculty interaction, the program develops students' capacities as knowledge producers and collaborative researchers. The goal is to create a community of inquiry where the free exchange of ideas and interdisciplinary learning lead to new insight into one's self and one's world.

The curricular component involves a sequence of courses that build students' skills as scholars and thinkers. The extra-curricular component involves attending various social and dinner events, as well as bringing to campus and meeting with student-selected speakers and performers. Together, these components provide an enriching set of opportunities and experiences that help students take charge of their intellectual, social and cultural development so that they may build a more rewarding future for themselves.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- First-year Seminar: explores topics of broad humanistic concern, while honing students' analytical writing skills. Students practice techniques of observation, description and interpretation and learn how to construct and evaluate an evidence-based thesis. The faculty member leading the seminar serves as the students' first-year advisor. (Recent seminars titles include "Writing Mediation," "Salem Witchcraft" and "Nurtured by Nature.")
- Foundations of Scholarship: students complete an individually chosen academic project developed in stages over the term. Projects are self-designed and tailored to the student's intellectual passions and interests. Students participate in monthly workshops, building core scholarship and information literacy skills that are used widely across disciplines (e.g., evaluating and organizing sources, constructing a literature review, analyzing evidence, synthesizing multiple sources). Students are required to keep e-portfolios as well as present their research to classmates at the end of the term.
- Collaborative Research Seminar: students form integrative research teams, exploring diverse aspects of the seminar's main topic, theme or controversy. Teams lead discussions, complete a group project and present their findings to other classmates. (Seminar topics vary year to year, but are broad-ranging and can be studied through a variety of methods, including humanistic, scientific or cultural.)
- Senior Seminar: students constructively engage with questions of enduring, human significance. The principal goal is to foster intellectual exploration in community through dialogue, critical analysis and creative problem solving. Students complete group projects and then synthesize their work as a class to produce a more comprehensive understanding of the subject matter. (Topics vary from year to year but are interdisciplinary in nature. Recent seminars titles include "World Cities," "Decision Making" and "Thinking, Rationality and Intuition.")

