

Shankweiler Scholars PROGRAM

"Medicine...is at its heart a human endeavor, requiring good science but also a limitless curiosity and interest in your fellow human being."

-Abraham Verghese, M.D.

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

For more information, contact:

Casey James Miller
Chair, PreHealth Faculty
Advisory Committee
Assistant Professor of Anthropology
484-664-3792
caseymiller@muhlenberg.edu

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

muhlenberg.edu/academics/shankweilerscholars



MEDICINE AS A HUMAN ENDEAVOR

Muhlenberg College has long been known for its excellence in preparing students for a challenging future career in medicine. The Shankweiler Scholars Program is an honors program designed for highly motivated undergraduates who are preparing to pursue an M.D. degree after graduation and a life of serving humanity through clinical practice and/or research. As a liberal arts pre-medical experience, the program is particularly well-suited for premedical students planning to major in the humanities, social sciences or those planning to major in a natural science who have broad intellectual interests.

Medical schools are increasingly emphasizing the need for broadly trained doctors. It is no longer enough to just be good at science and math. To develop into a leading physician, one needs to be knowledgeable about a wide range of human expression, diversity and experience. This includes exposure to a variety of different disciplinary areas. These fields of study may include anthropology, the arts, history, languages, literature, philosophy, psychology, religion and sociology, as well as many other areas of study. With its long tradition of interdisciplinary study, Muhlenberg College is well-positioned to develop the habits of mind that today's medical schools desire.

The Shankweiler Scholars program is organized with this mission in mind. Through dedicated seminars, a student-organized public lecture series and an interdisciplinary self-designed curriculum, the program provides a framework for studying medicine as a human endeavor. John Shankweiler '21 was a renowned and beloved biology professor, remembered for his untiring advancement of the sciences and excellent teaching during his service from 1921 to 1964. In the spirit of Dr. Shankweiler, students in the Shankweiler Scholars Program receive personalized support and guidance that is tailored to each student's own curricular experience while at Muhlenberg.

Applicants interested in the Shankweiler Scholars should have a record of outstanding high school academic performance. In addition to demonstrated excellence in the natural sciences and mathematics, applicants should also demonstrate aptitude for and interest in pursuing the study of subjects drawn from the humanities and social sciences.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Shankweiler Scholars complete three 0.5-credit unit seminar courses that focus on medicine as a human endeavor. During their first year, scholars take *Medicine as a Human Endeavor*, which is led by a team of scholars chosen from a broad range of academic disciplines. Readings focus on aspects of art, culture, ethics, history and literature as they inform or frame medicine and medical research. During their sophomore year, scholars take *Medicine and Society*, in which they organize a public lecture event featuring a major scholar speaking on a salient topic relating to the practice of medicine or healthcare for the benefit of the entire College community. During their senior year, scholars take the Shankweiler Scholars Seminar, which is an interdisciplinary student-led seminar focusing on multiple areas of inquiry relating to medicine as a human endeavor.
- In collaboration with a faculty advisor, Shankweiler Scholars design an individualized curriculum on medicine in the liberal arts during their sophomore year that allows them to explore the human dimensions of the practice of medicine. This individualized curriculum includes a selection of courses from the liberal arts curriculum tailored to their specific interests, combined with co-curricular activities such as research, outreach, public service and/or study abroad experiences.
- Shankweiler Scholars complete all normal graduation requirements in addition to required courses for admission to medical school.