

THE CAPITAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

A UNIQUE BACCALAUREATE EXPERIENCE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT SPRINGFIELD

The Capital Scholars Program, open to a small number of highly qualified first-year college students, is a four-year baccalaureate experience combining an integrated core of general education courses with study of a foreign language and any of UIS' 20 undergraduate majors. The program provides academically well prepared and motivated students a unique opportunity to develop creative thinking, problem solving, and leadership skills through a high-quality, residential, educational experience based in the liberal arts. Focusing on the student's total growth in the personal, academic, social, and civic arenas, Capital Scholars features interdisciplinary and collaborative learning and is designed to develop student talents through small classes that encourage lively exchange between students and professors. Students learn actively, applying their skills to real community concerns. Problem-solving and research skills are emphasized throughout the four-year program.

At the heart of Capital Scholars is the understanding that leadership is important and that it is only

partly intuitive. Effective leaders *learn* their leadership skills, usually through trial and error. While not denying the experiential basis of good leadership, the Capital Scholars' philosophy stresses that preparation for leadership should not be hit or miss, but should be a component of higher education for highly qualified students. Capital Scholars courses incorporate the study of leadership, and the curriculum-wide focus on collaborative learning emphasizes leadership as an integral aspect of collaboration. An optional senior leadership seminar will also provide an opportunity to combine the study of leadership with an internship in a community agency or organization where leadership skills can be observed and practiced.

The Lincoln Residence Hall, exclusively for Capital Scholars, is the focal point for a learning community in which students, faculty, and community members come together for enrichment activities. Illinois leaders from the public and private sectors – representing scientific, artistic, and cultural interests – will join with students for social and cultural events, work-

shops, and evening seminars. Day and weekend trips to cultural and educational events in Chicago, St. Louis, and throughout central Illinois will be a regular option for students. A wide range of campus social events and entertainment will enliven the hours students spend away from their studies.

Contact: Information about Capital Scholars is available at (217) 206-7246. Information can also be requested at capitalscholars@uis.edu, or visit the website at www.uis.edu/%7Ecap/.

ADMISSION

Admission is open to students from Illinois and elsewhere who have demonstrated high academic achievement and a potential for creativity and leadership. Students admitted to the program are expected to have excellent written and oral communication skills and to want a challenging intellectual experience in their college education.

To be considered for admission, students must

have completed 15 units (one unit = one year's study in the subject) of high school work in the following categories:

Four units of English emphasizing written and oral communication and literature

Three units of social studies emphasizing history and government

Three units of mathematics including introductory through advanced algebra, geometry, and trigonometry, or fundamentals of computer programming (four units recommended)

Three units of laboratory science (four units recommended)

Two units of a foreign language (four units recommended)

Students with these qualifications are selected based on an overall evaluation of the following: class rank, grade-point average, College Board or ACT score, writing sample, creative and leadership potential, and letters of recommendation from at least two teachers or others acquainted with the applicant's academic work. A personal or telephone interview with a member of the admissions committee may also be a component of the selection process.

REQUIREMENTS

To graduate from UIS as a Capital Scholar, students must complete 120 hours including the 40-hour integrated core curriculum, 4 to 16 hours of spoken foreign language, a major of 30 to 36 hours, 12 hours of UIS requirements, and 16 to 34 hours of electives or a minor.

Integrated Core Curriculum 40 Hrs.

CAP 101 Capital Scholars Seminar (Year 1, Fall)	2 Hrs.
CAP 111 Writing for Cultural Literacy (Year 1, Fall)	3 Hrs.
CAP 121, 122, 225, 226 Interdisciplinary Humanities and Social Science (Year 1 and 2, Fall and Spring)	12 Hrs.
CAP 141, 142 Biology and Chemistry of the Environment (Year 1 or 2, Fall and Spring)	8 Hrs.
CAP 112 Oral Communication (Year 1, Spring or Year 2, Fall)	3 Hrs.
CAP 131 College Mathematics * (Year 1, Spring or Year 2, Fall)	3 Hrs.
CAP 211 Writing in the Discipline (Year 2, Spring)	3 Hrs.
CAP 251 Art and Music (Any year, Fall)	3 Hrs.

CAP 252 Technology, Information, and Society (Any year, Spring) 3 Hrs.

Other General Education 16-28 Hrs.

Foreign language (up to four semesters – any semester) 4-16 Hrs.
LSC, PAC, and AST (including 2 of the 3 areas – Years 3 and 4, any semester) 12 Hrs.

Major, Minor, and General Electives 52-64 Hrs.

Major (any of 20 majors) 30-36 Hrs.
General Electives or Minor 16-34 Hrs.
Total Bachelor's Degree 120 Hrs.

** CAP 131 is waived for students taking other approved college mathematics courses.*

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

First-year Seminar

CAP 101 Capital Scholars Seminar (2 Hrs.)
Introduces students to UIS, to the interdisciplinary core curriculum and its goals, and to the personal and social transition they are making in entering higher education.

Ensures that students have the skills necessary for academic success: study skills, library resources, familiarity with basic computer software, Internet access, etc. Each section will have approximately 20 students, with the professor serving as the initial academic adviser for students in his or her section. Prerequisite: Admission to the Capital Scholars Program.

Communication Sequence (CAP 111, 112, and 211)

CAP 111 Writing for Cultural Literacy (3 Hrs.)

Enhances students' critical thinking and essay writing skills and ensures that they have the skills to write at college level. Major writing assignments will evolve from and complement the course CAP 121 How Do You Know? Exploring Human Knowledge, which will be taken concurrently. Operating as a "writing lab," the course includes a considerable amount of in-class writing. Prerequisite: Admission to the Capital Scholars Program.

CAP 112 Oral Communication (3 Hrs.)

Emphasizes development of effective speaking skills through students' in-class presentations and panel discussions, as well as through critical analysis of the effectiveness of oral communication. This course is not limited to "public speaking" in the narrow sense, but examines effective communication in a variety of contexts ranging from committee work through television news to formal speeches. Prerequisite: CAP 111.

CAP 211 Writing in the Discipline (3 Hrs.)

Introduces students to the styles and formats of written communication in specific disciplines. Sections for social science and humanities majors, science and mathematics majors, and professional and business majors are offered. Taught by teams of disciplinary faculty and writing specialists. Prerequisite: CAP 112.

Interdisciplinary Humanities and Social Science Sequence (CAP 121, 122, 225, 226)

These four courses examine the intellectual and cultural heritage from Western and non-Western traditions. Each course is team-taught by faculty representing a variety of disciplines, and each focuses on a different topic, examining it from literary, historical, philosophical, and social science perspectives. In addition to providing broad understanding of each topic, this format introduces students to faculty perspectives from each of the major humanities and social sciences disciplines, as well as the business and professional fields.

CAP 121 How Do You Know? Exploring Human Knowledge (3 Hrs.)

Uses current issues, case studies, and direct experience to explore the methods that various disciplines in the humanities and social sciences employ to justify claims to knowledge. Topics include the reliability of sense perception, the influences of culture on science, research methods, fallacious arguments, and poetic truth. Prerequisite: Admission to the Capital Scholars Program.

CAP 122 Who Am I? Exploring Identity and Community (3 Hrs.)

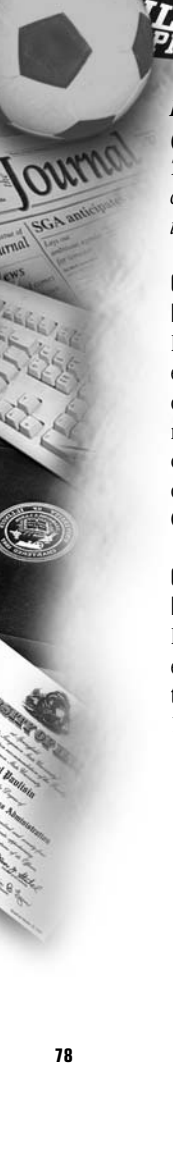
Explores the concept of self. Major topics include the definition of self in various times and cultures, the relation of self to others and to society, the definition and presentation of self at various stages of life, and other factors affecting understanding of self, self-development, and community. Prerequisite: CAP 121.

CAP 225 What Is Good? Exploring Values and Tradeoffs (3 Hrs.)

Seeks to illuminate assumptions of "the good" by attempting to uncover those aspects of life considered to be valuable. Exposure to historical and cross-cultural interpretations of value as they are manifested in politics, economics, culture, science, art, and spirituality. Students will be challenged to examine their own values and will be encouraged to consider ways to change dominant culture consistent with their interpretation of the quality of life. Prerequisite: CAP 122.

CAP 226 What Is Power? Exploring Control, Cooperation, and Self-Determination (3 Hrs.)

Explores various contexts of power, analyzing definitions, concepts, and theories of power and identifying who has power and who lacks it. Major topics will include comparisons of power in specific periods of history, cross-cultural views of power, political economy, new social movements, and personal power. Prerequisite: CAP 225.



**Interdisciplinary Science Sequence
(CAP 141 and 142)**

This is a two-semester interdisciplinary biology and chemistry sequence focusing on the ways humans interact with and affect the environment.

CAP 141 Biology and Chemistry of the Environment I (4 Hrs.)

Focuses on the ways humans interact with and affect the environment. Topics include the principal characteristics of the living and non-living components of the environment — atoms, matter, molecular structure, biomolecules, water, and energy, as well as cellular structure and organization. Includes lab. Prerequisite: Admission to the Capital Scholars Program.

CAP 142 Biology and Chemistry of the Environment II (4 Hrs.)

Includes the diversity of living things, the cell cycle, the energetics of living systems, ecosystems, and human transformations of the environment. Prerequisite: CAP 141.

Additional Integrated Core Curriculum Courses

CAP 131 College Mathematics (3 Hrs.)

Emphasizes the understanding of mathematical aspects of real-world problems using calculators and personal computers as tools. Designed for students majoring in humanities and social science fields who need a solid background in mathematics but who do not need calculus and who are not planning to take additional college-level mathematics. Includes concepts from statistics, logic and problem solving, modeling, and business in the interpretation and solution of problems. Also explores the use of mathematics in art and music. Prerequisites: C or better in intermediate algebra and geometry, or permission of instructor, and admission to the Capital Scholars Program. *Waived for students taking other approved college mathematics courses.*

CAP 251 Art and Music (3 Hrs.)

Examines a variety of musical and artistic genres, European and non-European, traditional and popular. Fo-

cuses on issues of artistic creation, form, style, and appreciation. Prerequisite: Admission to the Capital Scholars Program.

CAP 252 Technology, Information, and Society (3 Hrs.)

Examines the social and cultural implications of information technology. Explores computing and telecommunications, their development and proliferation, as well as legal and ethical issues. Includes individualized hands-on exposure to advanced and special-purpose computer hardware and software. Prerequisite: Admission to the Capital Scholars Program.

Optional Course

CAP 401 Senior Leadership Seminar (4 Hrs.)

Recommended for all Capital Scholars who wish to explore the theoretical and practical aspects of leadership, whether in public service, business, science, or the arts. May be combined with an applied study term (AST) or other experiential learning in some cases. Prerequisite: Admission to the Capital Scholars Program.