Capital Scholars Honors Program

Challenge Yourself

Leadership Lived
THE HONORS CONCEPT

The CAP Honors Program brings together intellectually strong students with talented, dedicated faculty to create a unique academic environment within the greater UIS community.

Students selected as Capital Scholars Honors students bring to the program a high level of academic achievement and ambition. The goal of our interdisciplinary core curriculum is to hone those critical thinking skills, further develop your writing, speaking, and presentation abilities, and provide you with significant opportunities for leadership. Honors students are well-prepared to achieve distinction within their majors. The Capital Scholars Honors Program is a member of the Honors Council of the Illinois Region as well as the National Collegiate Honors Council.

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The program is selective, enrolling about 100 first-year students each year.
A FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP
Effective leaders learn their leadership skills, usually through trial and error. While not denying the experiential basis of good leadership, CAP’s philosophy is that preparation for leadership should not be hit or miss, but should be a component of higher education for highly qualified students. CAP courses incorporate the study of leadership and the curriculum-wide focus on collaborative learning emphasizes leadership as an integral aspect of collaboration. CAP is “Leadership lived.”

INTEGRATED INTERDISCIPLINARY CURRICULUM
The foundation of the Capital Scholars Honors Program’s four-year experience is a core of integrated classes in social sciences and humanities, biological and physical sciences, and other areas taught by interdisciplinary teams of faculty. Taken together, the core curriculum provides a broad educational foundation for your major and for life after college.

TEAM TEACHING
Most courses in the core curriculum are taught by a team of two professors. This allows you to see how different faculty members’ personal and disciplinary perspectives influence their thinking and to discover which teaching styles best fit the way you learn. Students are often divided into small groups for discussion and individual assistance; in other sessions, all students and faculty meet together. Overall, there is one faculty member for every 20 students.

SKILLS ACROSS THE CURRICULUM
The basic intellectual skills of reading and listening, computer use, obtaining information from libraries and electronic sources, and critical thinking, writing, and speaking are integrated into all courses.
MULTICULTURALISM ACROSS THE CURRICULUM
Each course includes topics and draws on authors that reflect the ethnic, racial, and gender diversity of America, and also the broader cultural diversity that exists in the world. Each course furthers the CAP objective by expanding your knowledge of and appreciation for the contributions of women, Americans of color, and other cultures with whom we share the world.

INTERNSHIPS
UIS undergraduates can participate in a variety of for-credit, firsthand learning opportunities through Internship Services. These opportunities include internships, research and creative projects, as well as study and travel abroad ventures. These experiences can be tailored to your own interests and personal necessities. We have a database of hundreds of potential internships of which around half are paid placements.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH
Professors at UIS enjoy sharing their labs and projects with honors students. This is excellent preparation for professional and graduate schools and other job opportunities.

INTERNATIONAL STUDY
International study is an important and exciting part of the education of an increasing number of American college students. We will not only encourage you to study abroad, but we will do everything we can to make it simple and affordable. We have direct exchange student relationships with universities in England, Japan, Australia, China and Mexico, and have access to other placements in programs world-wide.

SERVICE-LEARNING
Service-Learning is an opportunity for students to provide community service to non-profit agencies while exploring the connections of academic theory and practical community needs. Service-Learning courses can be taken to fulfill Engaged Citizenship Common Experience (ECCE) requirements. Our honors students build character and connections by volunteering through UIS’ Volunteer and Civic Engagement Center. Make a difference while here at UIS!

THE CAPITAL SCHOLARS HONORS PROGRAM (CAP) OFFERS
- A U of I degree without the high cost
- Scholarships provided for all students admitted to the program
- A brand new laptop computer
- Small classes with a small campus atmosphere
- Specialized integrated, interdisciplinary core curriculum
- Personalized interaction with honors faculty and staff
- Unique honors events (social as well as educational)
- Residential Requirement: A living learning environment and independent living in two residence halls
- Opportunity to expand your intellectual capacity and relationships
LINCOLN RESIDENCE HALL
The CAP Honors Program has a residency requirement, requiring all honors students to live in Lincoln Residence Hall for their first year. This is not your parents’ dorm. Lincoln Residence Hall offers suite living – two students to a room and one full bathroom shared by just two sets of roommates. High speed Internet and cable in every room. Greatroom, a full-time Residence Director, a staffed front desk, and video monitored and locked entrances and exits. The Honors academic staff has its offices in Lincoln Residence Hall, too. Sophomore honors students live in the Honors Living Learning Community within Founders Residence Hall, which is equally as nice.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Admission is open to high school graduates who have demonstrated high academic achievement and potential for creativity and leadership. Students admitted to the program are expected to have excellent written and oral communication skills and an interest in a challenging, intellectual college experience.

Students with these qualifications are selected based on an overall evaluation of the following:
- Class rank
- Grade-point average
- CAP writing sample
- Creative and leadership potential

HOW TO APPLY
The Capital Scholars Honors Program is selective. A 3.25 minimum unweighted GPA is required for admission consideration. Students may be contacted by a member of the Honors Program if there are questions about credentials or if more information is needed. You can apply online at uis.edu/admissions/applytoday or download an application from the UIS website. Eligible applicants will be reviewed by the Capital Scholars Honors Program after general admission to the University.

HONORS SCHOLARSHIP
All students admitted to the Capital Scholars Honors Program receive an Honors Scholarship which is based solely on academic merit. Additional scholarship money is available to students who are Valedictorians of their class and/or from Sangamon County. All Capital Scholars Honors Merit Scholarships are renewable for up to four years, and may be supplemented by other forms of financial assistance, including other scholarships and loans. High academic achievers are eligible for increased scholarship awards once at UIS and within the Program. Please contact the CAP Honors office for specific scholarship eligibility.

UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS
Accountancy B.A.
Biochemistry B.S.
Biology B.S.
Business Administration B.B.A.–
• Comprehensive
• Finance
• Management
• Marketing
• Sport Management
Chemistry B.S.
Clinical Laboratory Science B.S.
Criminology & Criminal Justice B.A.
Communication B.A.
Computer Science B.S.
Economics B.A.
Education B.A.
English B.A.
Environmental Studies B.A.
Exercise Science B.S.
Global Studies B.A.
Health Care Informatics B.S.
History B.A.
Information Systems Security B.S.
Legal Studies B.A.
Liberal Studies B.A.
Management Information Systems B.S.
Mathematical Sciences B.A.
Nursing B.S.N.*
Philosophy B.A.
Political Science B.A.
Psychology B.A.
Public Administration B.A.
Public Policy B.A.
Social Work B.A.
Sociology/Anthropology B.A.
Theatre B.A.
Visual Arts B.A.

Pre-Professional Programs
Pre-Med • Pre-Dental • Pre-Nursing
Pre-Pharmacy • Pre-Veterinary Medicine • Pre-Physical Therapy
Pre-Occupational Therapy
Pre-Chiropractic Medicine
Pre-Podiatry • Pre-Optometry
Pre-Physician’s Assistant

*In coordination with the University of Illinois at Chicago’s College of Nursing.