Community of Scholars
PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAM AT American University’s School of International Service
American University flourishes on one important principle—to prepare a generation of leaders committed to developing ideas into sustainable action that advances global public service.

A top-ten school of international affairs with more than 3,000 students from 150 countries, AU’s School of International Service (SIS) is a diverse community dedicated to fostering service and academic excellence, building a sustainable future, bridging theory and practice, and promoting global peace, social justice, and economic well-being. Its eight areas of study offer students a wide range of possibilities: Comparative and Regional Studies, Global Environmental Politics, International Communication, International Development, International Economic Policy, International Politics, Peace and Conflict Resolution, and United States Foreign Policy. In conjunction with its service mission, both AU and SIS are deeply committed to developing a sustainable community, as evidenced by SIS’ “green” LEED-gold certified building.

SIS values are carefully woven into the curriculum and adopted by the Community of Scholars summer program. According to SIS Dean James Goldgeier, “High school students interested in pursuing careers in international relations and passionate about creating meaningful change in the world will greatly benefit from this experience.”

Combining theory and practice, the Community of Scholars program offers opportunities to study critical themes in international affairs.
The Community of Scholars program is a rigorous college-credit summer program designed for rising high school juniors and seniors. The Community of Scholars offers academically outstanding students the chance to broaden their understanding of international relations by enrolling in a three-credit college class designed just for them. Students admitted to this program will sample the undergraduate experience and take advantage of all that the School of International Service (SIS) has to offer.

Preparing leaders committed to developing ideas, promoting sustainable action, and advancing global public service.

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Earn three college credits
Learn about international career paths
Connect with other students passionate about creating meaningful change in the world

How the Program Benefits You
During this intensive summer program, you will:
- Pursue your academic interest in International Relations
- Explore international institutions in Washington, D.C.

How the Program Works
Students in Community of Scholars enroll in a rigorous three-credit college class that blends a week of online learning with two weeks of traditional on-campus classes. This hybrid format allows students to sample the distinct features of each learning platform. Students choose from one of these courses taught by AU faculty:
- Worlds Apart, Worlds Together: Conflict, Culture, and Cooperation
- Diplomacy and Dictators: U.S. Foreign Policy in an Uncertain World

Online Component:
July 6-July 12, 2015. During the first week, students access lectures and engage in discussion with their professor and peers via a web portal using podcasts and video lectures. Readings and assignments will be available via AU’s Blackboard platform. All online material is accessed at home at hours that suit students’ schedules. During this period, students gain a foundation in the course topics to prepare them for the remainder of the course.

On-campus Component:
July 13-July 24, 2015. (Residential students arrive on July 12.) Students attend class from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., followed by lunch and afternoon activities, including site visits to Washington institutions (such as the State Department, Pentagon, and embassies), guest speakers, Model U.N.-style simulations, and college skills-building workshops taught by AU staff. Upon their return home, students will have an additional week to submit a final paper or project.

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Housing:
Dormitory housing is available for the campus segment of the program. AU upperclassmen as well as a senior resident advisor will live in the dormitories and serve as mentors throughout the program. Students will have various dining options on campus, including an all-you-can-eat menu in AU’s main dining facility.

Free Time and Evening Activities:
Students will have free time to enjoy campus life, whether working out at the fitness center or relaxing on the quad or at one of AU’s cafes. Structured evening activities may include barbecues, an evening monument tour, study sessions, museum visits, a Kennedy Center performance, and the viewing of international films.

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WORLDS APART, WORLDS TOGETHER: CONFLICT, CULTURE, AND COOPERATION

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ifference, particularly cultural difference, is the source of many conflicts in International Relations. This course will explore conceptual components and theories of conflict, culture, and conflict resolution—with a special focus on the role that culture plays in both starting as well as resolving conflicts. An in-depth examination of contemporary international conflicts will be used as illustrative case-studies. The class will then bridge the gap between interpersonal, group, and international conflicts by exploring strategies of conflict resolution and cross-cultural understanding.

DIPLOMACY AND DICTATORS: U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

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ow does the U.S. government confront dictators, maintain allies, and protect the nation from international threats to national security? This course will introduce the major departments, agencies, and actors within the government involved in foreign policy and national security. It will explore how they operate in the new strategic environment by considering major threats and issues facing the United States today, from terrorists to rogue states to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The course will also address the conflicting goals, agendas, and trade-offs present in any foreign and national security policy. Debating the range of policy options, students will explore how the U.S. might best act to enhance U.S. national security and international position.

Commuters:
We welcome D.C.-area students who wish to commute daily to campus. Our campus is a short shuttle ride from the Tenleytown metro stop. Out-of-town students are also encouraged to live with friends and relatives in the D.C. area and commute to AU. Commuting students are invited to attend all afternoon activities as well as many evening events.

Service Project:
The School of International Service recognizes that “service is not a moment, it’s a mindset.” The Community of Scholars program imbibes this service mindset, requiring its residential scholars to participate in a community service project involving the underserved Washington, D.C. community. In addition to gaining a valuable life experience, students will also obtain service hours that may be used to supplement high school requirements.

“Our son was so clearly intellectually stimulated by both the program and students. He returned home a more mature and independent young man.”

PARENT OF 2013 COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS STUDENT

“I absolutely adored this entire program. It is an experience I will keep for the rest of my life.”

2014 COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS STUDENT
Please visit our website at www.american.edu/sis/communityofscholars to apply for the program.

HOW TO APPLY

ADMISSIONS DEADLINES:
Complete applications are due no later than May 1, 2015. After May 1, applications will be accepted only if space is available. A nonrefundable deposit of $250 is required to secure a place in the program.

TUITION AND PROGRAM FEES:
Three-week hybrid program—July 6-July 24, 2015. On-campus component begins on July 13. (Students living on campus should arrive on July 12.) $2,875

Includes:
- Three credits of college tuition
- Lunch
- Metro fare and other expenses related to off-campus visits to government agencies and other sites
- Afternoon workshops
- Classroom materials and any required textbooks
- Access to AU’s Bender Library, fitness center, and pool

HOUSING:
Housing, meals, and programming for two-week campus segment. $1,445

Includes:
- Dormitory housing in doubles or triples in a centrally-located AU dormitory
- All meals
- Evening and weekend activities—barbecues, international film viewings, museum and shopping trips, and evening monument tour
- Air-conditioning and Internet connections
- Round-the-clock dormitory staffing with controlled building access
- Linens provided

CONTACT INFORMATION:
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Director of Pre-College Programs
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American University
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Washington, DC 20016-8071
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202-885-2494 (fax)
communityofscholars@american.edu

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:
• Application (includes teacher recommendation and personal statement)
• High school transcript
• Nonrefundable deposit of $250 due with application by May 1; tuition balance due by June 1
• Applicants must be rising high school juniors and seniors

FINANCIAL AID:
A limited number of scholarships are available for students in the Washington-D.C. area. Financial assistance is based on a combination of need and academic merit.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:
We welcome international students who have demonstrated adequate English proficiency. Students must obtain a minimum score of 80 on the Internet-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL-IBT).

For more information, visit: www.american.edu/sis/communityofscholars.

*Important: In the event that the student is not accepted into the program, all funds will be returned before the start of class.
Community of Scholars

PRE-COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM AT
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY’S SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

HERE IS HOW OTHERS HAVE DESCRIBED THE COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS PROGRAM:

“The program was really fantastic and so interesting. I learned a lot and finally met people who were as interested in foreign policy as I am.”
2014 COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS STUDENT

“This program has been absolutely life-changing. The kids here are so like-minded...we really connected.”
2013 COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS STUDENT

“Our son was so clearly intellectually stimulated by both the program and students. He returned home a more mature and independent young man.”
PARENT OF 2013 COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS STUDENT

“I loved living on campus...it was a taste of college.”
2012 COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS STUDENT

“This was an absolutely amazing experience. Thank you for a wonderful learning experience.”
2014 COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS STUDENT

“The Community of Scholars program is highly value-added, well-organized, well-staffed with tangible personal growth and development benefits.”
2012 COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS PARENT

“Our compliments to the Community of Scholars program for the ‘hybrid’ experience of home study and campus living. Thank you for an exceptional program that exceeded all our expectations.”
PARENT OF 2011 COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS STUDENT

“The Community of Scholars program is highly value-added, well-organized, well-staffed with tangible personal growth and development benefits.”
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