

# ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

The Enrichment Programs are offices that provide enriched learning experiences for UConn students, encouraging them to elevate their studies. Enrichment Programs are open to **every UConn student**, across **all schools and majors**. Learn more at [enrichment.uconn.edu](https://enrichment.uconn.edu).

## OFFICE OF NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The **Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships** (ONSF) advises and mentors students at the University of Connecticut who are competing for prestigious, nationally-competitive scholarships and fellowships. ONSF serves both graduate and undergraduate students at the University.

ONSF's mission is to foster the intellectual and personal growth of students from all backgrounds who are applying for nationally-competitive awards. By incorporating faculty, staff, and administrators into the recruitment, endorsement, and advising processes, ONSF engages the entire university community in promoting the campus fellowships culture and celebrating the excellence of UConn students.

In addition to advising students about nationally competitive awards, ONSF nominates and prepares candidates for scholarships that require institutional endorsement, including the Rhodes, Marshall, and Goldwater competitions, and those that incorporate some form of institutional endorsement or review into their selection processes, including the U.S. Student Fulbright grants.



*Wanjiku (Wawa) Gatheru '20 (CAHNR) was named a 2020 Rhodes Scholar, 2019 Truman Scholar, and 2019 Udall Scholar. Learn more about Wawa, UConn's first Rhodes Scholar, at [s.uconn.edu/gatheru](https://s.uconn.edu/gatheru).*

[onsf.uconn.edu](https://onsf.uconn.edu)

## OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

[ugradresearch.uconn.edu](https://ugradresearch.uconn.edu)



*Isabella Ferrante '19 (CLAS), a History major at the Stamford campus, received a SURF Award to support her archival research in the United Kingdom on understandings of shell shock before, during, and after World War I. Learn more about Isabella at [s.uconn.edu/ferrante](https://s.uconn.edu/ferrante).*

At a top research university like the University of Connecticut, one of the signature learning opportunities for undergraduate students is participation in the wealth of research and creative activity happening across our campuses.

Involvement in academic inquiry allows students to:

- **Explore** topics, questions, and career paths
- **Create** new knowledge, understandings, and inventions
- **Discover** interests, strengths, goals, and future directions

The **Office of Undergraduate Research** (OUR) helps students develop opportunities to conduct research and engage in creative activity. OUR supports student research — from initiation to dissemination — by offering:

- 1:1 advising, workshops, and online resources
- Funding programs that disburse over \$620K per year in support for students and their projects, ranging from small grants for supplies or travel to larger awards that support summer or academic year projects
- Presentation opportunities in the form of 2 annual Frontiers poster exhibitions on the Storrs campus

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## INDIVIDUALIZED AND INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES PROGRAM

The **Individualized and Interdisciplinary Studies Program (IISP)** supports students' enrichment of their undergraduate academic experience with interdisciplinary and customized learning opportunities in the form of majors and minors.

The Individualized Major Program allows students to design interdisciplinary majors based in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences or the College of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources. If a student's interests cross disciplinary boundaries and are not met by an existing major at UConn, an individualized major allows for the creation of a plan of study customized to that student's specific interests. Approximately 60 students graduate each year with an individualized major, with the most common individualized major themes including health or international studies.

IISP administers the Crime and Justice Minor, Global Studies Minor, and European Studies Minor.

[iisp.uconn.edu](http://iisp.uconn.edu)



*Valeria Sarmiento '20 (CLAS) designed an individualized major in Global Health and Nutrition, combining coursework in medical anthropology, public health, sociology, and nutrition. Learn more about Valeria at [s.uconn.edu/sarmiento](http://s.uconn.edu/sarmiento).*

## OFFICE OF PRE-PROFESSIONAL ADVISING

[premed.uconn.edu](http://premed.uconn.edu)

The **Pre-Medical & Pre-Dental Advising Office** serves all students and alumni interested in medical, dental, and physician assistant careers as they establish and achieve professional school admission and career goals.

- Over 350 composite letters are written each application cycle to support students' admission to medical, dental, DO, and PA schools.
- Comprehensive advising supports students' preparation for the application process, including workshops on such topics as school selection, personal statement writing, preparation of secondary applications, and interviewing strategies.
- The Medicine and Dental Medicine Post-Baccalaureate Program serves students who have completed an undergraduate degree and wish to strengthen their professional school preparation.
- UConn's MCAT Review Course offers students an affordable, on-campus option for test preparation.

*Adam Kuegler '17 (CLAS), pictured fourth from left as a second-year law student in 2019, successfully co-represented Franklin René Ruano Galdamez (third from left) in asylum proceedings through his involvement in the Asylum and Human Rights Law Clinic at UConn Law. Learn more about Adam and his colleagues' efforts at [s.uconn.edu/asylumlawclinic](http://s.uconn.edu/asylumlawclinic).*

[prelaw.uconn.edu](http://prelaw.uconn.edu)

The **Pre-Law Advising Office** serves all students and alumni interested in a post-graduate legal education and legal careers. Events, workshops, and advising help students explore different fields of law and understand what it means to be a lawyer. The Pre-Law Advisor supports students and alumni throughout the law school application process by reviewing personal statements and resumes, providing information about various schools and programs, and assessing competing offers of admission.

The Accelerated Program in Law, offered in cooperation with the UConn School of Law, enables students to complete an undergraduate degree and law degree in six years rather than the normal seven.





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*Akshayaa Chittibabu '19 (CLAS), UConn's 5th Marshall Scholar and a Truman Scholar, plans a career in public service as a physician and policymaker. Her undergraduate research complemented her individualized major in Health, Policy, and Social Medicine. Learn more at [s.uconn.edu/chittibabu](https://s.uconn.edu/chittibabu).*



*Calliope Wong '19 (CLAS) recorded an album that tells her story of growing up as a Chinese-American trans woman. She is now pursuing MD/MPH studies at Stanford University. Learn more at [s.uconn.edu/cwong](https://s.uconn.edu/cwong).*

## UNIVERSITY SCHOLAR PROGRAM

The University Scholar Program is one of the most challenging and prestigious programs for undergraduates at the University of Connecticut. Open to students from all of the University's schools and colleges, the University Scholar Program allows students to design and pursue an in-depth research or creative project and to craft a learning plan that supports their interests and academic goals during their final three semesters. Each student is mentored by an advisory committee of three faculty.

Admission is based on an application submitted during the first semester of a student's junior year. Applications are reviewed by an interdisciplinary committee of faculty members who may select up to 30 University Scholars in any given year. The strongest proposals will show exceptional breadth and/or depth and will bring together multiple fields of study, methodologies, and/or points of view. Graduation as a University Scholar recognizes a student's extraordinary engagement with self-reflective learning and research or creative endeavors.

[universitiescholars.uconn.edu](https://universitiescholars.uconn.edu)



*University Scholar Chelsea Garcia '20 (CAHNR) designed a research project to investigate how a gut microbe affects neuroinflammation. Learn more about Chelsea at [s.uconn.edu/garcia](https://s.uconn.edu/garcia).*

Students often report that **faculty encouragement made all the difference** in their decision to enrich their undergraduate experience through participation in these programs. We are grateful for your partnership in **increasing students' awareness of these opportunities** and in helping students expand their view of their own potential and of what they can achieve within and beyond UConn.

## QUESTIONS?

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the contacts listed on individual Enrichment Program websites. Enrichment Programs staff will be working remotely for the fall 2020 semester, but we would be happy to connect with you virtually! Visit us at [enrichment.uconn.edu](https://enrichment.uconn.edu).

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