Scholars Program
at Benedictine University at Mesa

More Than an Honors Program

The Scholars Program at Benedictine University at Mesa is a four-year course of study designed to help a select number of gifted undergraduate students develop their skills as leaders and thinkers. It has four main components: coursework, community service, foreign language and research.

Coursework
Scholars courses are small seminars taught by senior faculty committed to the study of great books. Students take one Scholars course each semester, learning together over four years with the same elite group of students. The courses are discussion-based as well as reading and writing intensive. The Scholars curriculum includes four courses devoted to the history and heritage of Western civilization: ancient, medieval, modern and contemporary, as well as courses on research writing, leadership, artistic creativity and global interdependence.

Community Service
Scholars undertake service projects in their first two years, reaching out to disadvantaged groups in our area. In recent years, Benedictine Scholars have volunteered to help shelter the homeless, feed the hungry and comfort the elderly. The 40 hours of required service should be completed by the end of the first two years in the program.

Foreign Language
By the time they graduate, Scholars are able to speak, read and write a modern foreign language at a level equivalent to six semesters of college study.

Research
Scholars will develop and maintain an electronic portfolio which will reflect their intellectual development, analytic and research skills and their attainment of Scholars Program outcomes. Included will be academic and creative achievements. As part of the portfolios, Scholars will be expected to publicly present a paper at Benedictine University at Mesa or a regional or national honors conference. These portfolios will be guided and evaluated on a regular basis.

Scholarships for Scholars

Scholars in good standing receive a merit-based scholarship each year. Benedictine University invests in gifted students to help them emerge as perceptive and conscientious leaders. For the merit scholar amount, please contact your admissions counselor.
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Qualifications for the Program

**Freshman Candidates**
- Acceptance into the University
- Minimum ACT score of 27/ SAT score of 1210
- A cumulative high school GPA of 3.75/4.0
- Two years of foreign language training at the high school level

**Transfer Candidates**
- Acceptance into the University
- A cumulative college GPA of 3.2/4.0
- Less than 60 semester-hours completed

Scholars classes are determined by year of prospective graduation. Typical classes contain 15–20 students. Most students enter the program as incoming freshmen, but if space is available in the relevant class, it is possible to enter as a second-semester freshman, a first-semester sophomore or a second-semester sophomore.

Application Process

Prospective Scholars students are asked to:
- Attend a Scholars orientation event
- Submit a brief qualifying essay
- Complete an interview

Admission to the program is competitive. Students may be admitted, wait-listed or denied. Students denied admission to the program may reapply at anytime before the end of their sophomore year.

Campus Life and Education Abroad

Benedictine University at Mesa’s investment affords its Scholars a unique opportunity to learn, serve and grow. Scholars represent all corners of student life. The program urges students to participate in education abroad or internship experiences that match their personal and professional interests. In recent years, Benedictine Scholars have studied in Japan, China, Taiwan, France, Germany, England, Spain and Mexico, as well as in other parts of the United States.

Find Out More

The Benedictine University at Mesa Scholars Program welcomes applications from talented high school seniors and college transfer students in their freshman or sophomore year. For application information, contact the Services Center at (602) 888-5500.