“This program provided an excellent opportunity to grow my intellectual curiosity in the law, make great friends, and prepare for the law school admissions process.”

Colby Alexis
2013 participant, Saint Joseph’s College
Program Components

Approximately 60 undergraduate students are chosen to participate in the month-long program each year. During those four weeks, participants focus on three main components.

The Classroom Experience

The Summer for Undergraduates Program provides a rigorous academic environment where students are expected to complete assignments and engage in class discussions. Daily lecture and legal writing classes are taught by law school faculty members. The lecture class simulates a first-year law class and is designed to familiarize students with the functions of the American legal system. Legal writing classes and workshops emphasize the strong writing skills needed in the legal profession.

Law School Admissions

Students are given the opportunity to talk to the admissions staff and advisors regarding various aspects of the law school application process. This includes practical workshops on completing the application, writing personal statements, studying for the LSAT, preparing resumes and cover letters, financing law school, and exploring career options.

Extracurricular Activities

While the program is academic in nature, there are a number of exciting and enjoyable activities that take place outside of the classroom, such as:

- Visits to the Florida Supreme Court, local courts and law firms
- Mock trials and oral arguments
- Visits with prominent attorneys
- Personality assessment tests
- Activities with current law students
- Off-site team-building retreats

College of Law Professor Nat Stern teaching a law class using the Socratic method.
Each summer since 1992, we have invited undergraduate students to the College of Law campus for four weeks to expose them to the joys and rigors of legal education.

The Summer for Undergraduates Program is designed to achieve three main goals:
- to acquaint students with the study of law;
- to assist students in acquiring skills that will benefit undergraduate studies and future law school studies; and
- to introduce students to traditional and nontraditional opportunities in the legal profession.

The program helps students sharpen critical thinking and expression skills. Perhaps more importantly, participants experience an extremely high degree of camaraderie among themselves. As a result, they know they will be surrounded by stimulating colleagues if they attend law school.

Eligibility
College students enrolled at two- and four-year institutions, in all majors and from all backgrounds, are invited to apply following their freshman year. We particularly welcome students from groups historically underrepresented in the legal profession.

Program Costs
There is no tuition or application fee for this program. Florida State Law provides room and board in residence-hall accommodations, all course materials, and a monetary stipend to all participants. Students are only responsible for their travel expenses to and from Tallahassee.

How to Apply
To apply, students must submit an application, a resume, one letter of recommendation, a personal statement, and a current transcript, all of which can be submitted electronically through an online portal. Each application is carefully reviewed in its entirety by the program’s admissions committee before decisions are rendered. The deadline to apply typically occurs at the end of March each year, and the program starts in mid-May. For official program dates and deadlines, as well as answers to frequently asked questions, visit our website at www.law.fsu.edu/slp.

“I didn’t leave the program ready for law school. I left the program knowing how to prepare for law school. I left knowing I could succeed as a law student.”

Shenika Harris, Esq.
1998 Participant, 2004 Florida State Law Graduate
A Secure Future

Thanks to the continued support and generosity of Florida State Law alumnus Wayne Hogan ('72) and his wife, Patricia, the Summer for Undergraduates Program has a financially secure future. In 2000, the Hogans designated part of a $2 million gift to the law school to endow the program. Their most recent gift of $1 million in 2003 allows the law school to permanently maintain the size of the program to accommodate 60 students each year. Through the years, the Hogans have taken an active role in the program and Wayne Hogan has been an annual guest speaker. He is a celebrated trial lawyer and partner in the Jacksonville law firm Terrell Hogan.

Program Alumni

Since the program’s inception in 1992, we have welcomed more than 1000 participants from approximately 150 two- and four-year colleges and universities within the U.S. and abroad. Hundreds subsequently earned their juris doctor degrees and launched successful careers in the legal field.

Contact us for more information about our Summer for Undergraduates Program:
Florida State University College of Law • Office of Student Affairs
301 S. M.L. King Blvd., Advocacy Center, Suite 310, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1601
Phone: 850.644.7338 • Fax: 850.644.4358 • E-mail: summerprogram@law.fsu.edu
www.law.fsu.edu/slp

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all Florida State University-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in this program, contact the Florida State Law Office of Student Affairs in advance at 850.644.7338.