ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Blugold Fellowship Program
The Blugold Fellowship program recruits high school students to come to UW-Eau Claire and perform research with a faculty member during their first and second years. The fellowship is awarded to incoming freshmen based on research interest and merit and includes a scholarship and work-stipend. The program places students with faculty mentors and allows them to perform research in order to expose them to scholarship early in their university careers. The program highlights the opportunities available at UW-Eau Claire, including those provided through the UW System Center of Excellence for Faculty and Undergraduate Student Research Collaboration. Visit the website (http://www.uwec.edu/blugoldfellows).

Student Success Program
Student Success is a one year academic support program that provides small classes and a structural introduction to the university. Participants are admitted to the University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire through the Student Success Program because they demonstrate the potential to succeed and may need additional support as they transition to college. The program is a collaborative effort among individuals, departments, and units across campus. Visit our website (http://www.uwec.edu/asc).

Developmental Education Program
The Developmental Education Program, coordinated by the Academic Skills Center, provides courses designed to strengthen students’ college level learning strategies and critical thinking skills. It also serves to familiarize students with a wide range of academic support services and increase academic self-confidence. These courses are designed to meet the needs of students who are entering college with concerns about their academic learning strategies and are available on a preassigned basis. Further information may be obtained from the Coordinator for Developmental Education or visit the website (http://www.uwec.edu/asc/ourservices/gencourses.htm).

Educational and Community Services

Academic Intervention Clinic
The Academic Intervention Clinic, a program sponsored by the Human Development Center, provides school-aged children and adolescents with educational support in the areas of math, reading, and written language. Undergraduate student clinicians conduct state-of-the-art academic evaluations, develop and implement a comprehensive intervention program, provide on-going progress monitoring, and consult with parents and teachers. The program is housed within the Human Development Center with student clinicians also providing services in local elementary schools. The Academic Intervention Clinic also supports a Summer Reading Program. Faculty-student collaborative research experiences that focus on applied practice are available to undergraduate students.

Center for Communication Disorders
The Center for Communication Disorders provides diagnostic and intervention services to clients ranging in age from infants to the elderly. Graduate and undergraduate student clinicians, under faculty supervision, work in the clinic with clients who have communication disorders of all types including problems with voice, stuttering, speech sound production, hearing, and language. The Center is located on the first floor of the Human Sciences and Services building and provides services at no cost to clients. Visit the website (http://www.uwec.edu/academics/college-education-human-sciences/departments-programs/communication-sciences-disorders/about/community-resources) or call 715-836-4054 for additional information or to make appointments.

Human Development Center
The Human Development Center (HDC) is an interprofessional program that works with individuals and families from western Wisconsin. Under the direct supervision of faculty supervisors, student clinicians from Communication Sciences and Disorders, Reading Education, Nursing, Psychology, Special Education, and Social Work provide assessment, intervention, and consultation services to children, adolescents, young adults, and families referred from the community. Undergraduate and graduate students from these disciplines work collaboratively on interprofessional teams to provide high quality services to clients. The HDC also sponsors research programs involving academic assessment and intervention, behavioral health, and child and school psychology. The HDC is located on the first floor of the Human Sciences and Services building. Visit the website (http://www.uwec.edu/HDC) or call 715-836-5604 for more information.

Psychological Services Center
The Psychological Services Center, a clinic staffed by faculty members from the Department of Psychology’s School Psychology Program, is located within the Human Development Center. The center provides psychological and family assessment and intervention, parent training, and academic and behavioral consultation services to clients referred from the community. Allied disciplines also participate in the center, providing a variety of consulting services, including health, education, and assessment.

Intercultural Immersion Experiences
Immersion programs are guided, critically-reflective domestic intercultural and international experiences that aim to deepen students’ intercultural competence through global engagement, study and experience. Short-term programs (about 20-25 each academic year) are offered to various locations within the United States and internationally, led by UW-Eau Claire faculty/staff with curriculum relating to the UW-Eau Claire Liberal Education Learning Goals. As part of the University’s commitment to providing high-impact learning experiences for all students, Blugold Commitment Differential Tuition supports three intercultural immersion programs by providing funding to decrease student costs and thus increase access to high-impact learning experiences for all students.

1. The Faculty-Led International Immersion Experiences (FLIEE) Program offers short-term (2-6 weeks over Summer or Winterim term) study abroad programs led by UW-Eau Claire faculty/staff. Each program includes pre-experience preparation and orientation, cognitively rigorous in-country experiential learning activities that allow students to immerse themselves in the host culture, and post-experience guidance to bring learning and capacity back to campus.

2. The Domestic Intercultural Immersion (DII) Program prepares students to take part in an increasingly diverse and interconnected world by offering short-term programs (1-2 weeks over Winterim, Spring Break, and Summer term) within the United States. By engaging firsthand with various cultures, populations, and environments within the U.S., participants develop new perspectives of the world and expand their interpersonal and intercultural skills.

3. The International Fellows Program (IFP) or Research, Service, and Creative Activity supports international student-faculty collaborative research/creative activity and research service-learning projects. This program enhances student research skills and international experience, as well as develops faculty expertise in global research topics.
For detailed information about each program, visit the website (http://www.uwec.edu/undergrad/immersionexperiences.htm).

International Education (Center for)

The Center for International Education (CIE) is committed to providing high quality international programs and international support services to the University community. It supports campus internationalization initiatives and advocates for intercultural competency and lifelong inquiry.

Two units within the Center for International Education work to support UW-Eau Claire students:

Study Abroad

The Center for International Education (CIE) strives to make study abroad that is affordable and connected to the curriculum available to every UW-Eau Claire student. With study abroad programs on every populated continent, nearly 22 percent of UW-Eau Claire students choose to take part in the life-changing experience of living and learning in another country. To ensure that courses taken abroad will be appropriate to their academic programs at UW-Eau Claire, students should begin to plan for international study as early as possible, in consultation with their academic adviser(s) and CIE study abroad coordinators.

Important notes about study abroad:

- To participate in international programs, students must be in good standing- academic, financial, and conduct- and meet program eligibility requirements.
- Credits and grades earned on UW-Eau Claire programs abroad are resident credits and are applied directly to the student’s record.
- Regular financial aid may be used on UW-Eau Claire programs. Grants and scholarships are also available to support study abroad.
- Available programs are more fully described in International Studies course descriptions (College of Arts and Sciences).

International Students and Scholar Services

The Center for International Education welcomes students and scholars from throughout the world. Hosting students from many nations, the University is a global community in western Wisconsin. International student and scholar staff coordinates the following core services:

- Student and scholar immigration advising, compliance, and documentation.
- Intensive English Program.
- CHEPD (China 121) dual degree coordination.
- Sponsored student coordination.
- Host Friend Program.

Further information and assistance is available from the Center for International Education and the website (http://www.uwec.edu/cie).

National Student Exchange (NSE)

The National Student Exchange (NSE), a consortium of more than 175 state supported colleges and universities, allows students to attend school in another area of the United States as well as Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands for up to one academic year. In bringing together students from different parts of the country, the program encourages participants to broaden their academic, social, and cultural awareness. Through a simplified admission process, students are able to enroll at their host universities and pay tuition at UW-Eau Claire. Grades and completed course work are incorporated into the student’s UW-Eau Claire transcript, and are considered resident credit.

To qualify, a student must:

- be currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at UW-Eau Claire in the term prior to exchange;
- have a minimum 2.50 GPA;
- be in good academic, personal, and financial standing at UW-Eau Claire.

For more information about NSE, contact (715) 836-2003 or visit their website (http://www.uwec.edu/DOS/programs/nse).

Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program

The TRIO Ronald McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program is a graduate school preparatory program funded by the U.S. Department of Education and sponsored by UW-Eau Claire. Named after American astronaut Dr. Ronald McNair, the McNair program aims at leveling the playing field in graduate education and diversify the American research community by class, socioeconomic status, and ethnicity. Nationally there are 158 McNair programs working with over 4,400 students.

The TRIO McNair Program was founded in 1989 and initiated at UW-Eau Claire in 2000. The mission of the McNair Program is to prepare McNair scholars for research based graduate level studies, and ultimately, a doctoral degree. Students selected into the program, referred to as “McNair scholars” are ambitious about entering research-based graduate programs immediately after graduating from UWEC. Annually, up to 26 undergraduates participate in the UW-Eau Claire McNair Program. Two-thirds of the participants meet federal income guidelines and are from a family in which neither parent graduated from a four-year postsecondary educational institution. One-third of the participants may be from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in graduate studies and the professoriate. (The federal government defines “underrepresented” to include: Black (non-Hispanic); Hispanic; and American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.)

Along with a dedicated mentor in the scholar’s primary field of research, over a two-year time period, the McNair program prepares them for graduate level studies, with the penultimate goal of completing a research based doctorate degree.

Some of the activities that McNair scholars participate in include learning about the big picture of research, the development of the American research community, and current trends in American research; developing an understanding of the research process, writing and peer-reviewed publication process; developing an understanding of the grant writing process; working one-on-one on preparing CVs; applying for graduate school; traveling to present at the McNair conference and graduate school site visits. The Summer Research Institute, a six-week program, consists of scholars working with their mentors intensively on a research project. Additionally, McNair program staff work with scholars on GRE preparation; developing personal statements; developing video and on-line profile; writing and research workshops; and graduate school site visit.

Visit the website (http://www.uwec.edu/mcnair) to learn more about the McNair program and for contact information.
Undergraduate Research

UW-Eau Claire is the Center of Excellence for Faculty and Undergraduate Student Research Collaboration. Many students work with a faculty mentor in their discipline to engage in scholarly projects. Results of these projects are presented on-campus at the Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity (CERCA) each spring, and many are also shared at professional conferences or through publication. Students involved in these activities develop a host of skills that prepare them for graduate studies and/or professional employment. Through the Blugold Commitment Differential Tuition program, funding is available to support student participation in research and scholarly projects that result in creative works, and to travel to professional conferences to present their results.

The mission of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) is to maintain a supportive environment for research and scholarly and creative endeavors of the faculty, staff and students. This is accomplished through events that showcase research, such as the annual Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity, the Faculty/Staff Forum and the Authors Celebration, through funding programs that support research activities, through publications about campus research activities, and through services such as seminars, workshops and individual consultations on grant-seeking and undergraduate research collaboration. For more information, contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (Schofield 17) at 715 836-3405 or visit the website (http://www.uwec.edu/ORSP/students).