Summer Academic Enrichment Program

SAEP
SUMMER ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

SCHOOL *of* SOCIAL SCIENCES | UNIVERSITY *of* CALIFORNIA IRVINE

The Summer Academic Enrichment Program (SAEP) is an intensive, five-week on-campus residential program. It is designed to enhance the academic experience of first generation university students.

SAEP is a landmark program on the University of California, Irvine campus and represents a successful model that offers a rigorous research experience. Courses in research methods, statistical analysis, and writing and communications are taught by UC Irvine faculty. A past SAEP student alumni and undergraduate housing assistant provide academic support and tutoring assistance throughout the five-weeks. Participants receive 8-12 units of academic credit towards graduation.

The goals of SAEP are to:

- Strengthen analytical and research skills that prepare students for research such as an honors theses, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP), summer research and/or internship programs.
- Provide an orientation to graduate education.
- Prepare participants for working with historically underserved and underrepresented communities.
- Provide participants challenging academic content in research through three courses:
  - 🕮 Research Methods
  - 🕮 Intermediate Statistics
  - 🕮 Communications

In addition, participants will attend weekly presentations by faculty, graduate students and community leaders as well as workshops on graduate school preparation.

SAEP is designed to be challenging. It demands a five-week, seven-day commitment from all participants. It is best suited for students who are highly motivated and strongly committed to a graduate or professional education. It provides a seminar-based intensive, cooperative learning experience for the cohort, not normally provided in a classroom setting. Participants are introduced to the research culture, to the research university, and to the meaning of a graduate education by prominent nationally known UCI faculty. SAEP participants reflect the diverse and often underrepresented communities of California and the program encourages a return to these communities to provide service and leadership.

The more than 300 SAEP students from the past fifteen years have recorded a UCI graduation rate of 95%. Over two-thirds of SAEP participants have graduated from or are currently enrolled in M.A./Ph.D. programs, public policy and public health programs, law school and teaching credential programs.

SAEP participants are attending or have graduated from universities such as Stanford, Harvard, Berkeley, UCLA, University of Michigan, University of Washington, University of Nebraska, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, Columbia, New Your University, Boston University, Texas, Missouri, Wisconsin –Madison, UC Santa Barbara, Ohio State University, University of New Mexico and UC Irvine. Over two dozen SAEP participants have graduated from the Kennedy School of Government and various Ph.D. and education programs at Harvard University.

The School of Social Sciences has sponsored and administered this distinct undergraduate academic research program on the UCI campus since its inception in 1991. SAEP has drawn on the support of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, the Center for Educational Partnership, the Office of Financial Aid, the Office of Student Academic Advancement Services, the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, the Office of Summer Sessions, and the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor

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