



Dates: June 27-July 31, 2010

Who We Are

The Drexel University Computing Academy (DUCA) is a five-week, residential summer learning experience at Drexel University in Philadelphia. Through DUCA, students share an authentic college experience, exploring information technology and computer science through interactive classes, group projects and labs while living in a dorm, eating cafeteria food, and, best of all, making new friends. The program is open to current high school sophomores and juniors, with no residency requirements – students from anywhere in the U.S. may apply.

DUCA is an outgrowth of the Pennsylvania Governor's School for Information, Society, and Technology (PGSIST), which was hosted at Drexel from 1998 through 2008. In February 2009, Pennsylvania eliminated funding for all Governor's Schools of Excellence, including PGSIST, one of many state programs affected by sweeping budget cuts. DUCA was developed as an alternative program to meet the demand for a quality summer educational experience for college-bound high school sophomores and juniors. Faculty and staff remain largely the same, the exceptional quality of the curriculum is maintained, and the activities are as fun and exciting as those during PGSIST days.

Curriculum

DUCA is cosponsored by the Drexel University Computer Science Department and the College of Information Science and Technology (*iSchool*). This collaboration allows the program to effectively cover a range of computer technology and application topics. In addition, DUCA provides courses taught by faculty from Drexel's Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design and the Bennett S. LeBow College of Business.

The DUCA curriculum is designed to enhance students' critical thinking, sharpen their leadership skills, and teach them to collaborate more effectively. The five-week program is divided into two parts. The first is a two-week focus on core courses in Database Design and Management, Computer Programming, Networking, Human-Computer Interaction, Social Aspects of Information Systems, Game Design, Object-Oriented System Analysis and Design, Information and Computer Ethics. The final three weeks are committed to a student-selected concentration track. This part of the program includes intense exposure to technical and non-technical topics, which include Networking; Information Crime, Security, Privacy and Intellectual Property; IT and the Law; the Web and the World; and Software Engineering.

Who May Apply

Academically talented high school students currently in their sophomore or junior academic years at the time of application may apply to DUCA. Applicants must demonstrate academic achievement and an interest in exploring computer and information science through grade reports, letters of recommendation and an essay describing what the applicant expects to gain from DUCA. Applications are due May 1, 2010. Applications and recommendation forms are available on the DUCA website.

Costs and Commitment

DUCA is a tuition-based program. The fee is \$4,000 and includes tuition, room, board, instructional materials and program activities. Families are responsible for transportation to and from the program, pocket money, and a Residential Life deposit that is refunded if all conditions are met, and for damages not covered by the deposit.

Students must remain in residence for the full 35-day program, including weekends. They are expected to arrive promptly for all classes and activities. There are open periods scheduled every day for personal use, but DUCA does not provide special facilities or alter schedules for formal athletic training, intensive music study or other commitments unrelated to the program.

Learn More

Visit us online at www.ducomputingacademy.org

Contact DUCA

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