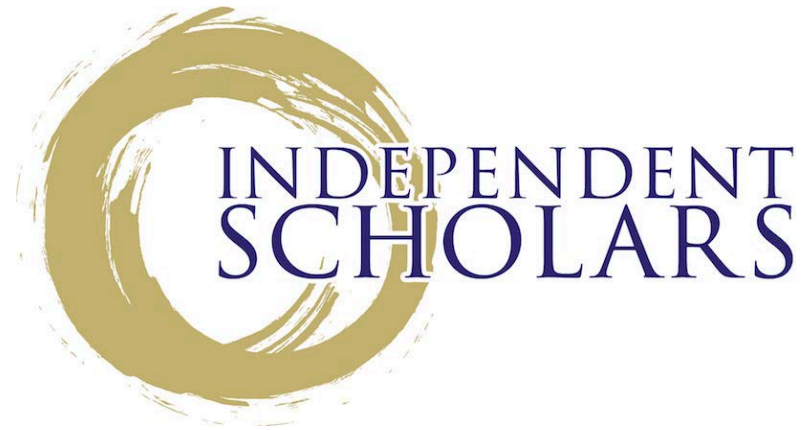


Our mission

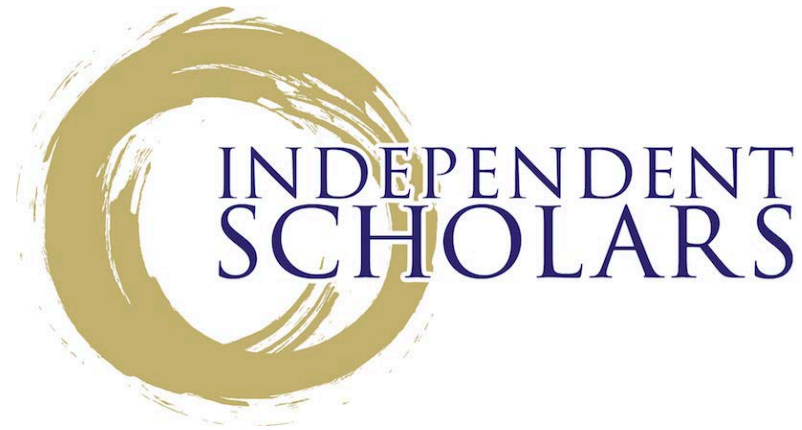
To provide students with a learning environment in which they develop and pursue self-designed curricular pathways and research goals, identifying unique domains of inquiry and interweaving multiple modes of thinking.

To empower students to cultivate their own academic and professional interests in ways that foster the ability to comprehend and contribute uniquely and innovatively to a wide array of topics, questions and problems.



Objectives

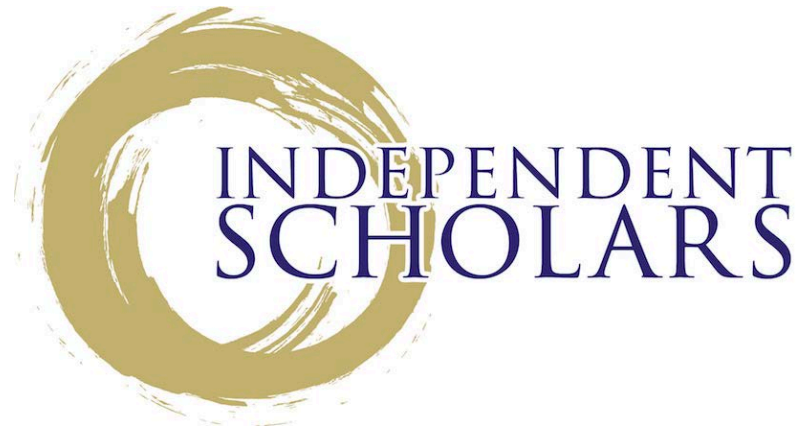
- IS majors will:
- develop topic-based interests and inquiry strategies to pursue those interests.
- enhance creativity, self-directedness and perseverance required for inquiry.
- learn research, technical and communication skills relevant to their inquiry.
- enhance aptitude and confidence in working independently and collectively.
- apply knowledge and skills in experiential-learning settings.



Degree and Major requirements

- Each student's curriculum will include:
- a cross disciplinary exploration course (IND 200)
- 36 credit hours of course work beyond General Education requirements
- four credits of skill-enhancing workshops (IND 300)
- a six-credit hour senior project (IND 499A-C)
- the plans for relevant field experiences, internships and/or study abroad programs.

For students in the honors program, the IS senior project will fulfill the senior honors project requirement.

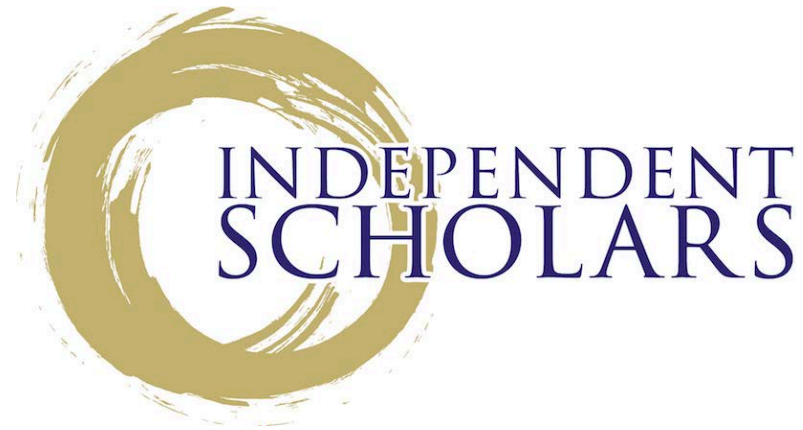


Bachelor of Arts

General Education	41
Philosophy course	3
Foreign language	0-14
Major requirements	
Ind. Sch. exploration course	3
Curriculum plan courses	36
Workshops	4
Senior project	6
<u>Electives</u>	<u>13-27</u>
Total credits	120

Bachelor of Science

General Education	41
Quantitative Requirement	3
Scientific Literacy	3-4
Major requirements	
Ind. Sch. exploration course	3
Curriculum plan courses	36
Workshops	4
Senior project	6
<u>Electives</u>	<u>23-24</u>
Total credits	120

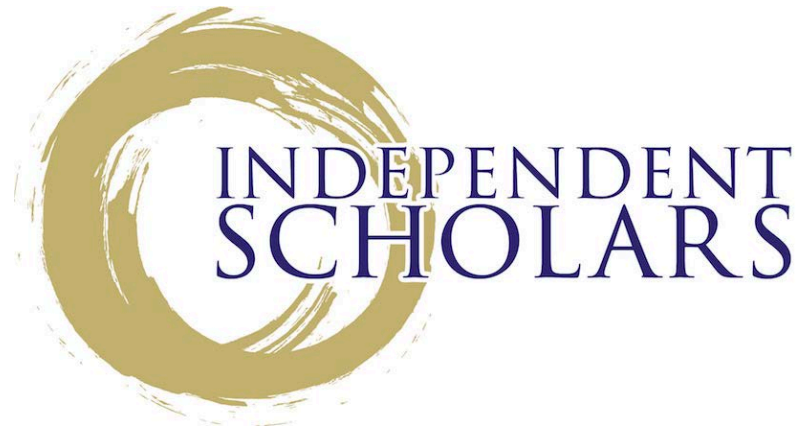


IS self-designed curriculum and IND 300 workshop courses

Senior project & Experiential learning/Study abroad

General Education

IND 200 and apply to IS major



Timeline

Students meet with IS coordinators

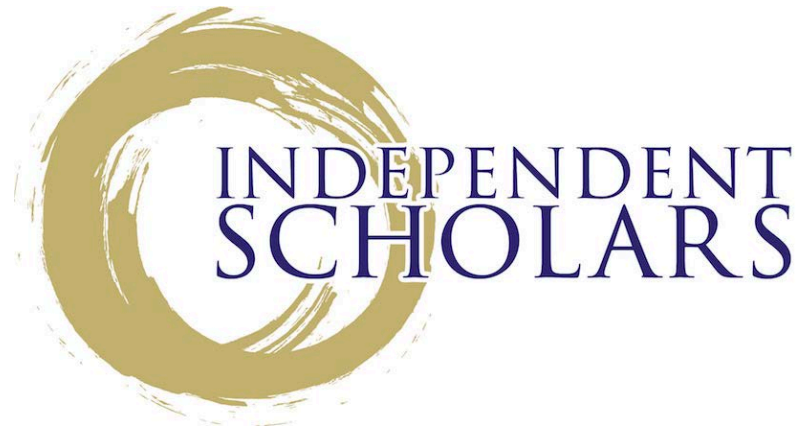


Yr 1

Yr 2

Yr 3

Yr 4



Timeline (cont)

IS Exploration Course (IND 200)

Inquiry proposal

Curriculum Plan

Recruit faculty content expert

Application adjudication by faculty committee

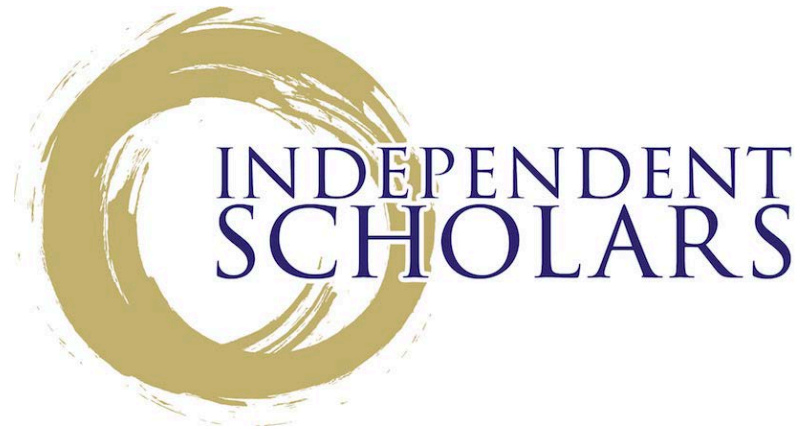


Yr 1

Yr 2

Yr 3

Yr 4



Timeline (cont)

Begin self-designed curriculum

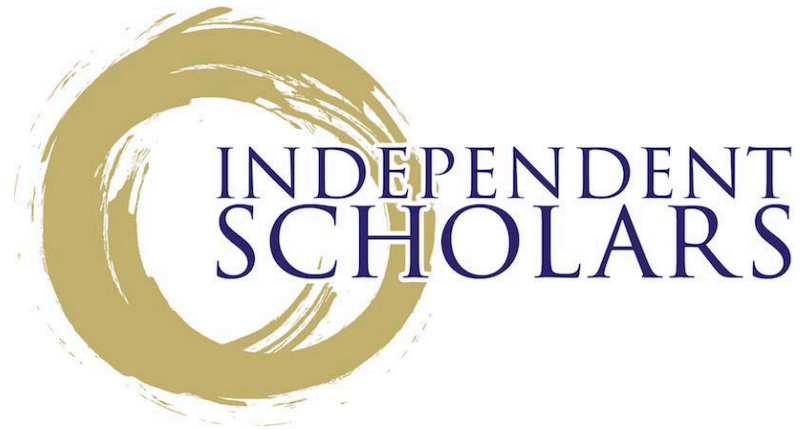


Yr 1

Yr 2

Yr 3

Yr 4



Timeline (cont)

Begin taking IND 300 skill-enhancing workshops

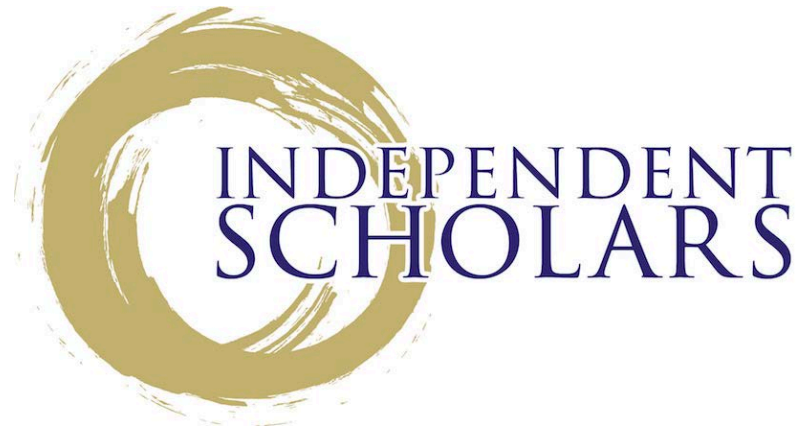


Yr 1

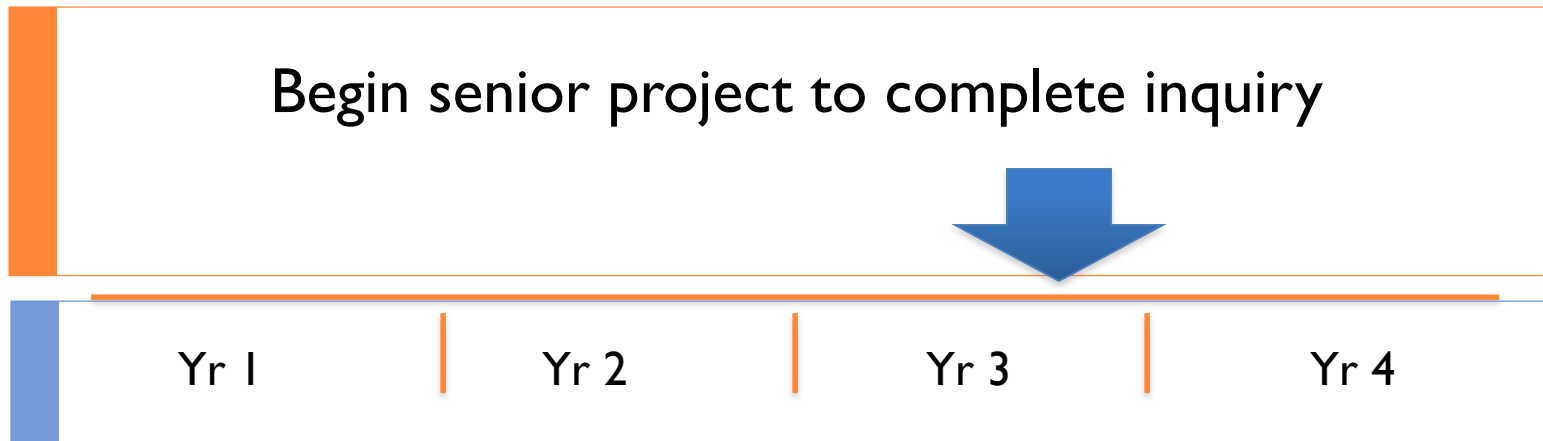
Yr 2

Yr 3

Yr 4



Timeline (cont)



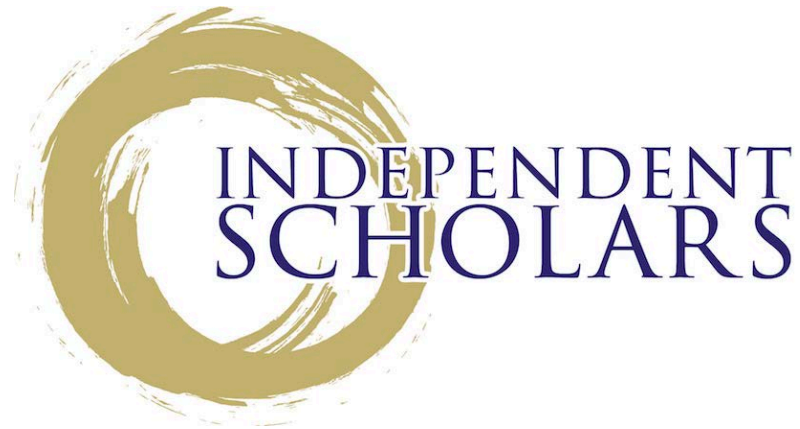
INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS

*Experiential learning/
Study abroad*

Year, semester, and summer programs.

Any summer, and sophomore or junior year.





*Bachelor of Science
Independent Scholars
Non-profit and Private Sector Solutions to Environmental Challenges*

*Bachelor of Arts
Independent Scholars
Storytelling and Human Empathy*

*Bachelor of Science
Independent Scholars
Augmented Intelligence and Entrepreneurship*



Information and support

Directors: Matthew Chamberlin and Phil Frana

Web information at

<https://www.jmu.edu/honors/independent-scholars-major.shtml>