Columbia Summer Undergraduate Research Experiences in Mathematical Modeling

May 31st-August 5th, 2022

The CSUREMM program offers an opportunity for undergraduate students interested in mathematical modeling and scientific computing, regardless of their major, to immerse themselves into an interdisciplinary, experiential, and hands-on experience. Throughout the program, participants will

(1) be exposed to the full range of activities involved in pursuing scientific research including project design, data analysis and interpretation, modeling and simulation, literature review, scientific writing, and scholarly collaboration;

(2) familiarize themselves with advanced methods and techniques used in modern mathematical and statistical modeling and data analysis; and

(3) develop a collaborative interdisciplinary research project under the joint mentorship of Columbia graduate students and faculty.

Guest speakers, mini-courses, and social events are also incorporated into the program. By the end of the experience, students should walk away with a broad understanding of mathematical modeling and scientific computing, knowledge on the scientific research process, experience in presenting academic research, and a network of peer and mentor relationships.

Framework

There are three main activities that students will participate in during the program:

- Lectures in mathematical modeling
- Interdisciplinary group project
- Skills and curriculum development

Summary

Lectures in mathematical modeling

As part of the program students will participate in a series of lectures and mini-courses given by experts in probability and statistics, and applied and computational mathematics. The lectures and mini-courses will cover selected topics on dynamical systems, networks, stochastic modeling, operations research, and data analysis. The instruction will be combined with hands-on modeling of real-world problems and case studies that illustrate the key principles and methods introduced in lectures.
Interdisciplinary group project
The group project component is designed for participants to get a sense of what is required in the proposal and development of a competent research project. It also serves as an opportunity for students to apply the mathematical and computational skills acquired during the program to investigate real-world problems. Each participant will be part of a group of three undergraduate students, and teams will propose an interdisciplinary research project on a topic of their choice. Graduate student mentors and faculty will guide the teams throughout their research projects. At the end of the program, each team will prepare and present their findings in the form of a written report and through an oral presentation. Teams are also encouraged to present their work at the Columbia Undergraduate Research Symposium in Fall 2022.

Skills and curriculum development
As part of the program students will attend tutorials and training sessions designed to allow the participants to develop and enhance their technical and scientific literacy skills as well as their communication and leadership skills. The participants will also help in creating content and designing a curriculum for training other undergraduate students in mathematical modeling. After the program, the participants are encouraged to act as Mathematical Modeling Ambassadors and help lead events, teach and inspire the undergraduate students participating in the Columbia Undergraduate Mathematical Modeling Workshop (CUMMW) in Fall 2022.

Background
Previous coursework in linear algebra, probability, ordinary differential equations, and some experience with programming are highly recommended, but not mandatory.

Eligibility
The program is open to any continuing Barnard/Columbia undergraduate student, independent of U.S. residency. Women and historically underrepresented minorities are particularly encouraged to apply.

Application
For your application, you will need:
• One-page CV/resume
• Unofficial university transcripts
• Name of one faculty who can act as your reference (a reference letter is not required)

Application link
https://forms.gle/tMRRVqyczNMShxx6

Application deadline
5:00 PM (EST), March 11th, 2022

Contact
For further inquiries please contact the program organizers:
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The 2022 CSUREMM program is made possible with support from the following departments and institutes at Columbia University
Department of Mathematics
Department of Statistics
Data Science Institute (DSI)
Herbert and Florence Irving Institute for Cancer Dynamics (IICD)
and by the NSF through DMS:1937254 - Research Training in Applied Mathematics at Columbia University.