Introducing the Hartford Institute Geriatric Undergraduate Scholars Program

A competitive-application honors program for NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing baccalaureate program students

Program Includes:
- Small Group Workshops with Interprofessional Faculty
- Mentorship from NYU Geriatrics Faculty
- Geriatric Focused Clinical Experiences
- Integrative, Independent Mentored Clinical Review Project
- Counts for 1 Baccalaureate Program Nursing Elective

Eligibility Criteria:
- Students in good standing and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in the nursing sequence
- *Accelerated baccalaureate students* currently in the second nursing sequence eligible for the *summer* cohort
- *Traditional baccalaureate students* currently in the second nursing sequence eligible for the *fall* cohort

Application and further information regarding the program can be found at [http://bit.ly/HIGUS](http://bit.ly/HIGUS)

**Applications due Friday April 24th, 2020**
The Hartford Institute
Geriatric Undergraduate Scholars Program

Purpose

The Hartford Institute Geriatric Undergraduate Scholars Program (HIGUS) seeks to engage and develop baccalaureate students interested in specializing in the care of the older adult through mentorship and additional training, utilizing the existing resources of the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing (HIGN) and NYU Meyers.

Selection

A competitive selection process is performed in order to select scholars. Students who have completed their second upper level sequence in the baccalaureate program (A&E 11, Pharmacology, Psych) and have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA are eligible to apply.

Accelerated students in the second nursing sequence in Spring 2020 will be admitted to the Summer 2020 cohort.

Traditional students in the second nursing sequence in Spring 2020 will be admitted to the Fall 2020 cohort.

Application

The application for ALL students who are in the second nursing sequence in the Spring 2020 semester is due April 24, 2020. The application is completed through Qualtrics at the following link: HIGUS Application Spring 2020

Notification

Accelerated students will be notified by Friday, May 1st.
Traditional students will be notified by Friday, August 21st.

Program Details

Scholars will be involved in HIGUS related activities throughout their final 2 semesters in the baccalaureate program. These sessions include mentorship, small group didactic sessions, online education modules, additional geriatric focused clinical experiences, and an integrative project in their final semester.
**Mentorship:** Each scholar is assigned a faculty mentor. The mentor is a full-time faculty member in the NYUCN and HIGN Fellow. The mentor meets monthly and as needed with the scholar to discuss the program, their clinical experience, answer questions, and help to shape the students ideal leading up to the integrative project. They also are responsible for the overall progression and completion of the scholar’s integrative project (see below).

**Small Group Didactic Sessions:** Scholars enroll in Complex Care of the Older Adult I and II, which are small didactic sessions that are facilitated by geriatric clinical and research specialists from both within and outside the NYUCN on a variety of current issues in geriatric care. Complex Care of the Older Adult I (1 credit) is taught in the 3rd nursing sequence semester and Complex Care of the Older Adult II (2 credits) is taught in the 4th nursing sequence semester. Successful completion of these two courses satisfies the baccalaureate program requirement of one nursing elective. Students who are accepted into the dual-degree program will be allowed to take one graduate course in addition to Complex Care of the Older Adult II in their final semester. Other students may take one additional nursing elective.

**Online Education Modules:** Scholars are provided free access to all online education modules available from the HIGN. Scholars are also provided free access to the online geriatric nursing certification review course for a period of 3 years following graduation in order to help facilitate their taking of the certification exam when they become eligible.

**Geriatric Focused Clinical Experiences:** Tailored to the specific interests of each student, over the course of their 2 semesters in the HIGUS Program, scholars attend at least 1 full-day clinical experience. During this experience, students shadow current expert geriatric clinicians at a variety of healthcare institutions and settings. Past settings have included clinics, wound care teams, emergency rooms, intensive care units, oncologic units, and nurse practitioner led inpatient teams.

**Integrative Project:** During their final semester, under the guidance of their HIGUS mentor, scholars develop, write and present an integrative review of a geriatric topic of interest to the scholar with relevance to the field of nursing. The review is written with the intent of publishing in an academic journal. The scholar presents the results of their review in a 10-minute oral presentation to all other scholars at the end of the semester followed by 5 minutes for questions.

**Research:** The primary goal of the HIGUS Program is to develop baccalaureate students’ specialization in care for the older adults. However, some of the scholars may be additionally interested in performing or learning more about geriatrics research. In these cases, the HIGUS Program Director will work with the scholar’s mentor and the geriatric research faculty in association with the Director of the Pless Center for Nursing Research to assess whether there are volunteer opportunities to work on current research projects with an aging focus or to replace the integrative project with a research project.

**Completion**

Upon completion, HIGUS Scholars will be presented with a certificate of completion and will receive a specialized set of graduation chords that they will be entitled to wear at their graduation from the NYUCN. They will also be listed in the graduation program.