Education is not to reform students or to amuse them or to make them expert technicians. It is to unsettle their minds, widen their horizons, inflame their intellects.”

—ROBERT MAYNARD HUTCHINS, PRESIDENT, 1929–1951
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
Why This Program
The University of Chicago Data and Policy Summer Scholar Program provides an unique opportunity for top global undergraduate and graduate students to gain a foundation in data analytics, policy research and professional development. Simultaneously students enjoy full access to UChicago’s resources and professional networks.

Accelerate your academic, professional and personal growth in four weeks.

STUDY
» Data Analytics and Programming
» Writing and Communication
» Faculty-led Capstone Project

CONNECT
» On-campus living with accessibility to diverse campus resources and events
» Discover diverse graduate degree programs at UChicago
» Explore the city of Chicago during the best season

GROW
» Expand your personal and professional networks worldwide
» Develop your leadership and networking skills
» Demonstrate ability to study at the national top university
FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHLIGHTED FACULTY

AUSTIN WRIGHT is the Faculty Director for the Data and Policy Summer Scholar Program to ensure the holistic curriculum is designed and taught to meet student needs in the UChicago way. As an Assistant Professor at Harris, Austin’s research leverages microlevel data to study the political economy of conflict and crime in Afghanistan, Colombia, Indonesia, and Iraq, and is supported by the National Science Foundation, Niehaus Center for Global Governance, The Asia Foundation, and World Bank.

He is also a faculty affiliate of The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts, the Empirical Studies of Conflict Project, and non-resident fellow of the Liechtenstein Institute at Princeton University. Austin teaches the Quantitative Analysis for Public Policy for the Data and Policy Summer Scholar Program.

“Professor Wright is very amazing because he is able to take students in from all different sorts of backgrounds and he’s adopted a very hands on approach that allows people to actually understand and have a voice in the project that we’re doing.”

Frankie Cho, Hong Kong S.A.R., Geography, University of Hong Kong

Faculty-led Capstone Project

Throughout the program, students work in small groups, led by a faculty member on a capstone project. The capstone project is an excellent opportunity for students to apply the knowledge and skills learned over the program. The project enables students to work through real world problems, collaborate with peers and faculty to design a solution. Students can highlight the project on their resume.

Highlighted Project

Conflict Resolution & Peace Building - Austin Wright

Countries emerging from civil war face unique challenges. As policy-makers craft interventions to enhance the durability of peace agreements, it remains important to understand the role that civilians play in supporting conflict resolution. We will study these issues in Afghanistan, where government actors have partnered with international forces to promote reintegration of former and current rebels.

We will rely on newly released survey data to better understand what technologies and tools security forces can use to shift public opinion in favor of peaceful settlement of armed hostilities, enabling citizens to become the cornerstone of peace building.

WAI-SINN CHAN is the Senior Associate Director of Harris Policy Labs. She works with faculty, staff, and prospective client partners to develop the signature experiential learning program at Harris. She also coaches student teams in the classroom and designs the professional development component of Policy Labs. Prior to joining the University, she directed the implementation of projects to improve service reliability and customer communications, including Bus Tracker, at the Chicago Transit Authority. She is a Harris Public Policy MPP and Chicago Booth MBA alumna.
COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHLIGHTED COURSES

Quantitative Analysis in Public Policy
This course provides an introduction to critical, quantitative thinking. Students will be introduced to the basic toolkit of policy analysis, which includes sampling, hypothesis testing, Bayesian inference, regression, experiments, instrumental variables, differences in differences, and regression discontinuity. More important, students will learn the principles of critical thinking essential for careful and credible policy analysis.

Introduction to Programming in R
This is an introductory course in programming and data analysis for students with no prior coding experience. The course has three goals: introducing students to the tools required to write and share code; translating self-contained questions into R programs; and learning how to retrieve, clean, visualize, and analyze data.

Public Policy Series
The series of public policy lectures and talks will expose students to a wide range of critical policy topics, such as education, energy, healthcare, finance, and economic development. Students will analyze policies and their impacts, review relevant research on each topic, and examine implications of the findings to policy and practice. Students will also hear from leading practitioners within each field about their own experience and development paths.

Academic and Professional Writing and Communication
This course focuses on building skills to communicate and write clear, effective academic or professional prose. Students will learn North American writing conventions and strategies as well as tactics to convey clear messages to an audience in an impactful way. These skills enable students to write a great research proposal or personal statement.
Located just a few miles south of downtown Chicago, the University of Chicago affords students unparalleled access to an international metropolis. Outside the classroom, students will participate in a plethora of activities that offer direct exposure to Chicago, relevant industries, and networking opportunities with alumni and students. These activities will complement the curriculum offered during the day and allow students to see their skills directly applied in the real world.

**LIBRARIES**
The University of Chicago Library has six locations on campus, including:

- Joseph Regenstein Library
- Joe and Rika Mansueto Library
- John Crerar Library
- William Rainey Harper Memorial Library

**ARTS & CULTURE**
The University of Chicago’s robust cultural scene is where scholars, students, artists, and audiences converge, explore, and create.

- Court Theatre
- Frederick C. Robie House
- Oriental Institute Museum
- Renaissance Society
- Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts
- Seminary Co-op Bookstores
- Smart Museum of Art

**Gerald Ratner Athletics Center**
Designed by architect Cesar Pelli, the air-conditioned, 150,000-square-foot facility features the 50-meter x 25-yard Myers-McLoraine Swimming Pool; the Bernard DelGiorno Fitness Center, with its cardiovascular exercise equipment, weightlifting machines, and free weights; and a multipurpose dance studio.

**The Reynolds Club** is the University’s primary student center and the hub of student life. It is home to Hutchinson Commons, a food facility serving a variety of culinary options, including pizza, burritos, curries, sandwiches, sushi, and more.

**UChicago Graduate Student Peer Mentorship Program**
Student groups will be paired with a current UChicago graduate student as a peer mentor. Your peer mentor will spend quality time with you and provide support in many ways to create a great summer experience and help you succeed in this program—and beyond.

**Graduate Program Admissions Resource**
Representatives and faculty from various University of Chicago master’s programs, such as Public Policy, Financial Mathematics, Social Science, will host panels to help students learn about potential opportunities for full-time academic study. Students will be able to exclusively interact with current students and faculty in those programs to receive more in-depth knowledge about the programs and the application processes.
Career Readiness Workshops
These workshops teach students the key skills and resources to prepare themselves for their career. Topics include personal branding, resume building and more.

Networking Skills and Practice
Career professionals guide students on the fundamental skills to market and network themselves. Students will have the opportunity to practice skills with their peers, UChicago graduate students and alumni.

Career Orientation
Career professionals share with students the different opportunities and paths. With examples of UChicago graduates, students will learn about the different academic and professional resources and options available.

Site Visit
Students will have the opportunity to visit a local organization. These visits are hosted by UChicago alumni for students to learn about an organization and the impact of their work. Through these visits students can see the how UChicago alumni apply their degrees in the public, private and non-profit sectors.
A TYPICAL DAY AT UCHICAGO

7:30am  Get up and take a morning walk/run along the beautiful Chicago skyline.

8:30am  Have a nice breakfast in the dining hall.

9–12pm  Learn how to code using R, so you can extract and analyze data from the Chicago Data Portal to unveil hidden insights among millions of data points.

12pm–1:30pm  Lunch in the dining hall or choose from 10+ food trucks on Ellis Ave.

1:30–4:30pm  Hear from a faculty member or an experienced practitioner on a timely policy issue.

5–6pm  Discuss and problem-solve with the support of a graduate student TA

6–7pm  Work out or play basketball with your peer mentor at the Ratner Athletics Center.

7–8pm  Enjoy the buffet dinner with your friends at the dining hall, or dine out on 57th Street.

After 8pm  Reflect on the day, do some assignments, and get ready for another exciting day!

SUMMER FUN

Cubs or White Sox game
Lakefront beach BBQ
Free music and movies in Millennium Park
Fireworks on Navy Pier
Wednesday and Saturday nights
Water taxi from Chinatown to the River Walk

SELECT CHICAGO OPPORTUNITIES

Art Institute of Chicago
(The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
Museum of Science and Industry
Field Museum
American Writers Museum
Chicago Shakespeare Theater
Joffrey Ballet
Lyric Opera
Second City comedy club
One of the things I enjoyed about the research project was being able to immediately apply the things that we learned in the classroom. Yesterday we learned about the econometric techniques in the classroom, and today we are implementing the techniques in a real-world data set.

FRANKIE CHO, HONG KONG S.A.R., GEOGRAPHY, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

I got to know the University of Chicago and get a glimpse of what studying there would be like. I loved getting to know more about the different graduate programs the university offers. In addition, I really enjoyed getting to know different people from all over the world and from different backgrounds including students, teachers, and other members of the UChicago community.

MARÍA CAMILA DIAZ GRANADOS BAENA, COLOMBIA, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, UNIVERSIDAD DE LOS ANDES

The classes are worth our efforts, challenging but rewarding. I would definitely recommend this program to whoever wants to experience the UChicago way of being rigorous and fun and learn new things everyday.

SIXIAN ZENG, CHINA, SOCIOLOGY, PEKING UNIVERSITY

“I came into the program with so many graduate school ideas. I wanted to learn programming, and to understand my graduate school interests. I came out with a clear picture of what I want. I want to go to graduate school for an MPP with data analytics. Week by week the program shaped my interests and goals.”

LANA KUGLI, SERBIA, ECONOMICS, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SHANGHAI
“This program was clearly beyond my expectations. The best part of this program was opportunities to meet people at Harris, UChicago and beyond. I truly enjoyed every single thing I learned in class and every single people I met during career development sessions.”

MINSEON LEE, U.S., PSYCHOLOGY, CHUNGBUK NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

“

What impressed me the most was the ability to ask all of our questions. We were able to ask questions at any time in class, and there were office hours every day after class for us to ask more questions. This ability and opportunity to connect with faculty and engage the course content was different from my undergraduate experience.”

JESSICA LYU, CHINA, ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS & ECONOMICS
PROGRAM DATES
Session 1 June 24–July 20, 2019
Session 2 July 22–August 23, 2019

ELIGIBILITY
All applicants are required to complete an online application. Applicants will be notified of admissions decisions electronically on a rolling basis. We encourage you to apply as early as possible. To enroll in the program, you must be at least 18 years old and have finished at least one year of full-time study in an undergraduate institution by the time you attend the program.

APPLICATION MATERIALS
» Motivation statement in English (word limit: 300)
» Undergraduate transcript
» One-page résumé in English
» TOEFL, IELTS, or AEPA score report
  » If you cannot provide the TOEFL or IELTS report, you must attend the Academic English Proficiency Assessment test. More information can be found at summerscholar.uchicago.edu.
» One required short essay (word limit: 300)

PROGRAM FEES
The program fee for 2019 is $9,500. This includes all tuition, course materials, on-campus accommodations, meal plans, student-life fees, and extracurricular fees. Travel costs are not included.
» Partial scholarships will be provided for top applicants based on the quality of their application.

APPLICATION DEADLINES
Apply online at summerscholar.uchicago.edu

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<th>SESSION ONE</th>
<th>SESSION TWO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EARLY ACTION</td>
<td>JANUARY 11, 2019</td>
<td>FEBRUARY 15, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROUND ONE</td>
<td>FEBRUARY 15, 2019</td>
<td>MARCH 15, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROUND TWO</td>
<td>MARCH 15, 2019</td>
<td>APRIL 15, 2019</td>
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<td>NOTIFICATION</td>
<td>STUDENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED WITHIN TWO WEEKS AFTER THE DEADLINE</td>
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