

W&M Applied Scholars

A Cohort-Based, Experiential Learning Opportunity

The Applied Scholars Program seeks to position W&M as the nation's leader in personal, high-quality applied learning that explores real-world challenges by creating a scalable, year-long cohort-based program, consisting of credit-bearing courses, alumni mentorship, research, an international experience, and a paid internship. This is a more personal way of delivering a liberal arts education than we provide today. It builds on W&M's strengths in developing students into engaged problem solvers and multi-dimensional thinkers. The program is global, bringing W&M to the world, and the world to W&M. It is multi-dimensional, providing cross-campus collaboration that builds on each unit's strengths and creates something greater than the sum of our parts. It is practical – without creating new major requirements, the program integrates the COLL curriculum with research, study away, career-building mentorship, and internship opportunities. It is visionary – a mission-oriented program that advances the strategic goals of individual units and forwards the university's goals of improving undergraduate education, engaging alumni in educational programming, and preparing students for their future careers. Importantly, it is also revenue generating and scalable, and within 5 years could directly impact 25-35% of the student population, setting W&M apart in a competitive recruitment landscape.