May 31–June 26

The Pre-Doctoral Scholars Institute (PDSI) is a four-week summer intensive program designed to promote the entrance of promising and talented undergraduates from diverse backgrounds into graduate programs within the humanities and social sciences. The program consists of personal, professional, and cultural development and research opportunities to 1) expose students from underrepresented populations to the professional and academic demands of graduate and doctoral study 2) develop the concepts of discovery, creativity, scholarship, and civic engagement and 3) provide students the opportunity to learn more about LSU and the diversity of Baton Rouge and Louisiana.

Prior to the start of the program, participants will be matched with a faculty mentor. Over the course of the four weeks, participants are expected to develop a 10- to 15-page research project with their faculty mentor, attend all PDSI classes, which include GRE preparation, research writing, presentation skills, and research basics, in lieu of seminars, activities, and workshops while actively engaging with their peers on a consistent basis.

PDSI Scholars must; 1) be completing their sophomore or junior year prior to PDSI and/or have one remaining year of coursework following PDSI; 2) have an identified major and/or a research interest; 3) complete the PDSI application by the designated deadline; 4) have a strong academic record; 5) have a firm commitment to pursuing graduate/doctoral studies, and; 6) be able to pay travel expenses to/from Baton Rouge, LA. Students from underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

By participating in the program, student scholars will receive; 1) a $1,500 stipend; 2) on-campus housing, parking, and meals at university-approved venues, and; 3) any required books. Scholars are responsible for arranging and paying for their travel to and from Baton Rouge.

If you are interested in receiving more information regarding PDSI or wish to apply, please contact Malcolm Richardson, Associate Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences at enmric@lsu.edu and/or Clovier Ingram Torry, Director of Graduate Recruitment, Retention, and Diversity at citorry@lsu.edu. PDSI is sponsored by the LSU Graduate School, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Office of Equity, Diversity & Community Outreach.

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