eureka

Make a difference.
Join the Eureka Learning Community.
Eureka is the Greek word meaning “I have found it!” The Eureka Learning Community at Trinity Christian College links discovery, learning, and Christianity as students work alongside professors in the areas of science, technology, and mathematics. As part of this small group of students, you will explore environmental issues and propose solutions that can make a difference in God’s creation.

Q: How does the Eureka Learning Community relate to STEM disciplines?
A: The Eureka Learning Community at Trinity is a program that focuses on applications of science, technology, and mathematics — fields of study included in the broader category of STEM disciplines.

Q: What is the benefit of being a part of the Eureka Learning Community?
A: If you are selected to participate, you will:

- **Receive** a one-year $1,000 scholarship
- **Engage** with fellow entrepreneurial learners
- **Apply** your knowledge to redeem an area of creation
- **Have fun** learning!

You may also discover that you enjoy researching your Eureka topic and will want to continue conducting research with a professor in future semesters.

Q: What common purpose will the Eureka Learning Community members share?
A: To be co-workers with Christ. Selected students and faculty mentors work together to investigate a specific Eureka topic. That topic directly links STEM disciplinary study with Trinity’s mission to act as co-workers with Christ in the redemption of creation.

Potential study topics include:
- **Improving green energy use on campus** — Should we install solar panel arrays on the south roof of the library?
- **Conserving water** — Should we install low-flow faucets, plant drought resistant native plants, or use brown-water for irrigation?

Q: How does someone become a “selected student”?
A: Following your application to Trinity, you would be invited to apply if you meet specific high school transcript, GPA, and ACT requirements, and if you indicate interest in a STEM field for your major.

The application requires you to submit:

- An essay on how you would work collaboratively to research, develop, and complete a proposal for a project to either improve green energy use or conserve water on a small college campus.
- A recommendation letter from a high school science or math teacher describing why you are a person who will make a difference in this learning community.

For additional information, feel free to contact faculty coordinators Dr. Robbert or Dr. Roose.

Q: What are the related fields of study offered at Trinity?
A: Trinity has majors in Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, and Mathematics. Trinity also has a minor in Physics, an ecological track within the Biology major, and pre-professional programs for graduate work in allied health sciences, medicine, dentistry, and physical therapy.

Q: Will I stay on track for graduation in four years if I participate?
A: Definitely. The fall semester courses are carefully selected to mesh with requirements for graduation and for majors in STEM disciplines. Eureka Learning Community members will also participate in a two-week January Interim.
Requirements

Admission Requirements for Student Participants

Selection of participants will be determined by a STEM committee consisting of faculty and senior STEM students.

- Application with essay
- Recommendation by science or math teacher
- ACT composite minimum: 27
- ACT Math and ACT Science subscore minimum: 27
- Strong writing skills
- High school coursework: minimum of 3 years math including precalculus, 3 years science including chemistry, physics, and biology
- High school GPA minimum: 3.4/4.0 unweighted or 3.8/4.0 weighted

Required Courses for the Eureka Learning Community

- An identified section of Theology 121 (3 hours)
- IDIS 199 Student Learning Community in Science, Technology & Mathematics (1 hour)
- Choose one: Physics 121/211 or Chemistry 103 (4 hours)
- Choose one: Math 111/210 or Biology 110 (3-4 hours)
- FYE (1 hour)
- Additional courses: 3-6 hours of common core courses selected from English 103/108, History 103, Social Science, Fine Arts
- Interim course: continuation of IDIS 199 where students will complete their Eureka Project (2 hours)

How it Works:

1. **Apply** to Trinity, receive an invitation to Eureka, complete the program application process.
2. **Enroll** in the required general education and STEM courses for the fall semester.
3. **Engage** in extracurricular experiences with student mentors.
4. **Participate** in a one-hour weekly seminar in the fall.
5. **Complete** your Eureka project during the two-week Interim in January.
6. **Present** your detailed Eureka project proposal to the broader community.

Eureka Faculty Coordinators for 2012-2013

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Trinity Christian College is a community of Christian scholarship committed to shaping lives and transforming culture.