Academic Programs for Science Students

Birmingham Area Consortium For Higher Education (BACHE)

The four-year colleges and universities that serve the Birmingham area have a long record of cooperation with one another. Building on that history, the Presidents of Birmingham-Southern, Miles College, Samford University, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and the University of Montevallo created the Birmingham Area Consortium for Higher Education (BACHE) to enhance and strengthen educational opportunities available to the students and the community.

Students, faculty, and staff at BACHE institutions may access the resources of all the member libraries by simply presenting their valid ID cards. Students enrolled full-time at a BACHE institution who are in good academic standing may also take undergraduate courses at another BACHE campus at no additional charge. The procedure for taking a course through this cooperative program follows.

Registration—This must be completed prior to the opening of a new term at the BACHE institution. Registration for courses may be completed in the Records Office. As listed on the academic calendar, the last day to add a course each term is also the last day to register for a BACHE institution course. Schedules of courses are available in the Records Office and online.

Approval—A student must have the approval of an advisor, the faculty of the major if the desired course is in the student's major field, and the Provost. If the course is a required course in another area, the faculty of that area in which the course is included should be consulted as to its suitability. (A student must be taking at least three units at Birmingham-Southern during a regular term in order to register for one course at a BACHE institution.)

Credit—Work at a BACHE institution is given credit as if it were taken at Birmingham-Southern. It will be included in the Birmingham-Southern credit for that term and will not be treated as transfer credit. Usually, only one course per term is permitted. BACHE courses may not be used to redeem Birmingham-Southern courses.

Cost—Except for associated laboratory and other special fees, there is no additional cost to a student who is taking at least three units at Birmingham-Southern at the time of enrollment at a BACHE institution.

Academic Regulations—All academic regulations at Birmingham-Southern must be observed. In addition, students in the exchange program are expected to observe the academic regulations of the cooperating institution. Students must follow Birmingham-Southern's procedures and deadlines if they wish to withdraw from a course. The withdrawal must be done through the Records Office at Birmingham-Southern according to the deadlines listed in the academic calendar.

Oak Ridge Science Semester

Upperclass majors in biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, and the social sciences are eligible to apply for study at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. This fall semester project provides students with the opportunity to engage in research with an ORNL scientist, earn up to sixteen hours of academic credit, receive a stipend and a small housing allowance, and live in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains. For more information, visit www.orss.denison.edu or www.ornl.gov.

Sustainable Development in Costa Rica
As part of a five-week summer course, students will study three distinct regions: the dry tropical forest of Guanacaste, home to the most ambitious ecological restoration project ever undertaken; the cloud forests of Monteverde, site of the lowland rainforests and the largest private conservation area in the world; and the coral reefs and Afro-Caribbean organic farms of the Caribbean Talamanca. The course is hosted by Rollins College, but all ACS students are eligible. For more information, visit www.colleges.org/enviro/programs/costarica.html.

**Biomedical Research Scholars Program at University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)**

This program is designed to give students the opportunity to use modern, sophisticated laboratory instruments, to become familiar with protocols and procedures used in research laboratories, and to conduct an independent research project. The UAB supervisors for the program are scientists who are involved in important biomedical projects.

Students participating in this program will meet the following requirements:

- During the fall term, work eight to ten hours per week in the lab and receive internship credit for the work.
- Register for senior interim term credit during the interim and work on their independent research projects.
- During the spring term, work eight to ten hours per week in the lab, receive internship credit, finish their research project, analyze their data, and prepare a paper and oral presentation.

More information on this program may be obtained from any science faculty member or the Director of Interim and Contract Learning.

**Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium**

The Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium (MESC) is a public, non-profit corporation dedicated to provide marine education, research, and service to the State of Alabama. Birmingham-Southern College holds membership in this Consortium and gives academic credit for the varied marine science courses and activities available at its facility. This marine science station is located on Dauphin Island, Alabama, and is fully equipped for marine study and research along the Alabama gulf coast. Students interested in receiving academic credit and completing term projects at MESC should confer with Professor Andy Gannon for approval.