

MCLA

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Individual Enrichment Program Summer Session June 27 - July 28, 2012

Individual Enrichment Program Summer Session

Your first year at college will be one of the most exciting and rewarding years of your life; it will also be one of the most challenging. The Individual Enrichment Program at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts is designed to provide support by equipping you with the academic skills you will need to make your MCLA career successful and rewarding. The Summer Session, one component of the Individual Enrichment Program, is specifically designed to help students make the transition from high school to college, both academically and socially. The Summer Session is an intensive four-week program that emphasizes academic achievement and student success and provides an excellent transition to the MCLA community.

During the Summer Session, students live and study on campus as an introduction to the fall semester. Students complete placement tests upon arrival and are enrolled in the following courses: writing, math, and learning strategies; during the fall semester, students also take *The Creative Arts: Methods and History*, a core curriculum class.



- **Writing for College** (3 additive credits)* - Develops students' writing, research, and editing skills. Communicating ideas and concepts effectively is vital to success in all fields of study and will result in better grades.
- **Learning Strategies** (3 additive credits)* - Supports reading and study skills that offer time-saving and effective techniques for building vocabulary, improving comprehension/retention, and developing analytical thinking skills.
- **Math for College** (3 additive credits)* - Prepares students for more advanced mathematics courses.
- **The Creative Arts: Methods and History** (3 core curriculum credits) - Explores basic themes shared by all the arts. Field trips and hands-on experience augment readings and discussion as students explore the creative process.

*Grades from courses with additive credits factor into a student's grade point average (GPA), but additive credits cannot be used to satisfy MCLA graduation requirements.

Who qualifies for the Summer Session?

MCLA looks for students who have shown academic promise but may not have achieved their full potential in high school. Admission criteria must be met in order to be accepted into the Summer Session and to the College. Successful completion of the Summer Session ensures matriculation into MCLA in the fall.

How do I apply?

Students interested in applying to the Summer Session must submit both the enclosed application and an application for admission to Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, along with their high school transcripts and standardized test scores. The priority application deadline is Friday, March 16, 2012. In addition, all applicants must submit a paper written for a senior English class—one that has been graded and returned to the applicant. All applicants to the Summer Session will be required to participate in a telephone interview, and may also be invited to campus for an in-person interview.

When does the Summer Session begin?

The Summer Session begins June 27 (arrival date) and runs for 4 weeks. It begins immediately following MCLA's third Orientation Program, June 28 – 29, which all Summer Session students must attend.

Will I receive college credits and grades for the program?

Upon successful completion of all courses (including the fall class), students will earn 12 credits, some of which will be additive credits. Credits earned during the Summer Session become part of your academic record, contribute to your eligibility for financial aid, and are factored into your MCLA GPA, but additive credits are not used to satisfy MCLA graduation requirements.

What is the cost?

The Summer Session is free to students who meet at least one of the following eligibility requirements: being a first-generation college student, qualifying as low income according to federal guidelines, or having a documented physical or learning disability. The Summer Session is part of a TRIO Student Support Services program supported by the College and a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, whereby the College pays for expenses associated with room and board, and the grant pays for academic expenses for eligible students. Those who do not meet one

of the eligibility requirements will still receive free room and board but will pay expenses associated with the academic program.

What is the Cultural Enrichment Program?

As part of the Summer Session, faculty and administrative staff coordinate excursions each weekend to concerts, plays, museums, state parks, and historic sites. These cultural enrichment events are directly linked to academic courses.

What else will be expected of me?

Because the Summer Session requires an atmosphere that is conducive to study, there are certain rules and regulations that must be followed by all students. Students will be expected to commit fully to these expectations.

- Students must participate in all scheduled academic, advising, and cultural enrichment program components.
- Use of alcohol or illegal drugs is absolutely prohibited during the Summer Session.
- Students are not permitted to have cars on campus during the Summer Session.
- Due to the intense nature of the program and the priority placed on academic achievement, students are required to be in their assigned residence hall at night by the time stated in program handbooks.

In addition, there will be several opportunities for you to clarify your goals and direction and to become familiar with MCLA policies and procedures. These opportunities include individual sessions as well as group workshops with college professionals. These sessions focus on academic planning and course selection; academic and student support services; financial aid and financial literacy; library and computer lab use; campus and community resources; and MCLA student rights and responsibilities.



Does the Individual Enrichment Program extend into the fall semester?

In addition to being enrolled in the creative arts class and completing the math class in the fall, students will have opportunities to meet with an advisor for individual counseling and to receive tutoring and academic support in college courses. Some students may also be eligible for additional grant funds to support first- and second-year college expenses. Beyond the fall semester, students are supported by the Individual Enrichment Program throughout their time in college—until graduation.

Sample Summer Session Schedule *(subject to modification)*

Time	Monday — Friday	Saturday / Sunday
7:15 – 7:45	Breakfast	Weekend schedules are planned around the Cultural Enrichment Program and may include structured study sessions, small group meetings, on-campus activities, or extended study sessions (Reading Days) in addition to off-campus cultural enrichment activities.
8:00 – 9:55	Learning Strategies (with 10-minute break)	
9:55 – 10:05	Break	
10:05 - 11:15	Math	
11:15 – 12:00	Lunch and Advisor Meetings	
12:00 – 12:45	Math (continued)	
12:45 – 1:00	Break	
1:00 – 2:55	Writing (with 10-minute break)	
3:15 – 4:45	Activity/Open Time/Advisor Meetings	
5:00 – 6:00	Dinner	
6:00 – 6:30	Open Time/Small Group Meetings	
6:30 – 9:00	Structured Study	
9:00 – 11:30	Open Time/Activities	
11:30	Visiting Ends/Room Curfew	

For more information about the Individual Enrichment Program Summer Session, please contact:



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