Welcome to Fisk University’s Pre-College Summer Program (PCP)! This summer program will provide an academically stimulating and culturally motivating experience. The goal of the Pre-College Program is to increase the number of students who successfully matriculate through the undergraduate curriculum by enhancing their reading, writing, analytical and critical thinking skills, while heightening their cultural awareness and social readiness. The restructured program not only provides academic support during the six-week summer experience, but provides tutoring, academic counseling and mentoring throughout the freshman year.

Program Goal: To identify and enroll prospective Fisk students and equip them with the academic skills and cultural capital that will enable them to persist through college graduation.

Program Dates: June 16-July 25, 2014

Application Deadline: June 1, 2014

Application: Download the application

Program Requirements for Admission:

1. Complete Application, including an Essay
2. Two Letters of Recommendation
3. ACT or SAT scores
4. GPA of 2.5, or higher

Essay Topic: “Expectations, Opportunities and Challenges of Earning a College Degree”

For more information, please contact:

Professor Patricia McCarroll
Director, Pre-College Program
Phone: (615) 329-8532
Office: 210 DuBois Hall, Fisk University
Email: pmccarro@fisk.edu
**Curriculum**

A rigorous academic program, focusing on communications and quantitative skill building with additional sessions on:

- Learning Strategies
- Critical Thinking & Analysis
- Leadership Development
- Professional Mentoring

Co-curricular Activities include:

- Financial Literacy Seminars
- Business Etiquette Seminar
- Cultural Outings
- Off-Campus Career Exploration

**Program Cost**

- On-Campus Participants: $1,800.00 (includes program fees, room, and board)
- Pre-College students who enroll in Composition I for academic credit will pay an additional $1,800.00 for the 3 credit hours
- Off-Campus* Participants: $600 (includes lunch and other program fees)
- Scholarships may be available

*Off-campus participants must have legal guardians who reside in Davidson County, TN

**Courses**

**Communications (Core 150-Composition I)**

**Instructor: Dr. Holly Hamby, Assistant Professor of English**

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of college writing and communication, with an emphasis on both the writing process and the final product. Students will develop an understanding of contemporary and global issues via critical thinking and analysis, and learn to respond critically using techniques such as summary, analysis, and evaluation. This course will emphasize expository writing techniques, with assignments based on critical analyses of primary texts. By the end of the course, students
will learn how to communicate clearly and effectively for a variety of audiences and writing situations.

**Computer Literacy**

**Instructor: Dr. Sajid Hussain, Associate Professor of Computer Science**

The course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of computing. The course will cover computer usage tools such as word processors, presentations, and spreadsheets using MS Office and Google Docs. In addition, students will design and create websites (Google Sites), online survey forms (Google Docs), and apps for mobile phones (AppInventor). There will be a brief overview of operating systems, computer organization, security, computer networks, and the Internet protocols.

**Learning Strategies**

**Instructor: Mrs. Tiffany Griffin-Minor, Assistant Director, Office of Academic Excellence and Student Performance**

In this course, students will analyze the learning process from a critical and creative perspective. This course is designed to help students become effective learners by developing effective learning strategies that promote their academic growth. In addition, students will apply critical thinking skills to contemporary, creative and scientific thought.

**Mathematics**

**Instructor: Mr. Dustin Winfrey, Adjunct Professor of Mathematics**

The course is a review of concepts from algebra that are fundamental in further study of mathematics. The content will include concepts such as number systems and properties of real numbers; operations for complex numbers; scientific notation and properties of exponents and radicals; factoring polynomials and special products; simplifying rational and radical expressions; graphical representation of data; modeling with linear equations; solving linear equations and inequalities in one variable; introduction to functions and their graphs; and quadratic equations and functions.

In order to address the diverse needs and abilities of students, a variety of problem-solving techniques will be utilized, specifically verbal, graphical, numerical, and algebraic. When students encounter mathematics in real-world publications, they often encounter data represented in a graph, chart, or table and are asked to make a reasonable conclusion based on the data presented. This emphasis is a continuing trend with today’s expanding technology. Problem sets will be built from a wealth of real-life and real-data
applications. Unique problems have been developed and incorporated into the exercise sets that help train students in data interpretation, mental mathematics (visual thinking), estimation, geometry and graphing, number sense, critical thinking, and decision making.

**Reading**
**Instructor:** Mrs. Candice Sampson-Banks, Reading Specialist

The primary goal of this course is to improve the reading, writing, and critical thinking skills of pre-college students. In addition to providing students with essential reading strategies, this course will address and provide indispensable knowledge to successfully navigate and overcome issues commonly encountered by first-year college students. Readings, discussions, and assignments will require students to interact with relevant reading materials and primary sources. As result of this course, students will be able to contribute to and draw from the college culture.

**Bridging the Gap**
**Instructor:** Demetrius Short, Chairman, Young Alumni Division of the General Alumni Association of Fisk University, Inc.

The Young Alumni Division of the General Alumni Association of Fisk University, Inc. has partnered with the Pre-College Program to provide a series of workshops to aid students in making an effective transition to college. Included are topics of goal setting, relationship building and financial literacy. Pre-College students are paired with young alumni who become their mentors.

**Service Learning**

Each year, Pre-College participants serve as volunteers and complete diverse community initiatives, such as tutoring, reading to young children, assisting with .

**Assessment**

In addition to lecture examinations, quizzes and rubrics designed to evaluate specific assignments, standardized examinations will be used as pre- and post program assessments. The **Nelson-Denny Test** will be administered to measure vocabulary, comprehension and reading rate. Also, the **ETS Proficiency Profile** examination will be administered. This examination evaluates the student’s proficiency in critical thinking, reading, writing, and mathematics in the context of the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. Other surveys and assessments that will be administered include the Critical Thinking Assessment and the North Carolina Index of Learning Styles.