How do I become a Mentor?

Apply early! The General University Scholarship application is used by many programs, and it is lengthy. The University Studies Peer Mentor Scholarship is listed under “General University Scholarships.” Be sure to get an early start!

Applications are due in January each year. If you have missed the deadline, you are welcome to apply for the following academic year when the application becomes available. Interviews are held in early February. Those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted by email to set up an interview time.

Additional Requirements for the Application

Along with the application, you must submit the required essays and two letters of recommendation. One of the letters of recommendation must be an academic reference. The other may be from a person who can speak to your life in the community or workplace. The letters of recommendation are submitted electronically.

If you have any questions, please contact the University Studies office: 503-725-5890.

Mentoring at a Glance

**FRESHMAN INQUIRY (FRINQ)**
UNST 100-Level Class. A year-long, theme-based course with a mentor section that corresponds with the class. Transfer students with 30+ transfer credits do not have to complete FRINQ. Undergraduate Peer Mentors work with FRINQ courses.

**SOPHOMORE INQUIRY (SINQ)**
UNST 200-Level Class. Three one-term courses with a mentor section that corresponds with the class. Graduate Peer Mentors work with SINQ courses.

The online application can be found at http://mentors.unst.pdx.edu
What is a Mentor?
Mentors are capable, creative, high-achieving, and experienced students who help other students make the most out of their academic careers. Undergraduate Peer Mentors are juniors or seniors who work with first-year students in year-long Freshman Inquiry courses. Graduate Peer Mentors come from all academic backgrounds and work with Sophomore Inquiry courses.

What is a UNST Mentor Session?
Peer mentors participate in the faculty-led main class session and lead the smaller Mentored Inquiry Co-requisite, also called mentor sessions. While in mentor sessions, students learn basic computer technology such as Word, PowerPoint, and Excel; research and writing skills; and techniques for working together on class assignments. In combination with the main FRINQ or SINQ class, mentor sessions help students gain experience doing high quality individual and group work.

What Does a Mentor Do?
Mentors plan and facilitate 50-minute mentor sessions for Freshman Inquiry and Sophomore Inquiry courses. Successful mentors are flexible, perform multiple roles, and explore topics through a variety of perspectives. Mentors serve as colleagues and teachers helping students learn the academic ropes. They bridge faculty and students and help build positive learning communities among students. They work closely with their faculty partners and are creative team players in implementing course objectives. Mentors work 10-20 hours per week, attend program training, and participate in the mentor community.

What Can I Gain From Being a Mentor?
Every mentor benefits in unique ways. Mentors become part of a community of scholars who help others to critically and responsibly engage in our increasingly diverse and interconnected world. Mentors gain valuable leadership experience, develop close working relationships with faculty, and become even better students themselves. Peer mentors can also receive upper-division credits for their experience.

Other Mentor Benefits
➤ Tuition Reimbursement
➤ Professional Development
➤ Leadership Opportunities
➤ Community of Peers
➤ Skill Training

To learn more about University Studies and the Peer Mentor Program, please visit us at www.pdx.edu/unst