

NOT YOUR TYPICAL HONORS PROGRAM:

# What It Means to Be an Aequitas Fellow



WHEATON  
COLLEGE

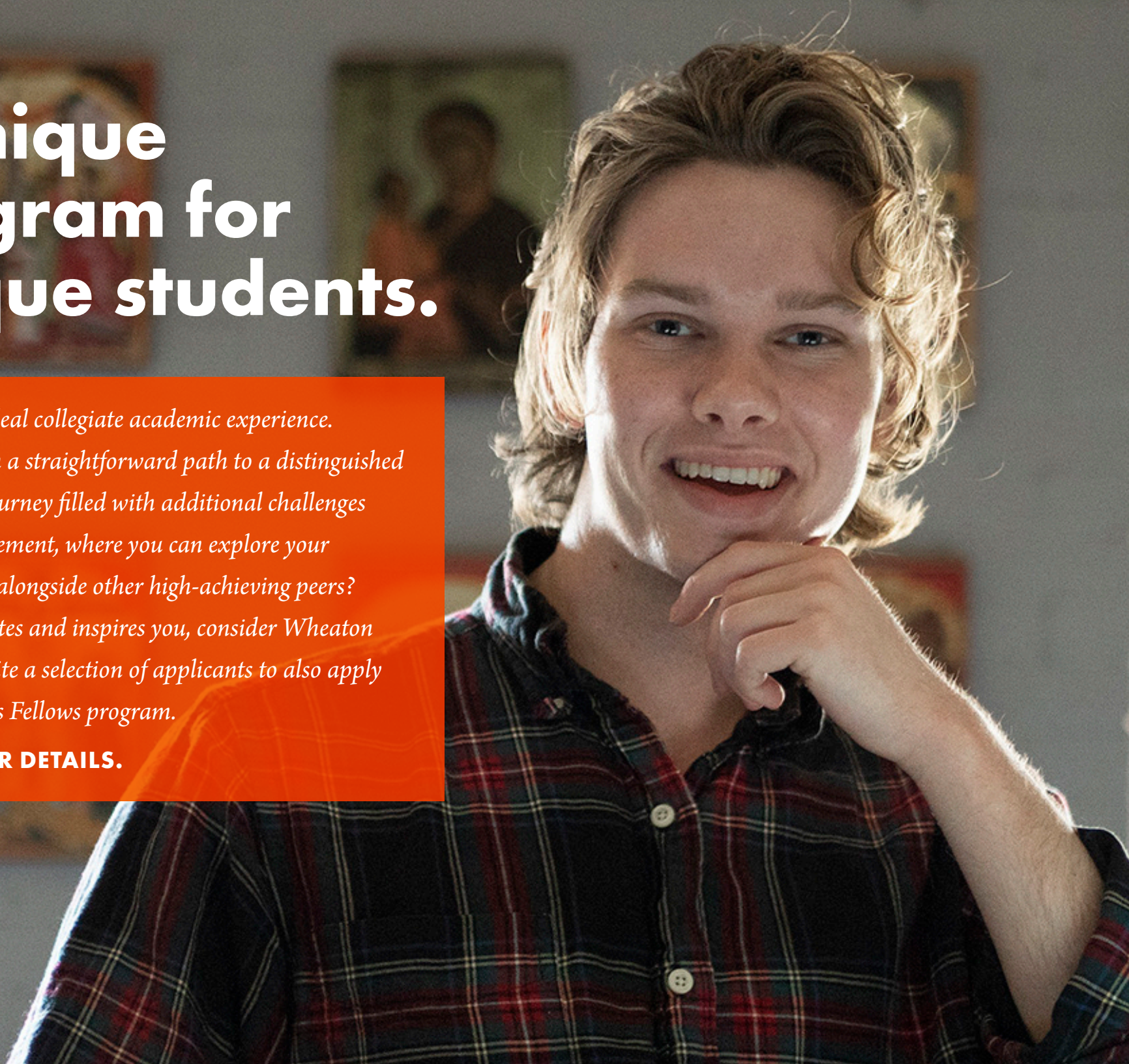
*For Christ & His Kingdom*



# A unique program for unique students.

*Imagine your ideal collegiate academic experience. Do you envision a straightforward path to a distinguished degree—or a journey filled with additional challenges and deep engagement, where you can explore your Christian faith alongside other high-achieving peers? If the latter excites and inspires you, consider Wheaton College. We invite a selection of applicants to also apply for our Aequitas Fellows program.*

**READ ON FOR DETAILS.**







# aequitas

[éh-qui-tahs] n. justice, equity, fairness, impartiality [Latin].

*Aequitas is a highly selective, four-year academic program that offers students rigorous classroom and experiential opportunities designed to enrich their academic and intellectual life. Should you become an Aequitas Fellow, you will:*

- *Join a cohort of 10-15 students*
- *Develop expertise on a specific theme*
- *Receive a yearly academic scholarship (more on that later!)*
- *Earn an Aequitas Fellowship Certificate upon completion of the program*

*So, is it an honors program? Not exactly. At Wheaton, every student is already working at an honors level. Those who apply to join Aequitas are looking to enhance and complement their wider Christian liberal arts education.*

***Here are three ways they do so that make Aequitas unlike traditional honors programs.***



# 1

## The four-year cohort model.

*Aequitas Fellows are grouped into cohorts—think of them as small intellectual communities within the full learning community of Wheaton. Together with the students in your cohort, you would take a series of common classes focused on your chosen theme (you'll learn about themes next!) and have access to:*

- *Related reading groups*
- *Special campus events*
- *Funding for summer experiences*
- *Relevant internships*
- *Research projects*
- *Study abroad opportunities*

*Along the way, you'll develop relationships with students and faculty, hear from fascinating guest speakers, and, of course, build upon your already strong commitment to Christ.*







# 2

## Every cohort has a theme.

Perhaps you plan to major in English but also want to explore sustainability, or maybe you're an aspiring physician with an interest in food insecurity. Aequitas Fellows—no matter their majors—dive into a specific theme, each with their own classes, experiences, and theme coordinator (a member of our world-class faculty). Here's a snapshot of the themes:

### **Public Humanities and Arts**

*Sample class:* Contemporary

*Literary Conversations*

*Sample field experience:* Develop an off-campus public humanities project.

### **Sustainability**

*Sample class:* Food, Farms, and Culture

*Sample field experience:* Spend eight weeks in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

### **Urban Leadership**

*Sample class:* Christian Ethics and the City

*Sample field experience:* Live and study in Chicago for a semester.

### **Politics, Philosophy, and Economics**

*Sample class:* Wealth and

*Poverty of Nations*

*Sample field experience:* Intern at places like the U.S. Federal Reserve, CIA, think tanks, and NGOs.

### **Global Public Health**

*Sample class:* What Is Good Health?

*Sample field experience:* Study and live alongside Ugandans at the Uganda Christian University.

Learn more about each theme on our website. ►





# 3

## Meet the Coordinators.



**Global Public Health**

**Theme Coordinator:  
Dr. Allison Ruark**

***Graduate Alma Mater:** Ph.D., Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health*

***Faculty Bio:** Dr. Ruark is a social epidemiologist and has been an Assistant Professor at Wheaton College since 2020. Although pre-med as an undergraduate, Dr. Ruark was drawn to public health because of its emphasis on promoting health rather than treating disease, and to its holistic understanding of health as rooted in behavior, culture, social structures, and inequality. Prior to coming to Wheaton, Dr. Ruark had spent her career as a public health researcher and consultant, working with non-governmental and faith-based organizations, primarily in Africa. She has particular expertise in behavioral HIV prevention, gender-based violence, and the impact of couple and family relationships on health. Current research pursuits include investigating barriers to physical activity in Lawndale, Chicago, and contributing to multiple NIH-funded projects to support couples living with HIV in southern Africa to better manage health risks including alcohol use, hypertension, and diabetes.*



**Politics, Philosophy, and Economics**

**Theme Coordinator:  
Dr. Timothy Taylor**

***Graduate Alma Mater:** Ph.D., University of California, Davis*

***Faculty Bio:** Timothy Taylor is associate professor of politics and international relations at Wheaton College, where he enjoys teaching classes that range from International Political Economy to East Asian Politics. His research, which includes the effects of foreign trade agreements upon national elections, has been published in both academic journals, as well as outlets such as Christianity Today and The Huffington Post. Taylor was awarded the Rothchild Memorial Research Award, and in 2015, was appointed as a fellow at Ateneo de Manila University's Center for Asian Studies.*

[Learn more about each coordinator on our website. ►](#)





# 3

## Meet the Coordinators.



### Public Humanities and Arts

**Theme Coordinator:**  
**Dr. Tiffany Eberle Kriner**

**Graduate Alma Mater:** Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Faculty Bio:** I believe that texts have a place and a future in the Kingdom of God. In my scholarly book *The Future of the Word: An Eschatology of Literature*, I look at the intricate ways God makes meaningful futures for literary texts toward the community of the new creation in the Kingdom of God—and how God welcomes us to take part in the building of the texts and the community. I participate in the Kingdom of God through my work at Wheaton: building texts and communities. I particularly focus on intersections of theology, place, and race within literature.



### Urban Leadership

**Theme Coordinator:**  
**Dr. Gregory Lee**

**Graduate Alma Mater:** Ph.D., Duke University  
M.Div., Trinity International University  
A.B., Princeton University

**Faculty Bio:** Dr. Gregory Lee is Associate Professor of Theology and Urban Studies at Wheaton College, where he also serves as Senior Fellow for The Wheaton Center for Early Christian Studies, Theme Coordinator of the Aequitas Fellows Program in Urban Leadership, and Co-Director of the Center for Urban Engagement. His research concentrates on the theology of Augustine and its relevance today. A resident of the Lawndale neighborhood of Chicago, he is especially interested in urban questions of race and class. He has a developing interest in Asian American theology and ethics.



### Sustainability

**Theme Coordinator:**  
**Dr. Kathryn Maneiro**

**Graduate Alma Mater:** Ph.D., Boston University

**Faculty Bio:** Dr. Kathryn Maneiro is a geochronologist who uses the mineral garnet to unravel Earth's tectonic history. During her doctoral work at Boston University and with support from an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, she developed and applied a new method for dating garnet in sediment and sedimentary rocks. Following completion of her doctorate, Dr. Maneiro was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Boston College for a year, where she contributed to the set-up of the Boston College Center for Isotope Geochemistry, collaborated with external visitors, and dated the world's second oldest known garnet in a sample from South Africa. Since then, Dr. Maneiro has continued to use geochronology to explore the age and tectonic history of some of Earth's oldest rocks.

Learn more about each coordinator on our website. ►





# 4

## Full integration.

*Unlike honors programs, which tend to separate students into unique tracks, the Aequitas program allows students to remain fully integrated into Wheaton's learning community. You would still participate in our liberal arts-based general education curriculum—Christ at the Core—and fulfill the requirements of your chosen major.*

*A few examples of the shared common courses you'll take as part of Christ at the Core:*

- *Holistic Human Flourishing*
- *First-Year Seminar: Enduring Questions*
- *Old Testament Literature and Interpretation*
- *New Testament Literature and Interpretation*
- *Christian Thought*

[Read about Christ at the Core in detail. ►](#)







# A few FAQs about Aequitas.

## ***Are there scholarships?***

*Yes! Aequitas scholars receive \$4,000 per year, in addition to their academic scholarship awarded upon admission. Fellows will also receive additional funding to help cover a summer learning experience, ranging from studying internationally to internships and research projects.*

## ***How do I apply?***

*You are invited to apply from your submitted application to Wheaton.*

## ***Is it worth it? Take it from Aequitas Fellows themselves:***

*“The Aequitas program has connected me with brilliant mentors, incredible opportunities, and lifelong friends. Being an Aequitas fellow has really unlocked the best of what Wheaton has to offer — from access to premier speakers to competitive scholarships.”*

### ***Collin Maldonado '23***

*Philosophy Major*

*“One of my most cherished parts of Aequitas is getting to go to lectures and to converse with the guest speakers along with those in my cohort. It is truly a learning experience to not only learn from professionals living and breathing the urban experience but to also be able to learn from my peers and to hear how each of their life experiences has shaped them.”*

### ***Autumn Grace Page '22***

*English Writing Major*

*“Aequitas is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn from expert faculty and engage in internships and learning experiences that challenge my worldview and push me to seek kingdom justice in my society.”*

### ***Ailee Viana '26***

*International Relations Major*





# WHEATON COLLEGE

*For Christ & His Kingdom*

Wheaton College is an explicitly Christian, academically rigorous, liberal arts college and graduate school located just 25 miles west of Chicago. Established in 1860 in Wheaton, Illinois, Wheaton is guided by its original mission to provide excellence in Christian higher education, and offers more than 50 academic programs in various fields of study.

**Ask bigger  
questions.  
Ask them  
right here.**

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**[Information on applying to Wheaton.](#)**

**[Learn more about Wheaton.](#)**

