

Did you know?

Each FOCUS cohort has 15-16 students. Since the 2016 - 2017 academic year, we started a SECOND cohort in the Winter term, doubling FOCUS enrollment.

Work Study Opportunities Include

FOCUS Peer Mentor Program

- Mentors serve as coach/support individuals for 1 or more students in a science or math course they have completed. Great for gaining teaching skills! *Typically 1-2 hours/week.*

FOCUS Scholars Program

- Scholars attend seminars/events in the science and math departments and write brief papers about the experience. Great for gaining informal science writing skills. *Typically 4 hours/week.*



Winter 2025 All FOCUS Get Together

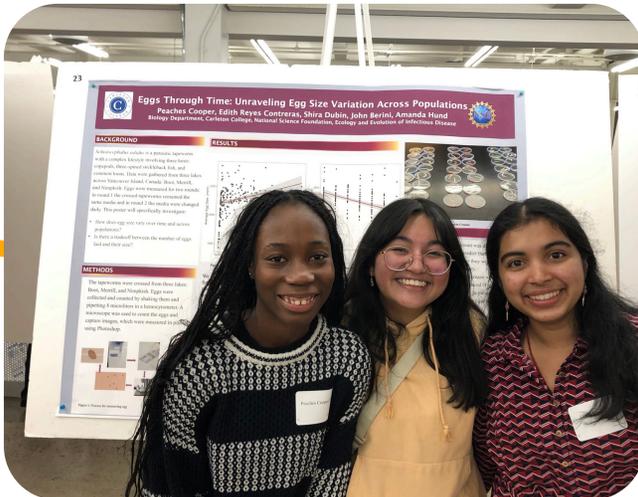
Colloquium Benefits

Participation in:

- Priority registration for one STEM course during first-year
- Science-based activities and projects
- Targeted recruiting for summer opportunities
- Field trips (project related, conferences, etc.)
- A community of peers!

Mentorship

- Each cohort is mentored by a **tenured STEM faculty member** who is typically their academic advisor for the first 2 years. This targeted advising provides greater student familiarity with STEM faculty and insider insight in navigating the challenging and fast-paced STEM courses at Carleton.
- **Peer mentorship** provided for 100 and 200 level courses. The FOCUS mentor program matches students in STEM courses with other FOCUS students who have previous experience in the course. This provides a peer support network throughout FOCUS, with mentors serving as an extra resource and guide for particular courses



Focus Students at 2025 Undergraduate Research & Internship Symposium

Schedules

First-Year

- Fall cohort begins
- A&I Seminar (6 credits)
- FOCUS Colloquium (2 credits)
- 2 additional courses at student's choice (12 credits)

- Winter cohort begins
- Priority registration for math or science course (6 credits)
- FOCUS Colloquium (2 credits)
- 2 additional courses of student's choice (12 credits)

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Second-Year

- FOCUS Colloquium (1 credit)
- 3 courses of student's choice (18 credits)

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- 3 courses of student's choice (18 credits)

FALL

WINTER

SPRING

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Founded in 2007, FOCUS is a curriculum-based cohort program for students interested in STEM fields, especially those from historically underrepresented backgrounds (based on gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, first-generation status, and disabilities)

Emphasizing diversity and inclusion, FOCUS supports students through their entry into science/math study at Carleton by creating a cohort of peers which enrolls in classes together (in so far as this makes sense), meets regularly in a colloquium throughout the first and second year, and has an opportunity for work-study in the sciences. Cohort activities continue throughout a student's four years at Carleton.

Persistence in Science and Math

Academic Success

Drive to Succeed in STEM

Support for Learning

Sense of Belonging

Student support model on which FOCUS is based.*

*D. Gross, Iverson, E., Willet, G., and Manduca, C., 2015. Broadening Access to Science With Support for the Whole Student in a Residential Liberal Arts College. *J. Coll. Sci. Teaching*. 44:4 99-107.



FOCUS Graduating Class of 2025

Program Success!

- 96% graduation rate
- 82% of FOCUS students graduate as a STEM major
- 19+ faculty involved with the teaching program

FOR MORE DETAILS AND LINKS TO ONLINE APPLICATION PLEASE VISIT



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Carleton College

Focusing
On
CULTIVATING
Scientists