

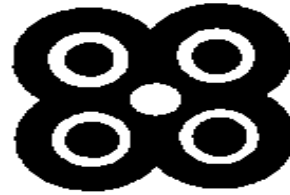
Benefits of the Program

This 8-week summer program provides you with an early introduction to graduate study at UIUC. You will be given an opportunity to work with an outstanding faculty mentor in your department while conducting cutting-edge scholarly research.

Through SPI, you will become socialized to your department's culture and learn what is expected of its graduate students. Participation in this program will strengthen your preparation for the rigors of the academic year and help you sharpen your research and writing skills. Other benefits include:

1. A stipend of \$2,500 and meal allowance
2. Housing for the 8-week summer session
3. An opportunity to strengthen your written and oral communication skills
4. An opportunity to conduct focused research under the guidance of an experienced researcher in your discipline
5. Networking and scholarship activities
6. Introduction to the Graduate College and its administration
7. Early familiarization with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus and administration

* For more information and an application please visit our website at www.grad.uiuc.edu



Wisdom, Prudence, Knowledge, and Learning:
In the depth of wisdom abounds knowledge and thoughtfulness. I consider and keep what I learn.

Summer Pre-doctoral Institute

The Graduate College
Educational Equity Programs
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
204 Coble Hall
801 S. Wright Street
Champaign, IL 61820
Phone 217. 333.4860
Fax 217. 333.8019
www.grad.uiuc.edu

University of Illinois
at Urbana-Champaign

Summer Pre-doctoral Institute (SPI)



The Sankofa:
*Remembering the past to
succeed in the future.*

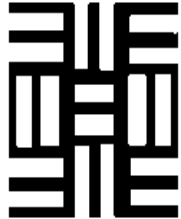
www.grad.uiuc.edu

SPI Program Purpose

The purpose of the Summer Pre-doctoral Institute (SPI) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is to provide incoming underrepresented minority graduate students with an experience that will help them succeed in their graduate studies.

As such, the SPI program helps fellows acclimate to the UIUC campus and their respective departments. Additionally, the SPI program will introduce fellows to the graduate school culture, as well as, the fellow's respective disciplines. If you are accepted to participate in SPI, you will become acquainted with graduate life on the UIUC campus by:

- 1) Working closely with Graduate College administrators
- 2) Meeting and working with faculty and advisors in your home department
- 3) Developing necessary skills for a successful graduate school experience in your discipline
- 4) Interacting with your peers within the academic community



He who does not know can become knowledgeable from learning; He who thinks he knows and ceases to continue to learn will stagnate.

Who should participate:

SPI fellows are U.S. citizens or permanent residents who have been admitted or are in the process of being admitted to a graduate program and who are recommended by their prospective department. Students from all disciplines will be considered for participation; however, students in science, engineering, and mathematics are specifically targeted. Students who have participated in the CIC/SROP would be among the first selected. Other underrepresented students would be eligible based on a recommendation from a graduate department or the Graduate College.

Nominee Requirements:

- Admission or a completed application of admission to a graduate program of study by the SPI deadline date of April 1st
- A letter of support from the respective department
- Completion and submission of an SPI application by the SPI deadline date.
- Agreement to participate in all of the activities of the SPI program if you are accepted

Hope, Expectations, and Aspiration



Unequal Opportunity and Uneven Development: All peppers on the tree do not ripen simultaneously.



Program Activities:

(1) Preparatory coursework / required courses recommended by department

- Preliminary courses that will include independent study or upper division courses that might strengthen the fellow's knowledge base
- An introduction to various methods of approaching research and the research design process; this segment also includes expanded literature searches and basic technical research development
- Scientific and Technical Writing Skills that involve the written communication of scientific information in the form of reports, proposals, research writing, and other related communications

(2) Seminars on topics such as:

- Financial aid / management
- Choosing a research advisor
- Campus support networks and faculty mentoring
- Publishing and presenting research
- The culture of Graduate School
- Research ethics

(3) Individual research presentations on topics related to fellows' disciplines

****The symbols on this brochure are from the Akan of Ghana and La Cote d'Ivoire cultures' ideographs and pictographic writing systems.**