

Academic Offerings

This section contains descriptions of programs, majors, minors, areas of concentration, fields of specialization, and courses. Semesters following course titles indicate when each course is normally offered. On rare occasions, a course may not be available when indicated because of low enrollment or unexpected staffing changes.

Courses listed as Fall Even and Spring Odd are scheduled to be offered during the 2008-2009 academic year. i.e., Fall 2008-2009 is Fall Even, Spring 2008-2009 is Spring Odd.

Kuyper Scholars Program

The Kuyper Scholars Program (KSP) is a program for highly motivated and academically gifted students who are seeking scholarly challenges beyond and throughout the regular curriculum. A program in Christian scholarship, it emphasizes interdisciplinary work and seminar participation and leadership. The Kuyper Scholars Program seeks not only to prepare, for Kingdom service, those students who are gifted as potential leaders in the Christian community and the rest of the world, but also to advance the academic atmosphere for all students and faculty at Dordt College. The Kuyper Scholars Program is co-directed by Dr. Mary Dengler and Dr. Carl Fictorie in consultation with a committee.

Admission to the Program Student admission into the Kuyper Scholars Program depends on an entrance essay, letters of recommendation, and demonstrated academic ability. (For new freshmen, academic ability is demonstrated by letters of recommendation, a composite ACT score of 28 or higher, and a cumulative high school GPA of at least 3.5; for students with at least one semester of college work, requirements include two letters of recommendation from college faculty, a committee-approved academic record, and a GPA of at least 3.25.) Of primary importance are the entrance essay and letters of recommendation; these must demonstrate the student's character and potential for academic excellence in the pursuit of serviceable insight in the area of Christian scholarship. Interested freshman students should apply through the college admissions office; students with a semester of college work should contact a Kuyper Scholars Program co-director.

Retention Retention in the program is based on the following criteria:

- Maintaining a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25
- Enrollment each semester in KSP 110, 120, or 220
- Completion of KSP 151 by the end of the freshman year. Completion of at least one Scholars Contract or Project by the end of the sophomore year. Completion of at least three Scholars Contracts or Projects by the end of the junior year.

Course Requirements – Kuyper Scholars Program General Minor–

At least one laboratory-based science course as part of the natural science core requirement.

Mathematics 107 or a mathematics course numbered 111 or higher.

A minimum of 18 KSP credits as follows:

- KSP 151 (4 credits)
- One credit each from KSP 110, 120, 220, plus one additional credit from 110, 120, or 220 (4 credits)
- Eight credits from KSP 291-293 (Scholars Contracts). For contracts, both the additional credits for the contract (two credits minimum) and the credits from the course tied to the contract are considered KSP credits.
- Two credits from KSP 381-386 or KSP 391-396 (Group and Individual Scholars Projects).

Designated scholars courses and projects are open to all students in good academic standing on a credit-by-credit basis when prerequisites have been met. Students may submit a project proposal to a KSP co-director (generally from one to three credits). The proposal must include a recommendation from the faculty member who would supervise the project.

110	Scholars Events (.25)	Fall, Spring Students must attend and report on (in writing) two on- or off-campus events such as guest lectures. Attendance includes both the actual event and any arranged scholars activities (dinners, small group discussions, etc.) related to the event. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: admission to the KSP.
120	Scholars Seminar I (.25)	Fall, Spring Students must participate in two scholars seminars, where students present their group and individual projects (see KSP 381-386 and KSP 391-396) to the campus community. Participation includes attending the presentation and the related small-group discussions and reflection. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: admission to the KSP.
151	Rhetoric and Christian Scholarship (4)	Fall An accelerated introduction to college writing, research, and speaking and listening skills, and an introduction to the requirements and expectations of the KSP. Substitutes for English 101 and Communication 110 in the GEP. Prerequisite: admission to the KSP or an English ACT of 30 and permission of instructor.
220	Scholars Seminar II (.5)	Fall, Spring Students must lead one small-group discussion of scholars events (KSP 110) or scholars seminars (KSP 120). Students must read the speaker's presentation in advance, do background research, prepare a written response to the presentation to be shared at the seminar, and lead a small-group discussion following the presentation. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: KSP 110 or 120 and admission to the KSP.
291- 293	Scholars Contracts (1-3)	Fall, Spring Connected to a regularly offered course, this course allows more in-depth researching, writing, performance, etc. assigned by the instructor. Students must meet all the objectives of the regularly scheduled course as well as the work associated with the additional credit.
381- 386	Group Scholars Projects (1-6)	Fall, Spring Open to students in the KSP or by permission of the KSP director and instructor. Scholars projects include a presentation to the college community at a scholar's seminar (KSP 120). Group scholars projects are not tied to existing courses.
391-	Individual Scholars Projects (1-6)	Fall, Spring

396 Open to students in the KSP or by permission of the KSP director and instructor. Scholars projects include a presentation to the college community at a scholars seminar (KSP 120.) Individual scholars projects are not tied to existing courses.