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Study Abroad & Outreach
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Macomb, IL 61455-1390

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An Exciting Experience for Girls Ages 11 to 13

Girls Plus Math

July 19-24, 2015

*Come and Explore the World of Mathematics—Beyond the Standard Curriculum—
in a Cooperative Learning Environment*



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General Information

REGISTRATION: Enrollment is limited: **Girls Plus Math** accepts only 24 participants. Please register early; students are admitted on a first-come, first-served basis. The registration fee is \$499 and includes tuition, classroom supplies, extracurricular activities, and complete room and board. Commuter students are not accepted. Parents who wish to use a **Payment Plan** may send a \$100 deposit at the time of registration up to 60 days before the program start date. Fifty percent of the registration fee is due at 60 days prior to the program, and full payment is due 30 days before the start of the program.

Register online or mail the attached registration form with check (made payable to **Western Illinois University**) or credit card information to **Study Abroad & Outreach, Horrabin Hall 8, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390**. You may fax your registration with credit card information to **(309) 298-2854**. Please duplicate the registration form for additional registrations or register online at wiu.edu/summeryouth.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Participants stay in cabins at WIU's Horn Lodge campus. They enjoy extracurricular activities such as swimming, indoor and outdoor games, movies, crafts, and bowling. Students are supervised by faculty and carefully selected resident counselors to ensure a safe and enjoyable time on Western's campus.

MEDICAL: Students do not qualify for University health care, so parents should check family insurance policies for health and accident coverage.

ADA COMPLIANCE: Western Illinois University is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Please let the Study Abroad & Outreach staff know of any special needs students may have at least two weeks prior to the program start date. Our toll free number is **(866) 933-8964**, and the office number is **(309) 298-1911**.

REFUND POLICY: WIU reserves the right to withdraw a program because of unforeseen circumstances or insufficient enrollment. If a program is withdrawn, participants are notified and fees are refunded. A \$50 fee is charged to participants who cancel after July 2, 2015. **No refunds will be made on or after Wednesday, July 15, 2015.**

FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information, call Study Abroad & Outreach toll free at **(866) 933-8964** or at **(309) 298-1911**.

Girls Plus Math

Why Girls Plus Math?

Test results indicate a 13:1 ratio of boys to girls who score at least 700 out of 800 on the mathematics section of the SAT. Gender-related differences with regard to mathematics study begin to manifest themselves in middle-school children. Studies indicate that females perceive mathematics as less useful to them and to their futures than do males.

The Program

Girls Plus Math provides a stimulating and supportive environment, free of gender-based stereotypes. It promotes interest in mathematics, a willingness to take risks in analysis, and the self-confidence and motivation to persist in problem solving. The **Girls Plus Math** program admits only 24 students each year; this allows our faculty to help each girl develop her own potential individually.

Participants explore critical thinking skills, web page creation, and computer software along with mathematical concepts and equations throughout the week. Morning activities include estimation and critical thinking exercises; biographies on women who have excelled in math and science; and introductions to various math concepts, including linear equations, polynomials, graphing, and Pascal's Triangle. In addition, students explore Venn diagrams, quadratic equations, polyhedra, and Polynomiography. Hands-on components include building a tetrahedral kite, origami, and various games which foster critical thinking skills.

Facilities

Participants receive morning instruction in the 14,000 sq. ft. Multicultural Center. The Multicultural Center houses the Women's Center, the Gwendolyn Brooks Cultural Center, and the Casa Latina Cultural Center. The building is centrally located on campus and is environmentally friendly.

Western received a \$100,000 grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation to defray costs associated with acquiring LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Certification as well as grant funding to install a geothermal heating and cooling system. The building includes a vegetative roof consisting of seven species of sedum plant materials and energy-efficient fluorescent lighting.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity employer with a strong commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, and veteran status.

For more information about Girls Plus Math, check us out on the Web at wiu.edu/summeryouth.

Special Features

WIU's Department of Mathematics coordinates the instructional portion of the program. In addition to the academic and recreational activities, the girls use graphing calculators from Texas Instruments. They also use computer technology to build their own webpages. Western's laboratories, computer facilities, and technological resources provide exciting hands-on experiences and unique exposure to the university environment. In addition, a number of professionals visit the program to describe how they use math in their work and how they became interested in pursuing their particular careers.

During the week, participants are introduced to Polynomiography computer software. This software allows users to create art through mathematical equations. In addition, the program offers a blog, and each participant has a linked page which allows her to post photos, updates, and other information. This personal blog allows parents the opportunity to follow along with their child's progress throughout the week.

Program Goals

Using the most up-to-date teaching methods, materials, and technology, the weeklong program seeks not simply to teach "more math" but to demonstrate the relationship of math to many different areas of life, to explore math beyond the limitations of the standard curriculum, and to enhance student self-esteem and problem-solving capabilities.

Participation Criteria

Female students must be 11 to 13 years of age. Gifted status or minimum qualifying scores on standardized tests are not requirements. Neither is this a remedial program. Participants should have sufficient curiosity, motivation, achievement level, and maturity to benefit from the program. Students must be recommended for the program by a teacher or school administrator by means of a signature on the registration form. We take these recommendations seriously and may call for further information. A recommendation to the program does not guarantee acceptance; recommended students are admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Sponsors

Western Illinois University
School of Distance Learning, International Studies, and Outreach
Department of Mathematics

Registration – Girls Plus Math July 19-24, 2015

Student Name _____		
Address _____		
City/State/Zip Code _____		
Phone Number (include area code) _____		
E-Mail _____		
Age _____	January 2015 Grade _____	Adult T-Shirt Size _____
Cabin Mate Preference, if any (Students MUST request each other.) _____		
How did you hear about the program? _____		

1. This student is sufficiently mature to benefit from this program, to observe campus rules, and to live under supervision in a campus environment.		
2. I understand and accept all program policies and conditions as set forth in this brochure.		
Parent or Guardian Signature _____		
Parent or Guardian Name (printed) _____		
This student meets the participation criteria for the Girls Plus Math program. I hereby recommend the student for acceptance.		
Instructor or Administrator Signature _____		
Instructor or Administrator Name (printed) _____		
Title _____	School/City/State _____	
Phone Number (include area code) _____	E-Mail _____	
You may also register online by visiting wiu.edu/summeryouth .		
Please make deposit (\$100) or \$499 check payable to Western Illinois University or pay by credit card:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard	<input type="checkbox"/> Discover
Card No. _____	Exp. Date _____	CV Code (3 digits) _____
Authorized Signature _____		