



William and Mary: National Institute of American History & Democracy

American History

The Pre-College Program in American History hosted by the National Institute of American History & Democracy (NIAHD) at William & Mary is a truly unique experience.

NIAHD focuses on the study of history, material culture, historic architecture, and archaeology. Our programs teach students how to analyze written documents, material objects, buildings, landscapes, and oral accounts for an interdisciplinary understanding of history. It is our belief that history should not just be studied; it should be experienced. This is why our courses include site visits that take students directly to the locations where historic events took place.

In the Pre-College Program, high school students travel to the museums, battlefields, archaeological sites, homes, and places where history lives. They not only learn about events that occurred here, but also what is being done to preserve these sites and their legacies by learning directly from professional historians, curators, and archaeologists. Students participate in an active archaeological dig, getting their hands dirty, looking for 18th-century artifacts.

Additionally, the Pre-College Program offers high school students an opportunity to experience college life at William & Mary, where they live and study for three weeks during the summer. Students develop college-level analytical reading and writing skills, and earn 4 hours of transferable college credit.

A background in American history is not required, but an open mind, independent thinking, creativity, and a spirit of adventure are essential.

Learn more at wm.edu/as/niahd

Start Your Future by Studying the Past



Pre-College Program in American History

This summer, travel to Williamsburg, VA to learn about the men and women who shaped America. Visit the places they lived and worked, see the objects they used, and immerse yourself in the study of American history.

Program Highlights

- ◆ Live & study at William & Mary
- ◆ Earn 4 hours of college credit
- ◆ Visit over a dozen historic sites
- ◆ Join an active archaeological dig
- ◆ Meet students from around the world
- ◆ Financial Aid available

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