The Huntsman Scholar Program

This year marks the end of five years of the expanded, completely redesigned Huntsman Scholar Program. The expansion to 400 students, a rigorous, four-year business & economics curriculum, an emphasis on experiential learning, and a focus on outcomes is bearing fruit.

Each year, hundreds of incredibly qualified high school students apply for admission into the program. They are hungry to learn and to make a difference in the world. We continue to work at finding students who not only demonstrate academic success, but intentionally want to create value during their time at Utah State University, and throughout their lives. The Program integrates every academic department of the school into its curricular and extracurricular requirements, enabling students to learn and to flourish under the guidance of scores of faculty, staff, and alumni. The resulting outcomes are on par with any academic program across the country, and create incredible value for our graduates and for our community.

We are grateful for the continuing generosity of the Huntsman Foundation for the opportunity to bring together bright young people, create a community around them of faculty, staff, alumni, and friends, and put the students through a rigorous program that prepares them to lead lives of meaning and contribution. The outcomes that you see in this report, from academic achievements to leadership positions to competitions, internships, and placement, are the product of years of inspiration, mentoring, and instruction from faculty, staff, and peers, all made possible through the resources provided by the Huntsman Foundation.

Dave Patel, Executive Director
PROGRAM STRUCTURE
Selection Process

Students are selected through a rigorous application process that includes consideration of leadership, service, and work experience, written and video essays, and letters of recommendation. The application and review process are evaluated annually to ensure we select applicants based on an equitable, objective manner while selecting for the attributes aligned with the values and principles espoused by Jon Huntsman. We received 282 applications for AY2021-2022. These applicants already met the rigorous admissions criteria to be directly admitted into the Huntsman School, including at least a 3.5 GPA and at least a 25 on the ACT. One hundred and five applicants were accepted into the program.

Each application was reviewed by at least two faculty or staff associated with the Scholar Program. Selection criteria included academic record, evidence of ethical leadership, entrepreneurial spirit, career focus, and a commitment to lead a life of meaning and contribution.

*The selection process looks for students who will benefit from being in the program but also get what the program is about and what it will expect of them. Applicants have proven themselves academically, so the question is what else will they bring to the program, and how will they leverage this to position for professional success. They must embrace the reality that an investment in them comes with the expectation that they lead by example, hold themselves to high standards, and demonstrate with humility what a student willing to challenge themselves can accomplish.*

Scholars lift their peers, challenge their faculty, and open doors for those coming up behind them. They showcase how the school’s investment in the student experience can have lasting impact not just for them but those around them. By the time they graduate, Scholars know that they can compete with the very best.”

* – Vijay Kannan, Professor & Department Head, Management; HSP Mento
Huntsman Scholars must take ten courses foundational to understanding the business world. These courses, a part of the Huntsman School core requirement, are generally smaller in size than typical sections of the same courses and provide an opportunity for enriched experiences between faculty and students.

ACCT 2010
Financial Accounting Principles
Devon Erickson - Paul Campbell
This course is a survey of uses of accounting information by investors and creditors for decision-making. Emphasis is placed on basic accounting principles used to prepare, analyze, and interpret financial statements.

DATA 2100
Data and Information in Business
Brian Dunn
In this course, students tackle real-world problems by using a hands-on approach to develop and apply foundational skills in critical data-centric technologies such as Excel, SQL, and Python programming.

ECN 1500
Economic Institutions
Sepideh Raei
This course is designed to build an understanding of economic institutions, history, and principles. Students explore the relationships between private and public sectors of the U.S. economy and practice using major economic institutions such as rights, markets, business organizations, labor unions, banking, trade, and taxation.

ECN 2010
Introduction to Microeconomics
Christopher Fawson
In this course, students learn marketplace economics from both consumer and producer perspectives. They study the development and application of microeconomics principles to demonstrate the role and limitations of competitive markets in motivating socially efficient choices by the consumer, business, and public sector.

FIN 2010
Microeconomic Principles
Benjamin Blau
This course is an introduction to microeconomics. It covers basic microeconomic concepts and terminology. It includes the basic marketing functions of product management, pricing, distribution, promotion, marketing research, and consumer behavior.

FIN 2410
Macroeconomic Principles
Benjamin Blau
This course focuses on developing tools that will be necessary for financial managers. It covers various topics such as time value of money, risk analysis, asset valuations, financial statement analysis, and financial markets and incentives.

FIN 3100
Advanced Microeconomic Principles
Janette Goodridge
This course offers a deeper examination of microeconomic principles with a focus on advanced topics such as market structures, industrial organization, and public policy.

FIN 3200
Financial Accounting Principles
Benjamin Blau
This course covers the fundamental concepts and principles of financial accounting, including financial statement analysis, ratios, and financial planning.

FIN 3400
Corporate Finance
Janette Goodridge
This course focuses on the tools used by financial managers and other professionals to make finance-related decisions in a contemporary business environment. Some of the topics covered include capital budgeting, firm valuation, capital structure, and working capital management.

FIN 3500
Financial Management
Rick Hardcopf - Michael Dixon
This course concentrates on the tools used by financial managers and other professionals to make finance-related decisions in a contemporary business environment. Some of the topics covered include capital budgeting, firm valuation, capital structure, and working capital management.

FIN 3600
Advanced Financial Management
Rick Hardcopf - Michael Dixon
This course is designed to build an understanding of economic institutions, history, and principles. Students explore the relationships between private and public sectors of the U.S. economy and practice using major economic institutions such as rights, markets, business organizations, labor unions, banking, trade, and taxation.

MSLE 3800
Leadership
Alexander Romney - Bret Crane - Susan Madsen
This course fosters leadership development through a focus on integrity, authenticity, and commitment to a purpose higher than oneself. Students become more effective leaders by removing constraints and allowing leadership to emerge as natural self-expression.

“Taking the scholar courses has helped me take my education to the next level. I have been able to get more one-on-one time with my professors and build genuine relationships with them. These professors have helped open so many doors for me that I want to go for my career. The students in these classes are some of my best friends and a huge part of that is because of taking these scholar courses over the years. There is so much value from taking these classes and the networking aspect with my professors and students had been one of the biggest benefits for me.”

— Drew Thomsgren, Business Management, '23
Co-Curricular Labs

Scholars must also participate in co-curricular labs that combine classroom instruction and experiential activities. These labs are unique to the Huntsman Scholar Program. Their focus is to deeply engage students around a set of behaviors that form the four strategic pillars of the Huntsman School, namely ethical leadership, analytical rigor, global vision, and entrepreneurial spirit. The labs are designed to be taken sequentially, preferably one per year.

LAB 1 Leadership

This lab is focused on embracing the culture and resources of the Huntsman Scholar Program and fostering the core principle of leadership in new Huntsman Scholars. Through a series of guest speakers from the Huntsman School and industry leaders, the leadership lab prepares students to do as our school motto states and “dare mighty things.”

“Scholar co-curricular labs are a big differentiator. Lab 1 introduces the culture and vision set by Jon M. Huntsman, as well as an opportunity for students to understand their strengths, potential, and professionalism. Lab 2 challenges students’ knowledge of how data shapes and influences human decision-making. Lab 3 provides students with a broader perspective and exposure to top businesses throughout the world. Lab 4 inspires students to tap into their creativity to develop innovative solutions that benefit others. Labs match the four strategic pillars of the Huntsman School and magnify student learning.”

— Lianne Wappett, Academic Director, Huntsman Scholar Program

LAB 2 Analytical Rigor

This lab demonstrates the importance of analytical rigor to students by exposing them to pioneering experiments that fundamentally transformed how the world understands human decision-making.

“I recently had the opportunity to participate in the Global Vision Lab for the Huntsman School of Business in Washington D.C. I really enjoyed getting to see how the private and public sectors work together – specifically in our meeting with part of the policy team from META. I also loved exploring Washington D.C. as I had never been there before. The history and culture of D.C. helped me to materialize the importance of working together as a country and working with other countries to make real differences in our world.”

— Maelyn Dougher, Marketing, ’23

LAB 3 Global Vision

The lab examines a dimension of the global economy in the context of an international location with which it is associated or offers a unique perspective. Students will learn how and why different centers of economic and business activity have emerged and how these are shaped by cultural, political, and historic contexts.

“I had never been there before. The history and culture of D.C. helped me to materialize the importance of working together as a country and working with other countries to make real differences in our world.”

— Tony Victorino, Business Administration, ’22

LAB 4 Entrepreneurship

This lab is focused on embracing the culture and resources of the Huntsman School and magnifying student learning. In this lab, students learn that an entrepreneurial spirit is not unique to individuals who start new businesses. Every organization needs entrepreneurial people to create new value. To practice this principle, students are tasked with using the skills and resources they have gained throughout their Huntsman School education to develop innovative solutions to a meaningful problem that will benefit a company, a community, or the world.

“I enjoyed getting to see how the private and public sectors work together – specifically in our meeting with part of the policy team from META. I also loved exploring Washington D.C. as I had never been there before. The history and culture of D.C. helped me to materialize the importance of working together as a country and working with other countries to make real differences in our world.”

— Anna Taylor, Business Administration, ’23

Mentoring + Extracurricular Activities

Students are assigned to one of ten sections, each comprising approximately 40 students. Each section is led by a professional mentor who meets with students individually, in small groups, and with the entire section each semester. The focus of the mentoring is to provide students an avenue to discuss career and life goals and for mentors to assist with and to assess career development. A member of the Student Leadership Board is also assigned as a section leader for each section to assist program mentors.

This year, the Student Leadership Board chose to emphasize the importance of service in the program by holding a Huntsman Scholar Service Week in February 2022. During this week, students heard messages from leaders such as the CEO of Cotopaxi on how they can give back to the community throughout their careers. Scholars were also given daily service challenges and encouraged to complete small acts of service. To prepare for Huntsman Scholar Service Week, each student cohort also chose a larger service project to complete as a team.

“Service in the Huntsman Scholar Program has impacted my academic career in such a positive manner. College is a time when we’re often very focused on ourselves. The service element in the HSP has helped me to focus on others more and unite with other students in such a unique way. During my time in the Program, I’ve had multiple opportunities to serve. My freshman year, I had the chance to raise money for an organization in the area. This past school year, I had the chance to do a blanket-tying service project with my cohort. Both of these opportunities helped me get to know other students and help out my local community.”

— Anna Taylor, Business Administration, ’23
Program Mentors

Matt Berrett
Director of Analytics
Space Dynamics Laboratory

Brent Jenson
Director of People Operations
Leavitt Partners, LLC

Barb Matthews
Associate Director of Learning
McKinsey & Co.

Vijay Kannan
Professor & Department Head
Management

Chalon Keller
Professional Practice Assistant Professor
Center for Entrepreneurship

Teppo Felin
Anderson Endowed Professor of Strategy & Entrepreneurship
Marketing & Strategy

Brad Johnson
CFO (Ret.)
Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI)

Kat Blücka
Assistant Professor
Economics & Finance

Paul Fjeldsted
Senior Lecturer
Economics & Finance

Lianne Wappett
Lecturer & Huntsman Scholar Program Academic Director
Data Analytics & Information Systems

Polly Conrad
Senior Lecturer
Data Analytics & Information Systems

Ayse Sapci
Assistant Professor
Economics & Finance

“Having a program mentor like Matt Berrett has truly been such an impactful part of my education! I feel like I have been able to get some incredible real-world advice from him every time we talk, because he really is there to help his students make sure they are ready to face the world once they graduate. It has also been beneficial for me because I feel like I have someone that can help me hold myself accountable to my educational goals.”

–Niles Southam, Marketing, ’23

“I believe the Program’s goal is to inspire students to reach Mr. Huntsman’s vision of the Huntsman School as a top undergraduate business program in the country. For me this means encouraging and preparing students in my cohort for high quality internships which will lead to meaningful and impactful careers. As Program Mentor I meet with each student individually at least twice a year, and in some cases several times. My goal in each case is to inspire students to think big and set career goals that scare but excite them. I also select student leaders for the cohort who have completed rigorous, competitive internships which make them role models for others. Incoming students interact with peer leaders who are building the school’s reputation in industry and become motivated to do the same. It is highly gratifying to see this virtuous cycle building year to year.”

–Paul Fjeldsted, Finance & Economics; Program Mentor, Huntsman Scholar Program
“The Huntsman Scholar Program was easily the most impactful part of my college experience. It provided me with countless opportunities to develop skills that would help me prepare for and succeed in my career. Through my involvement with the student leadership team, I gained experience in public speaking, technology, event planning, goal-setting, professional writing, and much more. Looking back, I can see that beyond providing me with technical skills, it also made me a better leader by teaching me the importance of communication, innovation, ambition, and empathy. Additionally, one of the many benefits of the Huntsman Scholar Program is the opportunity to work with amazing mentors from the USU faculty and throughout industry. Working with these individuals and seeing how much they believed in me gave me a confidence I hadn’t realized I lacked. The Huntsman Scholar Program gave me the tools I need to work toward my dreams and the confidence and drive necessary to reach them.”

—Emilee Matheson, International Business & Political Science, ’22, HSP Student Leadership Board President

“I am continuously amazed by the students of the Huntsman Scholar Program. They join the Scholar community as hard-working, highly motivated individuals who encourage and challenge each other to become the best they can be. Every day, I watch them capitalize on the mentorship and opportunities offered by the Huntsman Scholar Program and have seen the impact this has on their lives. This program provides them with workshops to develop critical skills, leadership opportunities that will help them stand out in their careers, and experiences that broaden their horizons and instill in them a desire to give back to their communities. Because of these opportunities, Huntsman Scholars graduate as students who not only dare mighty things but will surely go on to achieve them.”

—Stephanie Hamblin, Assistant Director, Huntsman Scholar Program
Our graduating seniors are beginning careers with globally known brands, highly selective graduate programs, as well as striking out on their own entrepreneurial ventures.

### The Huntsman Scholar Program Class of 2022

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company/Position</th>
<th>University/Program</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Abbey Coleman</td>
<td>Choice Foodservice Equipment Co.</td>
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<td>Addison Chandler</td>
<td>John Hancock Financial Services</td>
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<td>Alex Childers</td>
<td>OpCo Marketing</td>
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<td>Alexis Fadel</td>
<td>Utah State University</td>
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<td>Alexis Slade</td>
<td>Progressive Planning</td>
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<td>Alyssa Morris</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
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<td>Andrew Marino</td>
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<td>Anthony Victorino</td>
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<td>Arianna Keller</td>
<td>Ernst &amp; Young</td>
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<td>Ashley Morrey</td>
<td>Visa</td>
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<td>Benjamin Scheffner</td>
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<td>Berkley Pond</td>
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<td>Casey Burgin</td>
<td>Alter Domus</td>
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<td>Cassidy McDougal</td>
<td>The Teachmen Company</td>
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<td>Chandler Obray</td>
<td>Visionary Homes</td>
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<td>Clark Rawson</td>
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<td>Connor Gilliland</td>
<td>Newell-Pastard</td>
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<td>Connor Peterson</td>
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<td>Cooper Wayment</td>
<td>Logan Growth Advisors</td>
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<td>Courtney Tyacke</td>
<td>Utah Jazz</td>
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<td>Daisy Karren</td>
<td>Green Canyon High School</td>
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<td>Dallie Price</td>
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<td>Dallin Merrill</td>
<td>Jones Siskin</td>
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<td>Daniel Porras</td>
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<td>David Higashi</td>
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<td>David Johnson</td>
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<td>Dylan Olson</td>
<td>Boeing</td>
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<td>Ean Donehay</td>
<td>I.E. Productions</td>
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<td>Einar Johnson</td>
<td>General Mills</td>
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Awards and Achievements

Madeleine Alder
'22 Economics
Geraldine Robins Award

Sadie Jensen
'24 Marketing
Business Senator

Lucas Stevens
'22 Economics
Student Body President

Emilee Matheson
'22 International Business
2021 Arabic Critical Language Scholar, US Department of State

Tanner Schulz
'22 Marketing
HSB Scholar of the Year

Ben Swan
'24 Marketing
USUSA Rookie of the Year

Isaac Lewis
'22 Marketing
1st place, PSE National Speech Competition

Olivia Archibald
'22 Finance
2022 Recipient of the Bill E. Robins Memorial Award. The highest student award given by USU.

World Champs
Madalyn Hammond, Annalynn Palmer, Kaitlyn Radmall, and Vanessa Richards (l to r), beat 18 teams from universities from around the world.

1st Place
7th Annual Women's Stock Pitch Competition
Scholar alumni Eric Levesque, Economics, ‘12 and his twin brother Greg, Economics, ‘11, founded Strider Technologies, which helps organizations to protect their intellectual property against theft by scouring open-source data. The company, which counts Fortune 500 companies, research institutions, government agencies, and universities amongst its clients, is at the forefront of helping institutions respond to nation-state directed IP theft and supply chain vulnerabilities. The brothers quickly turned to fellow Scholar alumni Brent Meacham, Marketing, ‘12, and Jeff Parker, Economics, ‘13, to help grow and manage their start-up. Strider, based in Salt Lake valley, recently raised Series B funding.

Inspired and humbled by the generosity of Jon Huntsman, former Scholar Jordan Knecht, BA ’10, has wanted to give back since he was a student. His global experiences in Asia and Europe impacted him at a very deep level. These experiences, in addition to his LDS mission experience in Paraguay, convinced him that travel abroad changes a person. Additionally, travel abroad using a second or third language (Jordan speaks both Spanish and Guarani) brings one to another level of transformation.

Now a successful entrepreneur, Jordan has established a $150,000 scholarship to assist students as they seek transformative global experiences. Believing that anything is possible, Jordan knows that as students push themselves, they can make great personal discoveries. To this end, Jordan is establishing the Liz Allred and JP Spicer-Escalante Global Scholarship, named for two of his USU mentors, which will provide support to students embracing an opportunity to study abroad.

“The first two years of my career have proved to stretch me intellectually and emotionally. Beginning my career during a global pandemic introduced some uncertainty; however, the Huntsman Scholar program at the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business set me up for success in many ways. First, it helped me realize the importance of establishing my own values and vision. Second, to think and dream big. Lastly, that my career is a process that should not be rushed but enjoyed.

Another extraordinary asset that I received from the program that continues to pay invaluable dividends are the relationships with my fellow alumni. Being able to empathize around similar situations in the workplace, or being vulnerable about difficult scenarios, etc. has been extremely helpful.

I am confident that I would not be where I am at in my career without having been a part of the Huntsman Scholar program. It has provided me with the confidence to step up, be bold, and dare mighty things.”

—McKlayne Marshall, Economics & Management Information Systems, ‘20; Manager of Data Engineering and Analytics, Invista