About the Undergraduate Colleges

Every first-year student enters Stony Brook as a member of one of six undergraduate colleges organized around themes of general interest to students. The Colleges are designed to support and develop the interests of students and include customized advising and support, special educational and social programs, and opportunities for close interaction with faculty and fellow students around themes of common interest. The system is intended to let students explore a wide range of interests, both within their intended majors and across the academic spectrum.

**HDV (Human Development):** This UGC explores the realms of mind, body and soul in pursuit of the answer to the question, “What does it mean to be human?” Students in this UGC are led to an authentic understanding of the human condition in order to better contribute to the rich mix of insights and perspectives that is the human world.

**SSO (Science and Society):** This UGC emphasizes imagination, research, and discovery in a social context. Students explore the power of creativity to transform the modern environment in which we live.

**LDS (Leadership and Service):** This UGC encourages students to explore the meaning of community service and leadership — two keys to career success and life satisfaction. Students learn about the work of business, government, and nonprofit organizations and participate in activities, such as group projects and individual internships, to gain professional experience and test career choices.

**ITS (Information and Technology Studies):** This UGC is designed for students interested in the growing areas of technology development and information processing and management.

**GLS (Global Studies):** This UGC focuses on the ways in which the modern world has become a single global community and the implications of this fundamental shift for world prosperity and citizens' daily lives.

**ACH (Arts, Culture and Humanities):** This UGC seeks to unite first-year students who share a common interest in creative expression and exploration through the use of various media.