

## MIT – SU Freshman Scholars Program of Mutual Educational and Cultural Visits

### General

MIT and Sabanci University (SU), <http://www.sabanciuniv.edu/eng/>, in Istanbul, Turkey, have a fundamental belief in global mutual understanding and beneficial cooperation through the universal medium of science, engineering, and humanities, and realize that a strong international awareness and familiarity has now become indispensable in our daily lives, in many professions, and hence in the educational processes. Many ties have emerged between MIT and SU, including the Freshman Scholars Program established in 2004 that has allowed 8-10 top-performing students from SU to visit MIT for a week during SU spring break of their sophomore year, based on their academic achievements in their freshmen year. During this weeklong visit, the students sit in on classes at MIT for about 20 hours total and participate in various campus activities and in cultural visits in Boston. MIT and SU desire to create a reciprocal program for MIT undergraduates to visit SU. SU undergraduates will continue to come to MIT for a weeklong visit, and, starting in the spring of 2012, MIT undergraduates will go to SU for a weeklong visit to sit in on classes and to participate in SU campus activities and cultural visits in Istanbul.

### Eligibility and Selection

The top SU freshmen will continue their yearly visits to MIT. The top MIT freshmen in Biology (7.012, 7.013, 7.014), Calculus (18.02, 18.02A, 18.022, 18.023, 18.024), Chemistry (3.091, 5.111, 5.112), and Physics (8.02, 8.022, 8.03) will visit SU during MIT spring break of their sophomore year to sit in on classes and to enjoy the rich multicultural and civilizational heritage of Istanbul, Turkey. Two students in each subject, from two different courses, will be chosen, for a total of eight students. When top grades from different courses are compared, they will be normalized to their class averages. It is hoped that the students will be accompanied by a senior faculty or administration member from MIT. The students will sit in on classes at SU in a weeklong program approved by the Dean for Undergraduate Education at MIT and the President of SU (who is currently an Emeritus Professor of Physics at MIT, <http://web.mit.edu/physics/berker>). This Program will aim to suit each student's major field of study, as well as her/his minor and cultural interests. Educational visits to the cultural sites of Istanbul will be organized by the Office of the President of SU. At the end of the weeklong visit, the students will be named MIT-SU Freshman Scholars, as recognized by a certificate jointly signed by the Dean for Undergraduate Education at MIT and by the President of SU.

### Visit Costs

The visits of MIT students will be completely supported by SU, including travel, food and lodging. SU will fund SU students' travel to and local costs in Boston, except accommodations. MIT will provide on campus housing to the SU students during their stays.