STOVS History and Purpose

STOVS began in the summer of 2008 and over the last decade has helped more than 250 Villanovans jumpstart their college experience. The program is designed to provide exceptional incoming freshmen an opportunity to sharpen their leadership skills, meet friends, and begin their college career at Villanova. By living on campus, and attending real college classes, STOVS students are able to acclimate themselves to Villanova, prepare fully for their freshman year, and take advantage of all that Villanova has to offer.

What should I expect during STOVS?

You should expect a fun and academically rigorous schedule filled with classes, workshops, study hall, cultural trips, and social events. STOVS eat together each day in community, participate in fun activities, and engage in challenging discussions designed to help you become a leader at Villanova University.

Benefits of Attending STOVS:

- Get to know Villanova's campus
- Make new friends before Orientation
- Create relationships with University faculty, staff, and administrators
- STOVS students have one less final at the end of the fall semester
- Be invited to exclusive career development and networking programs

Application Deadline:

Each year, STOVS application materials are due in mid-June. All application materials should be emailed to: VillanovaSTOVS@gmail.com

For more information about applying to the STOVS program, please visit the website for the Villanova Center for Access, Success, and Achievement.
Benefits of attending STOVS told by STOVS Students

"STOVS is indubitably one of the greatest decisions of my life. It's truly amazing how in 3 weeks, you garner some of the greatest relationships in your life. The people are dynamic, diverse, talented, and extremely friendly."
- Kyle Bangug, member of STOVS 2016

"I was very nervous about coming to college, but STOVS gave me the confidence I needed to make the transition. I was able to meet new people who are still some of my closest friends today. I would definitely recommend STOVS to anyone who plans on attending Villanova University."
- Kanyinsola Ogunjo, member of STOVS 2015

"I love STOVS because it has connected me with people who inspire me every day with their fearless ambition and creative mindset."
- Sabrina Verleysen, member of STOVS 2014

STOVS Benefits after the Summer Program

After the summer program ends, STOVS students will continue to receive academic support from professional advisors in the Villanova Center for Access, Success, and Achievement (CASA). This support comes in many forms—retention advising, access to a lending library to borrow textbooks, complementary tutoring, and much more. This support continues to ease the transition into college life and gives students the opportunity to continue to build meaningful connections with faculty, staff, and other students.

"STOVS exposed me to a group of people at Villanova who can offer me something so special that I can’t always find in other places at school. The relationships that I created in STOVS were the first, and some of the most valuable, that I will be able to walk away with at graduation."
- Amanda Glavocich, member of STOVS 2015

Get Acquainted with Villanova

Some of the greatest benefits of attending the STOVS program are the opportunity to build your Villanova network, and to learn more about this beautiful campus that will be your home away from home. These opportunities include a networking session with University faculty, staff, and alumni, an introduction to the Bloomberg Finance Lab (available for use by all majors), and workshops conducted by leaders of student clubs and activities. STOVS students are given the tools to immediately begin a successful journey at Villanova.