

Central  
College®  
— 1853 —

WHERE YOU

LEAD

**SUCCESS  
WILL FOLLOW.**

**TAKE CHARGE OF  
YOUR FUTURE.**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A VISIT:**

**[central.edu/admission](http://central.edu/admission) ■ [admission@central.edu](mailto:admission@central.edu)**

**Phone: 641-628-7616 ■ Text: 641-632-9667**





## JENNA HERNANDEZ '24

**HOMETOWN:** Slater, Iowa

**MAJOR:** Biochemistry and Biology

**MINOR:** Spanish

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Journey

**CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:** Student Body President, Student Senate, Board of Trustees, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), Teaching Assistant, Career Kickstarter, Tennis

**CAREER GOAL:** Dentist

**Jenna Hernandez '24** loves to serve. Whether it be on the tennis court or on campus, she's found a way to leave her mark here at Central College.

Hernandez found inspiration on her initial visit to Central, and that has been the foundation for her own leadership development.

"On my visit, I just saw a lot of people that were involved in a ton of different things," she says. "And I thought to myself that I want to do that, I want to be able to do more than just be a student or an athlete."

This led Hernandez to begin serving on Student Senate during her freshman year. Her leadership continued throughout her time at Central, and she has been elected as student body president for the 2023-24 academic year.

"I chose to run for student body president because with being involved in Student Senate, I was able to see past student body presidents and their leadership around campus," she says. "I saw the initiatives they were part of, and I knew I wanted to try and step into that role. I could see myself help make campus a better place."

"I think Central is such a unique place," Hernandez says. "Everyone is involved in something, whether that be campus ministries, athletics or some sort of club, everyone has something that they're part of."

"I've had such a great time at Central," Hernandez says with a smile. "It's a great place where the professors really care about you. They want to help you with your studies. And the coaches are super helpful. They want to see you grow in your academics, in your leadership and also in your athletics. You don't get that everywhere, and I think that's really neat to see."

For more of Jenna's story:

[central.edu/hernandezj](https://central.edu/hernandezj)





# HAVE A HEART



Central College is big on having a heart for others ... but what does that really mean?  
Basically, it boils down to being kind and thinking of others.

“Central nice” isn’t the newest social media challenge — it’s just our campus culture. You’ll catch students holding doors for others (probably for you, too). You’ll find yourself on the receiving end of a genuine smile and a friendly “hi!” You’ll instantly feel at home and won’t be able to quite figure out why. Now you’ll know it’s because “Central nice” is real ... even though we don’t film it and post it for the world to see.

Compassion for others extends to Central’s home in Pella, Iowa, and the surrounding communities. Students who participate in leadership and services programs at Central have the unique opportunity to grow personally, learn social responsibility and build community while serving others. Though the end goal is to help others, we know from years of experience that Central students often get more out of the experiences than they give. And that’s on amazing community partners.



# YOU'LL FIT RIGHT IN

The Central community is super supportive. It's why our students are comfortable being themselves and how we can confidently say: You do you! We want to see you succeed and will do everything we can to support you along the way. The bottom line – you belong here, and we want to empower you to try things you've never done before while staying authentically you.

**P.S. Central's faculty and staff also are supportive to the max, not to mention easily accessible. Their personalized, high-quality guidance will help you realize your unique potential inside and outside the classroom.**

## LET'S HAVE SOME FUN

When it comes to the fun stuff, we'll get straight to the point: Central has more than 100 opportunities to get involved on campus. Central students mix academics with athletics with choir with you-name-it. There are more clubs, organizations, teams and activities than there are days in the semester, which means you could literally try something new every day if you want to. The coolest news? If you don't find an opportunity you're into, we'll help you start your own!



## LEAD THE WAY

If you're going to college for a life-changing experience that will prepare you for the future you've always dreamed of, you're in the right place! Central has so many options when it comes to developing your leadership abilities, discovering new dreams (or reviving old dreams you've kept tucked away in your heart) and honing the expertise you need to achieve all the things.

## NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT

A dynamic curiosity. A zest for involvement. A desire to make a difference. A quest to achieve your personal best. At Central, you're free to get involved in all the ways that speak to you.





# THE LIMIT DOES NOT EXIST



Central has tons of off-campus study experiences, internships and academic programs to choose from. Plus, we have nearly 100 full-time faculty members ready to mentor you. It all adds up to infinite possibilities for you to become the best version of you.

# OPPORTUNITY COMES TO YOU

You'll find countless above-and-beyond opportunities to challenge you academically, philosophically and creatively at Central.

## BUILDABLE EXPERIENCES

Create a strong foundation for your future with these buildable experiences:

- + **Roll-up-your-sleeves learning.** Get tangible, real-life experience in the classroom, while studying off campus and completing exclusive internships as early as your first year. No waiting around and twiddling your thumbs here!
- + **Intercultural experiences.** Our welcoming campus connects you to intercultural issues through movies, exhibits, activities and speakers.
- + **Connect with the community.** Service learning extends education beyond the classroom and supports your journey to becoming an engaged citizen.
- + **Choir leadership.** Lead musically as a section leader or serve as an officer and take ownership of tours, festivals, Rock-A-Pella, Christmas Candlelight concert and fundraising.

## NSLS

Check out Central's chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success, the nation's largest leadership honor society. Lifetime membership perks include scholarships and awards, on-campus events, employer recruitment through an online job bank and discounts on computers, textbooks, grad school prep courses, insurance and more.

## ATHLETICS LEADERSHIP

Here at Central, leadership extends to 21 Division III teams that allow you to thrive as a student while succeeding as an athlete on the national level. Few colleges balance the roles of student and athlete as well as Central does. Maybe that's because former Central president **Ken Weller** authored the original Division III philosophy that outlines how intercollegiate athletics help prepare students for success in all aspects of life.



## THE FUTURE IS CENTERSTAGE

You don't have to be a musical theatre major to make drama happen at Central. Join the student-led Improv Club and put on campus shows. Take a directing class and learn how to manage theatre productions. Or volunteer to assist with major theatre department productions, working alongside experienced professors.



# THE HONOR IS YOURS



The Honors Program adds a competitive edge to your Central résumé. Honors seminars, enrichment credits, a senior thesis and faculty mentors make up the Honors Program. Put simply: It all helps students become academically independent, advanced in a discipline and prepared for increased opportunities in their scopes of interest. Oh, and your academic credentials can get you involved as soon as your first semester of your first year at Central.

## RECENT HONORS SEMINARS INCLUDE:

- + Board in Class: Board Game Studies
- + Bridge: Game of Games
- + Netflix Originals or International Diversity?
- + Q-Anon: One Conspiracy Theory to Rule Them All
- + Utopia: Boldly Go Where None Have Gone



# CENTRAL PRODUCES NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED STUDENT LEADERS

Central students have won some of the nation's most prestigious scholarships and awards for academic achievement and leadership (... No big deal.). In 2020, Central students **Katie Wang '21** and **Elizabeth Sheldon '21** brought home a Goldwater Scholarship and Udall Scholarship, respectively. In 2021, **Cameron Coles '22** became the second Central student to win the competitive Goldwater Scholarship. And in 2022, **Olivia Svoboda '22** earned the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to study in Spain. Svoboda received an English teaching grant and is teaching elementary students in the Canary Islands.



## CAMERON COLES '22

**HOMETOWN:** Farley, Iowa

**MAJORS:** Biology and Mathematics

**MINOR:** Computer Science

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Presidential, Journey and Trustee

**CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:** Computer Science Club and Bridge Club

**EXCEPTIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** 2021 Goldwater Scholar, Computer Science Award and Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Award

**CAREER GOAL:** Obtain a Ph.D. in ecology to conduct research in mathematical ecology or evolutionary biology and teach at the university level

**GRADUATE SCHOOL:** Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

Whether it's through a microscope studying the molecular makeup of cells or exploring Central College's rigorous curriculum, **Cameron Coles '22** sees the world through a different lens.

"I think being a liberal arts student has a lot of power. Central has given me the flexibility to focus on many different disciplines," Coles says. "I've been able to take a variety of classes that have helped me develop a diverse set of skills, which allow me to approach problems from a different perspective. That is one of Central's strengths."

Since his first year, Coles has worked closely with faculty on research projects as a summer research student – an opportunity Coles wouldn't find at a large university.

"Having the opportunity to talk to professors before I even decided to attend Central and knowing I could continuously work on research projects with them throughout my time here really attracted me to Central," Coles says. "Especially compared to bigger schools, where research opportunities are not guaranteed, and you don't get to have those opportunities until your junior or senior year."

Coles has worked with **Russ Benedict**, professor of biology; **Paulina Mena**, associate professor of biology; and **Mark Johnson**, emeritus professor of mathematics and computer science.

"Getting involved in research early at Central has opened so many doors for me that would be closed otherwise," Coles says. "Working with the faculty here has been essential. If you want a career in research, come here."

His junior year, Coles was encouraged by his mentors to apply for the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship, a national competition that recognizes undergraduates for outstanding achievements in mathematics, science and engineering. And of the nearly 5,000 nominees, Coles was named a 2021 Goldwater Scholar.

"The Goldwater Foundation is interested in a student's aptitude for being a researcher and looks for students who can show they've actually put in the work," Coles says. "They want to see your process and how you're backing up your own research. That's how you become a good scientist."

## LEAD THE WAY

There are so many more ways students can lead on campus, too!

### + PEER TUTORS

are chosen by professors and trained to help their fellow students in a variety of skills and subjects.

### + STUDENT SENATORS

are elected by their fellow students to be the voice of the student body. They decide how student activity budgets are spent and serve on campus committees.

### + STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

represent their sports (plus athletic training) in discussions with the NCAA about conference rules and sportsmanship. They also help with service activities and the year-end Dutchies Awards.



# LEAD WITH BOLDNESS



If you're looking to have an internship, job shadowing or service experience, Central College is seriously the best place you can be. Not only has Central been a leader in these practices forever (give or take a few years), but every Central student who meets certain basic criteria can try all of them!

Plus, we have tons of different majors and more than a dozen pre-professional programs that prepare students to lead with boldness and make an impact after college.

# GET REAL! (WORLD EXPERIENCE)

You'll go beyond campus and classrooms to meet accomplished, influential people, including community and government leaders, business and nonprofit professionals and other successful Central alumni. They can influence the trajectory of your career and the development of your character.

## INTERNSHIPS

Central students gain vital real-world experience during internships, which often leads directly to future careers. (It's pretty amazing!) Many take on three or four internships over the course of their time at Central. These incredible opportunities give our students a competitive edge in job and grad school placement.

Central can connect you with more than 500 internship sites across the U.S. and around the world including:

- + Army Corps of Engineers
- + Lockheed Martin
- + Deloitte
- + Facebook
- + John Deere
- + Mayo Clinic
- + Mental Health America
- + Amazon
- + Hormel
- + Pella Community Schools
- + Pella Corporation
- + Pfizer
- + Principal Financial Group
- + The White House
- + U.S. Olympic Training Center
- + Vermeer Corporation



**98% OF CENTRAL STUDENTS COMPLETE AN INTERNSHIP, INTERNATIONAL STUDY, RESEARCH PROJECT OR SERVICE EXPERIENCE.**

[central.edu/internships](http://central.edu/internships)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Don't limit yourself to what real-world experience means. Sure, internships are great for your résumé, but so is service (which also creates space to form some special relationships and develop your character). Engage with other students, faculty and community members in service connected with your academic and career goals. Dozens of Central courses include a service option or requirement, which is like pushing a life-sized "that was easy" button!



# KICKSTART YOUR CAREER



Second-year Central students can participate in Central's Career Kickstarter – a free, one-week program during winter break. It offers each participant an internship or extended job shadowing experience with more than 100 local businesses and 1,000-plus local Central alumni. Students also experience workshops on career planning, networking, résumé preparation, how to apply and prepare for an extended internship and more. So, you basically get all the benefits of a full internship neatly nestled between semesters!

## AWESOME AND INFORMATIVE

"It was awesome and very informative. I learned about kinds of engineering I didn't know existed. We got to play with robots, handle components, get close looks at machinery and find out how everyone fits in the puzzle of the company."

– Abigail Lowry '22, Career Kickstarter Experience at Pella Corporation

**By the way, Lowry scored a job at Pella Corp after graduation as an electrical engineer. Coincidence, or is Career Kickstarter the real deal?**

# TAKE YOUR RÉSUMÉ TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Central goes beyond coursework to provide opportunities to refine your personal skills. We encourage you to pilot a project from conception to completion and confidently negotiate change and new experiences. We'll help you bolster your résumé with a broad range of extracurricular activities.

## BUILDING A CULTURE OF INCLUSION

Central's Building a Culture of Inclusion initiative is a partnership between Central students and employees. Central alumni **Yana Rouse '21** and **Marin Harrington '21** co-led 28 of their peers and 31 faculty and staff members in collaboration to educate, program and recommend policy centered around inclusivity and celebrating cultural diversity. The group won the Presidents' Student Leadership Award from Iowa Campus Compact in the 2021 Engaged Campus Awards.

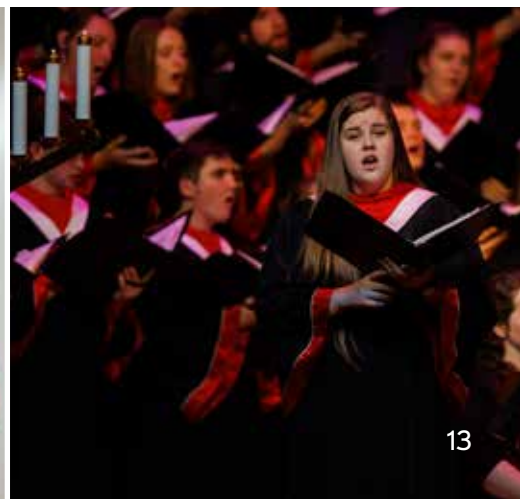


## CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Explore your passions – or discover new ones – by participating in some of Central's campus clubs and organizations. Here's a sampling:

- + A Cappella Choir
- + Black Excellence in Pella
- + Building a Culture of Inclusion
- + Central Teacher Academy
- + Chemistry Club
- + College-Community Band
- + Computer Science Club
- + Economics, Accounting and Management Club
- + Education Club
- + Health Professions Club
- + Math Club
- + Organization of Latinx-American Students
- + Physics and Engineering Club
- + Psychology Club
- + Resident Assistants
- + Student Senate

[central.edu/campus-life](https://central.edu/campus-life)





# EMBRACE THE “WHAT-IFS”



**Leaders are devoted to personal discovery. They develop strengths by exploring new subjects, trying out new roles and participating in diverse activities. They challenge assumptions about who they are, who they can become, what they can't do – and what they can.**

Central is a great place to explore your talents and interests and develop new ones in a safe, supportive environment. What if the worst happens and you don't like where you're headed? You decide to move in a new direction. What if the best thing ever happens? You'll find a lifelong passion – one you may never have realized before.

Central encourages you to explore yourself and the world. You'll find plenty of activities – academic and extracurricular – that welcome you to get involved from the moment you arrive on campus.

**WHERE YOU LEAD, SUCCESS WILL FOLLOW.**



## GLORIA MONTIEL '23

**HOMETOWN:** Columbus Junction, Iowa

**MAJOR:** Communication Studies and Spanish

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** William Randolph Hearst Fund for Minority Students and Journey

**CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:** Alliance of Underrepresented People, Student Support Services, Spanish Language Assistant, Advocate for Community Engagement, Organization of Latin American Students, Tri-Alpha

**CAREER:** Talent Acquisition Specialist at Vermeer Corporation

**Gloria Montiel '23** isn't afraid to lead. In fact, it's something she thrives on. What else would you expect from a first-generation college student? And Central College has been the perfect place for her to showcase that passion and grow in ways she never could have imagined.

Montiel's journey to Central really began during her junior year of high school when she started exploring different colleges. As her senior year rolled around, she decided to give Central a look.

"When I came to Central for a visit they tailored the entire experience around me," she says. "There was an interpreter for my parents, which was incredible, and that really helped solidify in my mind that this is where I wanted to be."

Once Montiel arrived on campus her leadership ability was kicked into overdrive.

"Ever since I was a freshman, I've gotten the opportunity to demonstrate my leadership in many different roles," she says. "Some of those roles include being a student orientation leader, peer leader, RA and representative of the student support leadership team. I believe all of this has been made possible from being part of a smaller campus where students have these types of opportunities."

Montiel's closing advice for prospective students is this: "Seek out experiences that validate your experiences," she says. "And I know for me personally, gaining those experiences of leadership and meeting new people, talking to my professors, and making friends along the way, all of those things have led me to where I am today. And I wouldn't be the person I am without them."

For more of Gloria's story:

[central.edu/montiel](https://central.edu/montiel)



# MAJORLY OBSESSED WITH YOUR FUTURE

[central.edu/majors](http://central.edu/majors)

## MAJORS

Accounting  
Actuarial Science  
Art  
Biochemistry (B.A. or B.S.)  
Biology  
Business Management  
+ Business Administration  
+ Business Analytics  
+ Finance  
+ International Business  
+ Marketing  
+ Student Designed  
+ Teacher Education  
Chemistry (B.A. or B.S.)  
Communication Studies  
Computer Science  
+ Data Science  
Economics  
Education  
+ Elementary  
+ Secondary  
Engineering (B.S.)  
English  
+ Writing

Environmental and Sustainability Studies  
History  
Information Systems  
+ Accounting Information Systems  
+ Computer Information Systems  
+ Management Information Systems  
Kinesiology (Exercise Science)  
+ Health and Exercise Science  
+ Health Promotion  
+ Personal Training  
+ Physical Education  
Mathematics  
+ Data Science  
+ Secondary Education  
Music  
Music Education  
+ Instrumental  
+ Vocal  
Musical Theatre  
+ Acting/Directing  
+ Design/Tech

Natural Science  
Philosophy  
Physics  
Political Science  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
+ Biblical Studies  
+ Christian Studies  
+ World Religions  
Self-Designed Studies such as  
+ Allied Health  
+ American Studies  
+ Arts Management  
+ Food Systems  
+ Gender Studies  
+ Geography  
+ Visual Communication  
Social Science  
Sociology  
Spanish  
Strength and Conditioning  
Undecided/Exploring

## MINORS

Accounting  
Anthropology (Cultural)  
Art  
Art History  
Biology  
Business Management  
+ Business Administration  
+ Business Analytics  
+ Finance  
+ International Business  
+ Marketing  
+ Student Designed  
+ Teacher Education  
Chemistry (B.A. or B.S.)  
Communication Studies  
Computer Science  
+ Data Science  
Economics  
English  
Entrepreneurship

Environmental and Sustainability Studies  
French and Francophone Studies  
German Studies  
Global Health  
Global Sustainability  
History  
International and Global Studies  
Kinesiology (Exercise Science)  
+ Health and Exercise Science  
+ Health Promotion  
+ Personal Training  
+ Physical Education  
Mathematics  
+ Data Science  
+ Secondary Education  
Music  
Musical Theatre  
+ Acting/Directing  
+ Design/Tech

Not-For-Profit Management  
Philosophy  
Physics  
Political Science  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
+ Biblical Studies  
+ Christian Studies  
+ World Religions  
Self-Designed Studies such as  
+ Allied Health  
+ American Studies  
+ Arts Management  
+ Data Science  
+ Food Systems  
+ Gender Studies  
+ Geography  
+ Visual Communication  
Sociology  
Spanish  
Writing

## PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

Athletic Training  
Chiropractic  
Dentistry  
Law

Medicine  
Ministry  
Nursing  
Occupational Therapy

Optometry  
Pharmacy  
Physical Therapy  
Physician Assistant

Podiatric Medicine  
Public Health  
Veterinary Medicine