SuperScholar EXCEL prepares African-American youth for college through standardized test preparation and non-credit courses that strengthen the students’ critical thinking, reading, writing, mathematics and oral presentation skills. SuperScholar EXCEL is a vigorous and engaging three-week program that promotes academic growth and exposes participants to the cultural and educational richness of New Orleans through field trips and activities while being exposed to college life. This program is further enhanced by the leadership of Xavier upper class students who serve as program mentors and chaperones.

History:
Originating in 1982 with the initial goal to “engender critical thinking skills in our students,” SuperScholar EXCEL has expanded to include goals of awareness, preparedness, and socialization. This three-week summer program attracts students from across the US and abroad, including the Caribbean, Japan, Africa, Canada and Vietnam. Participants must have an interest in the liberal arts, social sciences, humanities, business, law or education.

Program Components:
• Participants will take a SAT pre and post-test. They will learn test-taking strategies to build their skills in order to enhance their performance on standardized tests.
• Participants will explore reading, writing, math, and vocabulary development with supplemental exercises in oral communication, presentations skills, critical thinking and reasoning skills. Courses include Speech & Debate, Philosophy and African American History.
• Participants will be introduced to an array of research strategies and methods. To include instruction in MLA (Modern Language Association) and American Psychological Association (APA) formatting and citation style.
• The top two student research papers will be selected for publication.
• All participants will have the opportunity to participate in local community service projects.

Extracurricular Activities:
A variety of activities will be provided in addition to your educational experience. NOTE: For those interested, special arrangements for church services will be made for Sunday morning, but all Sunday afternoon activities are required. Examples of events are:
• Community Service Project
• Talent & Fashion Show
• Tours of local historical venues
• Participation in cultural and personal development activities
Application Process and Checklist:
To be considered ALL of the following items MUST be submitted.

1. Rising High School Seniors
2. completed On-line application deadline: May 1, 2015
3. One recommendation form completed by a teacher familiar with your work. Must be mailed in a sealed/signed envelope if sent by student or emailed/faxed by the school office.
4. One recommendation form completed by your counselor or principal. Must be mailed in a sealed/signed envelope if sent by student or emailed/faxed by the school office.
5. An official copy of your advance test scores if applicable
6. An official copy of your high school transcript or report. Must be mailed in a sealed/signed envelope if sent by student or emailed/faxed by the school office.
7. Applicants are selected and notified on a rolling basis until May 1.

Program Cost and Scholarships:
Students will be housed on campus from June 21 - July 10. Cost include housing, daily meals and snacks, trips, course materials, tshirt and bookbag.
- Program Cost: $800
- Non-refundable program reservation deposit of $100 due with two weeks of acceptance and no later than May 15
- Merit and financial based scholarships available by request and with the completed application

Important Dates:
Program Fees: Friday, May 15, last day to pay your $100 non-refundable deposit
Final Payments: Monday, June 1 final payments are due
Opening Day: Sunday, June 21
Move-in and mandatory orientation for residential and commuter students
First Day of Classes: Monday, June 22
Independence Day: Saturday, July 4
No classes, office is closed
Last Day of Classes: Friday, July 10 (last day for commuter students)
Move-Out: Friday, July 10 between 1pm-8pm or Saturday, July 11 by 10am

Sample Schedule:
8:00am-8:55am  BREAKFAST
9:00 a.m.-11:45 am  CLASSES
11:50a.m.-1:15 p.m.  LUNCH
1:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m.  CLASSES
5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.  DINNER
6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  MANDATORY STUDY HALL (Sun.-Thurs.)

Accepted Students Checklist:
- Read the Accepted Student Newsletter
- Submit $100 non-refundable deposit by May 15
- Submit your Health Clearance form
- Pay remaining balance by June 1
- Submit your Accepted Students Form Packet to the Pre-Collegiate office

Please note that no student may begin classes or move into the residence hall until their program charge is paid in full, and health and other forms required for accepted students are submitted.