

RECOMMENDED ENTRY COURSES

Office of the Dean of Students

The paragraphs below are provided by the Department and Program Chairs to help first-year students select appropriate courses in what might become their major field. These entry courses provide a means of testing whether a field is appropriate as well as starting that field. Obviously, many students are not at the stage of identifying a potential major field. That is fine. Whatever the level of direction, it is important that first-years take courses in a variety of disciplines and, preferably, a variety of formats, e.g. small classes as well as large introductory ones.

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES:

We encourage first year students interested in African American Studies to take the introductory course, AAS 100. Students may also choose from a variety of entry-level courses open to first year students. These include: AA/AC 119 Cultural Politics, AA/EN 121J African American Literature, AA/RH 162 White Redemption: Cinema and the Co-optation of African American History, AA/WS 201 Black Feminist Thought, AA/EN 212 Black Lesbian and Gay Literatures, AA/EN 223 Survey of the Literatures of the Caribbean, AA/EN 251 History, Agency, and Representation in the Making of the Caribbean, and AA/EN 253 The African American Novel. Only those who have had considerable preparation in American history should take History 243, African American History. Besides taking African American Studies courses as electives, note that it is possible to major or to do a minor in this field at Bates.

Students considering a major or secondary concentration in African American Studies may speak with Professor Hilmar Jensen, the Program Chair, or other faculty associated with the Program to learn more about the major and to receive guidance on their course selections.

AMERICAN CULTURAL STUDIES:

First-year students interested in exploring this major should take ACS 100, Introduction to American Cultural Studies, offered in winter term 2010 or ACS 220, Fieldwork in American Cultural Studies, also offered in winter term 2010. Both courses are required for the major. They might also consider courses on the American experience that introduce race, ethnicity and/or gender as categories of analysis. Among relevant courses are AAS 140, Introduction to African American Studies; AA/AC 119, Cultural Politics; AA/AN, The Making of the Caribbean, and other courses in African American, Native American, Latin American, Asian American Studies and Latino/a Studies. A complete list of courses is provided in the catalog under the major.

ANTHROPOLOGY:

FYS 172, FYS 242 or FYS 325 may serve as an entry into the anthropology major. Those students considering a major in anthropology often begin with Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (AN 101). Alternately, they may take Introduction to Archaeology (AN 103), or Introduction to Human Evolution (AN 104). Many of our majors actually end up entering the field by way of our electives, such as 100-level or 200-level courses organized around geographical areas (e.g., Africa, The Caribbean or South Asia), or those focusing on certain themes (e.g., popular culture, gender, or religion). Students are encouraged to speak with any member of the Anthropology Department about their particular interests.

ART AND VISUAL CULTURE:

The major has two paths, one in studio and the other in the history and criticism of art and visual culture. The following suggestions reflect courses that are available in the fall 2009. In studio art, students can begin with AVC 203, 212, or 218. Students planning to major in studio who have been unable to secure a place in one of these courses should see the department chair immediately on arrival on campus to see whether the department might be able to waive the prerequisites for other studio courses for students with extensive studio backgrounds. Students planning a major in studio art can also begin taking the 200-level courses in the history and criticism track needed to fill the studio majors' requirement for three courses in that area.

Majors in the history and criticism track usually begin with a 200-level course in the history and criticism of art and visual culture, for example, AVCM 241, AVC 280 and 293 and AVAS 234 and 243. These courses are open to first-year students and are taken by a range of students, both majors and non-majors. The department has three first-year seminars offered this fall, FYS 177 and 266 and a new FYS on African art, which can be counted towards the major. Please note that the department does not offer any 100-level courses. Please also note that for studio courses which list both I and II sections (for example 212 A/I and 212B/II), the B or II listings do not indicate additional available slots in the classes. The II sections exist only to allow students who have already taken a course (the A/I section) to take it a second time. Students enrolled by faculty permission in the studio B/II sections are counted within the total overall course limit, usually 15 or 18.

ASIAN STUDIES:

We encourage students thinking about a major in East Asian Studies to begin language study as soon as possible (Chinese 101 or Japanese 101) and to enroll in Asia 110, East Asia between Tradition and Modernity.

Other portals to the major include a variety of culture, history or literature courses: Art and Visual Culture 248 (Rock-Cut Temples in Asia), Art and Visual Culture/Asian Studies 243 (Buddhist Visual Worlds), Art and Visual Culture/Asian Studies 245 (Architectural Monuments of Southeast Asia), Asian Studies/History 171 (China and its Culture), Asian Studies/History 172 (Japan: Myths, Stereotypes, and Realities), Asian Studies/History 173 (Korea and its Culture), Asian Studies/Japanese 125 (Japanese Literature and Society), Asian Studies/Religion 208 (Religions in China), Asian Studies/Religion 209 (Religions in Japan), Chinese 207 (Traditional Chinese Literature in Translation), Chinese 209 (Modern China through Film and Fiction), Chinese 261 (Self and Society in Chinese Culture), English 121G (Asian American Women Writers), and Japanese/Women's Studies 255 (Modern Japanese Women Writers).

Students planning to concentrate in economics can use Economics 229 (China) or Economics 231 (Japan) as entry paths to a major in East Asian Studies.

In Winter semester, East Asia between Tradition and Modernity" introduces students to the civilizations of East Asia. The course will complement the interests of students learning Chinese or Japanese language.

BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY:

Prospective Biological Chemistry Majors should take Chemistry 107 (A or B) and 108 (A or B), Biology 101, and Mathematics 105 and 106 in their first year. We generally recommend that, regardless of AP or

IB scores, students begin with Chemistry 107 and 108. Most AP/IB courses do not cover modern atomic and molecular structure in nearly the depth that we do at Bates. These classes provide a base for the rest of our curriculum.

BIOLOGY:

We strongly recommend that students considering a major in Biology take Chemistry 107 (A or B) in the fall of the first year, and Chemistry 108 (A or B) in the winter of the first year. Completing these two requirements for the Biology major during the first year allows students to complete the Biology 'core' courses during the second year, and overall allows greater flexibility in choosing courses in the advanced Biology curriculum. First year students planning to complete a B.S. degree may wish to consider starting the Calculus sequence sometime during the first year.

First year potential Biology majors normally begin the required Biology 'core' course with Biology 101 in the winter of the first year, then continue with Biology 242 (fall) and Biology 270 (winter) in the second year. Please note that Biology 101 is not offered in the fall semester. Students with a 4 or 5 on the AP exam may petition to place out of Biology 101 by receiving written permission of a current Biology 101 professor and the chair of the Biology Department. Students who place out of Biology 101 are still required to take 10 Biology courses to graduate. In addition to taking the required Biology 101 in the first year, the first year student may wish to take one additional 100-level Biology courses during the first year. These courses are optional (not required), but may count toward the major requirement of 10 courses. If a student has placed out of Biology 101, two other 100-level biology courses may count toward the major, provided at least one of the courses has a laboratory component. Because these topical courses allow students to explore Biology's diverse curriculum, most seats in these courses are reserved for first year students. Take note and take advantage because this means that it can be difficult to enroll in these courses after the first year!

CHEMISTRY:

It is recommended that students considering a major in Chemistry take Chemistry 107A or 107B and 108A or 108B and Calculus during the first year. Students who have concerns about their readiness for calculus should contact the department chair as some math skills are required for introductory chemistry. Chemistry 107A and 107B are only offered in the fall semester. The A and B sections of Chemistry 107 and 108 are equivalent, both are equally appropriate for students interested in going to medical school. Students can take whichever section fits their interests and schedule. Students who are interested in majoring in Chemistry or Biochemistry should consider taking Physics 107 and 108 in their first year as well. First year students who have received credit for introductory chemistry are encouraged to take Chemistry 215 in the fall. Chemistry 217 is not open to first year students. Any questions, please email the Department Chair, Rachel Austin (raustin@bates.edu).

CLASSICAL & MEDIEVAL STUDIES:

Students interested in the classical and medieval worlds may choose from a variety of entry-level courses. We offer introductory courses such as Introduction to the Ancient World (CM/HI 100), Medieval Europe (CM/HI 102), Greek Civilization (CM/HI 106), Roman Republic or Empire (CM/HI 108 or 109), Arthurian Literature (CM/EN 121), Greek and Roman Myths (CM/RE 218), The Age of the Cathedrals (AV/CM 251), Art of the Middle Ages (AV/CM 252) and Florence to Bruges: The Early Renaissance in Europe (AV/CM 265). We warmly invite all interested students to participate in our lively classes in beginning Greek and Latin (Greek 101, Latin 101). Alternatively, please email one of the program chairs,

Margaret Imber or Henry Walker, to determine which class is right for you, if you have taken Latin in high school.

ECONOMICS:

Most students who intend to major in economics take Economics 101, Economics 103, and Mathematics 105 (Calculus) during the first year. First-year students may also take Statistics. The ordering of these courses over the first and second semesters is not important--you may take Economics 103 before or after you take Economics 101. Details about majoring in economics are available on the Economics Department Web Site at <http://www.bates.edu/x25884.xml>.

EDUCATION:

Though students cannot major in Education at Bates, there are two minors available, one of which leads to teacher certification. First Year students are welcomed whether they are considering teaching someday or are interested in learning more about education and schooling in the United States. Many first year students elect Education 231, Perspectives on Education, which is offered in both fall and winter terms. All Education courses require a field experience in the local schools or other settings. The department offers a First-Year Seminar entitled Exploring Education Through Narrative, which also gives first year students an opportunity to do fieldwork in public schools or the community. Students who are interested in learning more about the Education Department programs or eventually pursuing a minor in Education may read more about the department by picking up a brochure in the Education Lounge (316 Pettengill) or looking at the Education Department Web site under Bates Academic Departments.

ENGLISH:

Prospective majors are urged to take at least one of the Colloquia in Literature (English 121) during their first year. One course at the 100 level is required for admission by majors to courses at the 200 level. In accordance with College policy, the department grants one course-credit for Advanced Placement scores of four or five, but these credits do not count toward the eleven-course English major requirement.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES:

Students interested in majoring in environmental studies must complete a set of core courses and an approved environmental studies concentration. Students should take one or more of the core courses open to first-year students (ENVR 203, 204 and 205). ENVR 203, Scientific Approaches to Environmental Issues, will be offered in the winter. ENVR 204, Environment and Society, will be offered in the winter. ENVR 205, Nature and Culture, will be offered in fall. In addition, students are strongly advised to take a set in Biology, Geology or Chemistry during their first year at Bates. Of these three fields, students are particularly encouraged to take Chemistry 107B in the fall and Chemistry 108B in the winter. More detailed information on the major, including the list of approved environmental studies concentrations, is available on the program Web page.

GEOLOGY:

It is recommended that students considering a major in geology or considering a General Education Concentration (GEC) involving geosciences courses take one or more introductory geology courses during the

first year. Introductory courses include: GEO103 Earth Surface Processes; GEO104 Plate Tectonics; GEO107 Katahdin to Acadia: Field Geology in Maine; GEO109 Global Change. All GEO 100-level courses may be used to satisfy the S, Q, or L components of the general education requirements except GEO109, which satisfies the S and Q components. Courses cross-listed with other departments and open to first-year students include: AT/GE110 Lunar and Planetary Science; AT/GE115 Impacts and Mass Extinctions; and BI/GE Oceanography. Students considering a major in geology are encouraged to take CHEM107A or CHEM107B in the fall semester.

GECs that have a strong geoscience component include: The Geosphere; Hazards in Nature; Field Studies-Natural Science; Water and Society; Environment, Place, History; and Science Education.

If you need more information about the Geology major, the General Education Concentrations, or the Environmental Geology Concentration within the Environmental Studies major, please contact John Creasy (jcreasy@bates.edu), Chair of the Geology department.

GERMAN AND RUSSIAN STUDIES:

Students considering studying German or Russian at Bates should keep in mind that a significant percentage of our majors begin their study of these languages here. Students wishing to begin German or Russian should enroll in the 101 course in the fall semester. Students who arrive at Bates with previous knowledge of the language should complete the “language preference form” with as much detail as possible and are encouraged to consult with a member of the language faculty regarding appropriate placement. Students may also begin their study with one of our 200-level literature and culture courses taught in English. First-Year Seminars taught by department faculty can also provide excellent introductions to our disciplines.

HISTORY:

Students considering a major in History, even if they have advanced placement credit, are advised to start with any one of the courses numbered in the 100’s. These courses offer introductions to major themes in the history of the United States, Europe, East Asia, and Latin America.

A First-Year Seminar in History is also an excellent introduction to history at Bates and counts toward the major or secondary concentration. First-Year Seminars in history will be offered by Atsuko Hirai (“U.S. Relocation Camps in World War II”), Gwen Lexow (“Into the Woods: Rewriting Walden”), John Cole (“Before 1776: Thinking Backwards”).

A history major can also begin with a more specialized 200-level course, for which there are usually no prerequisites. Potential majors should note that the Historical Methods Short Term is expected in their sophomore year.

Although there is no language requirement for majors, we encourage students with interests outside of the United States to begin or continue language study.

MATHEMATICS:

The first math course a student takes will depend on his or her background. In most cases, it will be Math 105 (Calculus I), 106 (Calculus II), 205 (Linear Algebra), or 206 (Multivariable Calculus). Please see our FAQ page at <http://abacus.bates.edu/acad/depts/math/faq.html> for more information about which course best suits you; this page also has a link to our non-binding, anonymous placement test. If you have further

questions, contact Eric Towne (etowne@bates.edu). In particular, we try to discourage students with a solid calculus background from enrolling in Math 105, as it will be mainly a repeat of material they already know.

All math majors take Math s21, a Short Term course affectionately known as "Math Camp", which teaches how to think like a mathematician and is a prerequisite to some required higher level courses. It's best to take this class at the end of your first year.

MUSIC:

First-year students interested in pursuing the major or minor in music should enroll in Music Theory (Music 231-232-331-332) as early as possible in their college study. Those with substantial theory experience may be able to place out of Music 231 and start at a higher level, but most students benefit by starting the study of college-level music theory with that course. Determination of who can place out of Music 231 is made when classes start in September.

Five music courses without pre-requisite are open to first-year students in the fall semester: Introduction to Listening (Music 101), Introduction to Ethnomusicology (Music 212), African American Popular Music (AAMU 249), Music and Drama (Music 254), and the First-Year Seminar, American Experimentalist Music.

Students who want to study an instrument or voice for credit (Applied Music—Music 270) may do so with permission of the Chair of the Music Department, James Parakilas. Please see the Catalog for the special conditions that pertain to this course.

Students who participate in faculty-directed musical ensembles may register for those ensembles as half-credit courses (Music 290). Permission of the director of the ensemble, usually given after an audition, is needed to register.

Four other courses are open to first-year students with the permission of the instructor or upon completing a pre-requisite in the previous semester: Music Composition (Music 235) in the fall; Classical Music in Western Culture (Music 210), Jazz Performance Workshop (Music 222), and Computers, Music, and the Arts (Music 237) in the winter.

NEUROSCIENCE:

Students interested in Neuroscience as a possible major are advised to take CHEM 107 (A or B) and either PSYC 101 or a relevant 100-level Biology course in their first (fall) semester. In the second (winter) semester, it is recommended that prospective majors take BIO 101 and CHEM 108 (A or B) and Introduction to Neuroscience (NS/PY 200; which requires either PSYC 101 or a 100-level BIO course as a prerequisite). This will enable students to take the required Organic Chemistry (CHEM 217 & 218) and BIO 242 and perhaps one or more of the three required Neuroscience course (BI/NS 308, NS/PY 330, and NS/PY 363) in their second year. If a student waits until their second year to begin the Chemistry sequence or to take NS/PY 200 or BIO 101, it will still be possible to major in Neuroscience, but this may limit subsequent curricular options, including going abroad.

PHILOSOPHY:

Beginning students can get a sense of the historical development of the current philosophical context by taking CM/PH 271, Greek Philosophy, or PHIL 272, Philosophy from Descartes to Kant. Students are also encouraged to start out with 200-level courses that focus on particular problems of philosophical interest. Although critical reading, thinking, and writing skills are developed in all philosophy classes, PHIL195, Introduction to Logic, provides a more focused study of proper reasoning that is beneficial to majors and non-majors alike. Contemporary Moral Disputes, PHIL 112, and Biomedical Ethics, PHIL 213, focus on particular moral issues and the ethical arguments provoked by them and are also good entry level philosophy classes.

PHYSICS:

Students who anticipate majoring in physics or pursuing the Liberal Arts-Engineering Dual Degree Plan normally take Physics 107-108, beginning with Physics 107 in the fall semester. Prospective majors can also begin the sequence in the second year, although it is then difficult to complete more than the minimum requirements. Students with strong high school backgrounds in physics, especially those with AP credit, should consider enrolling in the First-Year Seminar FYS 274 (Physics in the Twentieth Century) and/or Physics 222 (Electricity, Magnetism, and Waves) and are encouraged to discuss this option with the Chair of the department. FYS 274 is a calculus-based introduction to modern physics which can substitute for Physics 108. Students who are considering the medical profession are advised not to skip Physics 107 and should speak with a member of the Medical Studies Committee. Students entering in January with strong backgrounds in physics may be able to register for Physics 108 and/or Physics 211 (Newtonian Mechanics) and should discuss the possibility with the Chair of the department.

POLITICS:

First-year students with an interest in studying politics begin with a 100-level course in the Fall or Winter. Students with a sufficient background in the study of politics may also consider taking a 200-level course. The department strongly encourages incoming students to take a first-year seminar, and we also encourage our students to work toward mastery of a second language. Prospective Politics majors should keep in mind that the department requires students to take s49: Political Inquiry during Short Term of either sophomore or junior year. A great many of our students study off campus during junior year. If you plan to do so, please talk with the department chair and your major advisor by early in sophomore year in order to map the progression of courses in the major.

PSYCHOLOGY:

Students should begin a psychology major with Principles of Psychology (Psychology 101), which is taught in both the fall and winter semesters. Prospective majors are advised to take a 200-level course in one of the four content areas in our major the following semester. (See the College Catalog for information on those four content areas.) Prospective majors are also advised to take Statistics and Experimental Design (Psychology 218) during their sophomore year. This is because it is a prerequisite for our methods courses (PSYC 261 or ED/PY 262), one of which must be taken before senior year. Students planning to go abroad during their junior year should consult with an advisor in the Psychology department as soon as possible. Students who have high school course experience in psychology, but who

did not take the Advanced Placement exam, may opt out of Principles of Psychology by taking an exam for Psychology 101 (selected by the departmental faculty) and earning a 70% or higher on it. See the Chair about this option as soon as possible.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

As first-year students with an interest in the study of Religion, you need not restrict your choices to courses at the 100-level. You are equally welcome to take either Religion 108, which explores the topic of religious experience comparatively across a number of different traditions, or any of our 200-level courses that have no prerequisites. The latter introduce students to a single religious tradition (e.g. AS/RE 249—the Hindu Tradition, REL 264—the Islamic Tradition, or REL 235—Ancient Israel), or to the importance of a particular text or topic (RE/WS 207—Adam, Eve, and the Serpent, or REL 243—Religion and its Discontents). Any one can serve as an introductory-level course to the field, and all can potentially count towards the fulfillment of several General Education concentrations. Religious Studies at Bates is an interdisciplinary enterprise that provides a good focus for an integrated introduction to the humanities.

RHETORIC:

RHET 155. What is Rhetoric? Although the oldest discipline, rhetoric may be the least understood. Aristotle defined rhetoric as "the faculty of observing in any given case the available means of persuasion." In this course, students conduct a historical survey of rhetorical theory from classical times to the present. Rhetorical artifacts examined include political speeches, television programs, print advertisements, editorials, music, film, and Internet sites. Required of all majors. Enrollment limited to 30. [W1] Normally offered every year.

AA/RH 162. White Redemption: Cinema and the Co-optation of African American History. Since its origins in the early twentieth century, film has debated how to represent black suffering. This course examines one aspect of that debate: the persistent themes of white goodness, innocence, and blamelessness in films that are allegedly about black history and culture. Historical and cultural topics examined in film include the enslavement of Africans, Reconstruction, and the civil rights movement. Particular attention is given to films in the interracial male-buddy genre. Course designated as [W2] beginning Fall 2009. [W2] Normally offered every year.

RHET 185. Public Discourse. This course is designed to develop an awareness of and skill in the techniques needed by a speaker in varying situations, from the large gathering to the small group. Students analyze and compose public speeches on various political issues. Enrollment limited to 24. Normally offered every year.

RHET 391A. The Rhetoric of Alien Abduction. This seminar examines the discourse surrounding UFOs and alien abduction. Texts are drawn from various media including print, television, film, and the Internet. Topics for discussion revolve around issues of social influence and popular culture. The course examines conspiracy, narrative, television criticism, the Internet, the rhetoric of outer space, and intertextuality. Prerequisite(s): Rhetoric 155 and Rhetoric 257 or 276. Open to first-year students. Enrollment limited to 15. Instructor permission is required. Offered with varying frequency.

ROMANCE LANGUAGES & LITERATURES:

The department offers courses in French and Spanish. Courses in Italian are offered at Bowdoin College.

French

Students considering a major or minor in French should consult the requirements in the College Catalog and meet with a member of the department. Although it is possible to major by beginning language study at Bates, most students arrive with solid preparation in the language and begin work immediately in advanced intermediate language and culture courses, such as French 205 (Oral French), 207 and 208 (the cultures of contemporary France and the Francophone world), 235 (Advanced French Language) or French 250 and 251 (Introduction to French Literature). (Note that 208 and 251 are offered in the winter semester.) Some students choose French 201 for a review of grammar before moving to higher level courses. Potential majors and minors are encouraged to study abroad, whether on a department sponsored short term unit or during a semester or year abroad on an approved program.

Students interested in French are encouraged to take the on line self-placement at:
<http://www.bates.edu/french-placement-form.xml>.

Please note that French 101-102 is reserved for true beginners in the language. Those with more than two years of secondary school study are not admitted at this level and are encouraged to enter at the 200 level. Students may self-place in courses in French during the enrollment period for first-year students using the on line placement test.

Spanish

All first-year students are advised to use the automatic self-placement test for Spanish at:
<http://ats.bates.edu/spanish/spanishplacement.php>

Beginning Spanish 101, 102 and 103 are reserved for first and second-year students with little or no prior instruction in Spanish. Those with more than two years of secondary school study are not admitted at this level (101-102-103) and are encouraged to register for Intermediate Spanish (201-202). Students with three or more years of high-school instruction in Spanish or who have obtained a score of 4 or 5 on the Spanish Advanced Placement test are advised to enroll in Spanish 207 or 208, which gives them entry to the Spanish major. The Spanish Program allows for self-placement in Spanish 201, 202, 207 and 208; for courses above these levels students should contact directly the instructor of the course or the Chair of the Spanish Program for permission or prerequisite waiver for entry into these or any other advanced courses

SOCIOLOGY:

First-year students interested in pursuing a major or secondary concentration in sociology can begin their exploration of the discipline with any 100-level course and with most of our 200-level courses. In Fall 2009 we will offer Soc. 101 - Principles of Sociology and Soc 116 - Criminology. We are also offering two 200-level courses, Soc 224 - Sociology of Law and Soc 235 - Global Health. In Winter 2010, we will offer Soc 103 - Macrosociology and three 200-level courses: Soc 265 - Sociology of Competition and Soc. 270 - Sociology of Gender. Additional information on the major and minor in sociology is available on the department's website (<http://www.bates.edu/SOC.xml>), or from the Department Chair, Professor Francesco Duina (263 Pettengill Hall, e-mail: fduina@bates.edu <<mailto:fduina@bates.edu>>).

THEATER:

For the Fall semester of 2009, entering students should consider these courses:

THEA 101. An Introduction to Drama: Theater and Film. A survey of the nature and history of drama on stage and in motion pictures. Beginning with a discussion of action, plot, and character, the course moves

on to consider the elements of theatrical performance—including acting, directing, and design—as well as important plays from the Greeks to the present. These may include works by Sophocles, Shakespeare, Ibsen, Chekhov, Brecht, and Beckett. It then shifts focus to film, examining the elements of mise-en-scène, cinematography, editing, and sound, and concluding with a study of major films from the silent era to the twenty-first century. These may include works by Chaplin, Wells, Bergman, Hitchcock, Scorsese, and David Lynch. Normally offered every year.

THEA 132. Theater Technology. This course provides a look "behind the curtain" to reveal the secrets of theater magic. Students learn the geography of the stage, how scenery is built, how lighting works, what hardware is right for the job, and how to handle tools safely. Many of the skills learned in this class are basic ones and will be useful in everyday life. This is a hands-on course; all students participate in preparing theater department productions. Enrollment limited to 14. Normally offered every other year.

THEA 242. Screenwriting. This course presents the fundamentals of screenwriting: plot, act structure, character development, conflict, dialogue, and format. Lectures, writing exercises, and analyses of films such as *Happiness*, *American Beauty*, and *Sleepless in Seattle* provide the student with the tools to create a short screenplay. Prerequisite(s): Theater 240. Open to first-year students. Enrollment limited to 12. Instructor permission is required. Offered with varying frequency.

THEA 261. Beginning Acting. This course introduces the student to the physiological processes involved in creative acting. The student learns the Stanislavski approach to the analysis of realistic and naturalistic drama. Exercises leading to relaxation, concentration, and imagination are included in an improvisational context. Studies in motivation, sense perception, and emotion-memory recall lead the student to beginning work on scene performance. Open to first-year students. Enrollment limited to 16. Normally offered every semester.

THEA 263. Voice and Speech. Students examine the nature and working of the human voice. Students explore ways to develop the voice's potential for expressive communication with exercises and the analysis of breathing, vocal relaxation, pitch, resonance, articulation, audibility, dialect, and text performance. Recommended background: one course in acting, performance, or public speaking. Open to first-year students. Enrollment limited to 20. Normally offered every year.

THEA 370. Directing. An introduction to the art of directing, with an emphasis on creative and aesthetic problems and their solutions. Included is an examination of the director's relationship to the text, the design staff, and the actor. The approach is both theoretical and practical, involving readings, rehearsal observation, and the directing of scenes and short plays. Prerequisite(s) or corequisite(s): Theater 261. Open to first-year students. Instructor permission is required. Normally offered every year.

DANC 250. Early Modern Dance History. At the turn of the twentieth century modern dance emerged as an exciting new art form. From Isadora Duncan to the collaborations of Cage and Cunningham, modern dance has been deeply rooted in innovative exploration. This course focuses on the early dance pioneers, the ideas and conditions that informed their work, and their subsequent influences on the art world. Open to first-year students. Normally offered every other year.

DANC 270. Studio Dance. This series of studio courses provides instruction in a variety of dance practices. Dance 270 may be repeated. One-half credit is earned for each course completed. Students register for Dance 270A, 270B, 270C, or 270D, or 270E; the appropriate sequential course number (271–278) is recorded on the student's transcript. Open to first-year students. Enrollment limited to 25.

WOMEN and GENDER STUDIES

For students interested in learning about women and gender, we recommend WGST 100, *Introduction to Women and Gender Studies*, offered in the fall semester. This course is designed to acquaint learners with issues central to the field, and with concepts and methods that serve as a foundation for further study in the major as well as in other fields. Enrolling in WGST 100 early in the college career enables students to take the required methods course, INDS 250, in the sophomore year, which is especially important for anyone planning to pursue off-campus study in the junior year.

A good alternate point of entry for students interested in Women and Gender Studies can be found in any department-based course that includes gender analysis as a core feature. Please see the current Catalog and online course schedule for a list of entry-level courses that count toward the major and minor, and feel free to contact the program chair, Professor Rebecca Herzig, with further questions.

04/09