

# **The concentrations**

## **More on general education concentrations**

General Education concentrations are among the most exciting features of the new General Education program at Bates. Each student takes two concentrations, a group of four linked courses. A concentration may focus on one topic or area of inquiry, with courses coming from different disciplines, or a concentration may focus on a topic within a single department, program, or major.

## **Anatomy of a General Education Concentration**

Groups of faculty have worked together to develop concentrations, which often include courses from multiple disciplines around a theme or set of ideas. To design the concentration, Considering Africa, for example, professors developed a menu of interrelated courses drawn from African American studies, anthropology, art and visual culture, education, French, history, music, and politics. Study abroad in an African country for a semester, a museum project on African art and culture, or community service in Lewiston's African migrant community can also count toward the concentration. A student electing this concentration would therefore select four courses from among a list of sixteen courses, or complete three courses and one co-curricular experience.

## **Variety and Interdisciplinarity**

The Bates faculty has designed over 60 concentrations on topics that span the curriculum. New concentrations are introduced each year. Among the concentrations offered in 2007-2008 are:

- The City in History
- Film and Media Studies
- The Geosphere
- Globalization
- The Human Body
- Identity, Race, and Ethnicity
- Latin American Studies
- Law and Society
- North Atlantic Studies
- Public Health
- Science Education

## **Minors and Second Majors as Concentrations**

Because a concentration is designed to provide depth in a specific subject area, minors and second majors may also be counted as a student's concentrations.