

BOWDOIN COLLEGE

Degree Requirements

Name _____ Date _____

Students are responsible for tracking their own degree progress through the use of *Bearings*. Please track your degree requirements by updating this form at the end of every semester. You do not need to submit this form but should keep a copy for your records. If you have questions, please contact the Office of the Registrar or your academic advisor.

1. Please answer the following questions.

- a) Have you taken a first-year seminar? A first-year seminar is required during your first year in college.
YES / NO
- b) How many total credits have you earned so far? You must successfully pass 32 full-credit courses or the equivalent in order to graduate.
- c) Have you fulfilled your residency requirement? You must spend 4 semesters, and successfully pass 16 full-credit courses or the equivalent, in residence, at least 2 semesters of which have been during the junior or senior year.
YES / NO
- d) Have you completed a major?
YES / NO

Note: You must complete a major, be it a departmental major, 2 departmental majors, a coordinate major, an interdisciplinary major or a student-designed major (a departmental minor may be completed with any of the above). If you have questions about your major requirements, please contact your academic advisor.

Please also note that:

- If you are in the class of 2012 or later, distribution and/or division credit will not be earned if a course is taken Credit/D/F. First year seminars must be taken for a grade and cannot be taken Credit/D/F;
- Out of the 32 full-credit courses or the equivalent that you must successfully pass in order to graduate, you may not take more than 4 Credit/D/Fail;
- You may not earn more than 4 summer transfer credits; and
- You may not earn more than 8 pre-matriculation credits from AP, IB or pre-matriculation transfer credit.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

BOWDOIN COLLEGE

2. Please check off the distribution requirements you have fulfilled so far. By the end of your 4th semester, you should have completed at least one course in each of the following 5 distribution areas.

Mathematical, Computational or Statistical Reasoning (MCSR)

Inquiry in the Natural Sciences (INS)

Exploring Social Differences (ESD)

International Perspectives (IP)

Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)

3. Please check off the division requirements you have fulfilled so far. You must complete at least one course in each of the following 3 divisions of the curriculum.

Natural Science and Mathematics (a)

Social and Behavioral Sciences (b)

Humanities(c) (this is in addition to the course taken to fulfill the Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) distribution requirement in question 2 above)

When registering for courses, please remember the following.

If a course is designated as fulfilling 2 distribution requirements, you may count that course toward only one distribution requirement. For example, if a course has “b - ESD, IP” assigned to it, the course will count for credit in the social and behavioral sciences (b) division as well as the exploring social differences (ESD) distribution requirement OR the international perspectives (IP) distribution requirement. At the end of the semester, this course will go into a pending box on your *Bearings* account. Until you take another ESD or IP course, the distribution requirement will remain pending. If you take another IP course, for example, at the end of the semester in which you complete the 2nd IP course, the first IP course will go into your ESD distribution requirement box and the 2nd IP course will go into your IP distribution requirement box.

A course that has a “c - VPA” assigned to it will always go into your VPA distribution requirement box first, the reason being there are more humanities (c) courses than visual and performing arts (VPA) courses. You may not fulfill the VPA distribution requirement and the humanities division requirement with the same course; they must be fulfilled by 2 separate courses.

In comparison, the natural science and mathematics (a) and the social and behavioral sciences (b) division requirements are often met by taking a course that has a corresponding distribution requirement assigned to it. In other words, you may fulfill division and distribution requirements simultaneously with one course in many instances.

Division and distribution requirements may not be fulfilled with transfer, AB or IB credit; they must be fulfilled with courses taken at Bowdoin.

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