

## 2021-2022 ADVISING TIP SHEET

INFORMATION ON HEALTH PROFESSIONS.....	3
INFORMATION ON THE QUANTITATIVE REASONING PROGRAM.....	5
INFORMATION ON WRITING PROJECT COURSES AND WORKSHOP .....	6
INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS	
AFRICANA STUDIES.....	7
ANTHROPOLOGY .....	7
ARABIC .....	8
ARCTIC STUDIES .....	8
ART HISTORY .....	9
ASIAN STUDIES.....	9
BIOCHEMISTRY.....	10
BIOLOGY .....	10
CHEMISTRY.....	11
CINEMA STUDIES.....	13
CLASSICS.....	14
COMPUTER SCIENCE .....	14
DIGITAL AND COMPUTATIONAL STUDIES.....	16
EARTH AND OCEANOGRAPHIC SCIENCE .....	16
ECONOMICS.....	17
EDUCATION .....	19
ENGLISH .....	19
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES.....	20
GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND WOMEN’S STUDIES.....	21
GERMAN .....	21
GOVERNMENT AND LEGAL STUDIES.....	22

HISTORY .....	22
LATIN AMERICAN, CARRIBEAN AND LATINX STUDIES .....	23
MATHEMATICS.....	23
MIDDLE EASTERN AND NORTH AFRICAN STUDIES.....	25
MUSIC.....	26
NEUROSCIENCE.....	26
PHILOSOPHY .....	26
PHYSICS.....	27
PSYCHOLOGY .....	28
RELIGION .....	29
ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES.....	29
Francophone Studies: .....	29
Hispanic Studies: .....	30
Italian Studies: .....	30
RUSSIAN .....	31
SOCIOLOGY .....	32
THEATER AND DANCE.....	32
Dance.....	32
Theater.....	33
URBAN STUDIES .....	33
VISUAL ARTS .....	34

## **INFORMATION ON HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

First-year course schedules will vary widely depending upon a student's high school preparation. Students should **follow the placement recommendations of the science and math departments** so that they will neither coast through courses that cover material they have already studied, nor flounder through courses for which they are under-prepared. Some students will have the background to be comfortable in two lab sciences while others may initially feel overwhelmed in a single introductory science or math course.

**Most students will be best served if they enroll in only one, or at most two, science and math courses.**

Students who are likely to be challenged by the transition to college will have a better chance of attaining their goals if they proceed at a slower pace in the sciences rather than to struggle through the courses before they have the appropriate foundation. A successful start to college is more important than a fast start, even if it ultimately necessitates completing some pre-health requirements after Bowdoin. In fact, in keeping with national trends, **three-quarters of Bowdoin students entering health professions programs choose to matriculate two or more years after they graduate from Bowdoin.**

The following is a list of the academic prerequisites for most medical and dental schools; programs in veterinary medicine and many allied health fields have a few additional requirements, as well. Note that AP credits may **not** be used to fulfill the science prerequisites in biology and chemistry, nor do all schools accept AP credit in physics. **Please be aware that a major in the sciences is *not* required.**

If any questions arise during registration, including questions about how changes in curriculum due to the COVID emergency might affect their academic preparation for health professions school, please do not hesitate to contact Seth Ramus at [sramus@bowdoin.edu](mailto:sramus@bowdoin.edu) or (207)725-3624. Students are also encouraged to make an appointment to speak with Seth or Corey Colwill during their first semester.

### **Biology:**

Two semesters with lab at a level higher than Biology 1101; some additional biology is recommended.

Most students interested in the health professions complete Biology 1109 or the Biology 1101-1102 sequence by the end of sophomore year. Prospective biology, biochemistry and neuroscience majors need to be sure to follow the recommendations of those departments. **Most students find it more helpful to take introductory chemistry before taking introductory biology, rather than the other way around.**

### **General or Inorganic Chemistry:**

Two semesters with lab. Any two of the following may be used to fulfill this requirement: Chemistry 1091, 1092, 1101, 1102, 1109, 2100, 2400, 2510.

Since Chemistry 1091 and 1101 are offered only in the fall, students recommended for these courses should consider taking them in their first semester if they are giving thought to study abroad during their junior year. Otherwise, they will not be able to complete Organic Chemistry until senior year.

### **Organic Chemistry:**

Two semesters with lab, Chemistry 2250 and 2260.

Prospective science majors and students who plan to study abroad typically complete this sequence during their sophomore year, assuming they entered with a reasonable background in the sciences.

### **Biochemistry:**

One semester Biology 2423 or 2124 or 2432 or Chemistry 2320.

Although only certain schools require biochemistry, most strongly recommend it. We encourage all students to take at least one semester. Biochemistry is now required for the MCAT exam.

### **Physics:**

Two semesters with lab, usually Physics 1130 and 1140; students who place out of 1130 may take 1140 and 2130.

If a student is recommended for Physics 1093, the department suggests that they try to take this course their first semester, as it is offered only in the fall. It will be a helpful foundation for Physics 1130 and, since it is not a lab course, it is reasonable for some students to consider taking it along with introductory biology or chemistry. Physics 1130 and 1140 are calculus-based, so must be taken concurrently or after Math 1600 and 1700, respectively, unless the student has placed out of one or both of these math courses.

### **Mathematics:**

Although relatively few medical schools have a specific math requirement, most value competence in calculus and statistics.

As indicated above, our introductory physics sequence requires Math 1600 and 1700 or their equivalent. Math 1050, Quantitative Reasoning, may be a good starting point for those who need to strengthen their quantitative skills. Students might also consider Math 2108/Bio 1174 Biomathematics. Students should also take at least one statistics course: Math 1300 Biostatistics, Math 1400 Statistics in the Sciences, Math 2606 Statistics, or Psychology 2520 Data Analysis.

### **English:**

Two semesters of English (or sometimes writing-intensive courses in other departments) are required by most health professions programs.

Any First-Year Seminar, regardless of the department through which it is taught, will take the place of one semester of English. Some schools will accept a second writing-intensive course in lieu of English (with a letter from the professor), though students are encouraged to take at least one course offered by the English Department (English 1070 or any other course over 1000 is appropriate, though students should seek advice from the English Department before enrolling in English 1060) or to meet with Health Professions Advising to discuss the requirements of their intended program.

### **Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences:**

Some background in these areas is required by some health professions programs and recommended by most. The MCAT now includes questions about general psychology and sociology. Students should consider taking introductory-level courses early in their Bowdoin career because there are upper-level sociology and psychology courses that may be particularly interesting to pre-health students.

### **INFORMATION ON THE QUANTITATIVE REASONING PROGRAM**

Before arriving on campus, students are placed into many courses by departments which incorporate the student's QR-score together with other relevant information:

- The Economics and Math departments will provide an initial course placement for ALL matriculated students based on each student's responses to the Math Questionnaire, the Quantitative Reasoning (QR) assessment tool, and their submitted AP information.
- The Biology, Chemistry, and Physics departments each require a specific subject placement exam, and that assessment is used together with the QR score to determine the best entry-point course for each student into that discipline.

Students who score below 50% on the QR-test are typically placed into one of the following courses, and are strongly encouraged to enroll in one of these during their first year in order to strengthen quantitative reasoning skills:

- MATH 1050 (offered every semester) for a general entry-point course with an emphasis on quantitative, statistical, and financial literacies
- PHYS/CHEM 1093 (offered every fall) prepares students for additional work in the physical sciences and engineering by focused practice in quantitative description, interpretation, and calculation.
- CHEM 1091 (offered every fall) is the first of a two-semester introductory college chemistry sequence
  - This sequence covers the same content as CHEM 1101/1102 with additional instruction focused on developing quantitative reasoning and problem-solving skills in the context of learning Chemistry
- ECON 1050 for students interested in Economics.

Students who score between 50% and 60% on the QR-test may face some challenges in MCSR and INS courses and are encouraged to take one of the following MCSR courses in their first year:

- Any of the courses listed above
- BIOL 1101 (offered every fall)
- EOS 1305 (offered every spring).

Students may schedule a meeting with the QR Director, Eric Gaze, in the Baldwin Center for Learning and Teaching, located in Kanbar Hall, at their earliest possible convenience. Note that the Math Department offers consultations on the Sunday of Orientation (before classes start) and students may discuss their QR placement with Eric Gaze at this time in Searles Science Building.

The Baldwin Center academic support for students includes drop-in tutoring, study groups, individual tutoring, writing assistance, academic mentoring, and coaching. Find schedules and links at [www.bowdoin.edu/baldwin-center/for-students](http://www.bowdoin.edu/baldwin-center/for-students)

## **INFORMATION ON WRITING PROJECT COURSES Fall 2021**

For all students enrolled in the following writing-assisted courses, peer Writing Assistants read drafts of two writing assignments and discuss them in conferences with the writers. Writers then have the opportunity to revise their work before submitting it to their instructor for further feedback and a grade. To learn more about how writing assistance works, please visit <https://www.bowdoin.edu/baldwin-center/for-students/writing-and-rhetoric/index.html> or call the director of Writing and Rhetoric, Meredith McCarroll at (207) 721-5056.

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
ASNS 2801/ENGL 2750	Asian American Literature	Belinda Kong
CINE 1101	Film Narrative	Allison Cooper
CINE 2224	The Films of Alfred Hitchcock	Tricia Welsch
BIO 2319/ENVS 2229	Biology of Marine Organisms	Bethany Whalon
ENGL 2801	Of Comics and Culture	Liz Muther
AFRS/HIST/URBS 1320	Racial and Ethnic Conflict in U.S. Cities	Brian Purnell
HIST 2064	History of Medicine, from the Black Death to Cholera	Meghan Roberts
AFRS/SOC 2208/LACL2708	Race and Ethnicity	Ingrid Nelson

**Writing Center**

Beginning in September, the Writing Assistants offer conferences in the **Writing Center** to students writing papers in any course and at any stage of the writing process. Writers may sign up for 45-minute conferences at <https://www.bowdoin.edu/baldwin-center/make-an-appointment> or drop in for conferences as time allows. For more information, please consult the website or contact Tammis Donovan, Coordinator of the Baldwin Center, at (207) 725-3006 or [tdonovan@bowdoin.edu](mailto:tdonovan@bowdoin.edu).

## **INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS**

### **AFRICANA STUDIES**

First-year students interested in Africana Studies have many courses available to them. This year we are offering two first-year writing seminars taught by members of our core faculty: AFRS 1026: *Freedom Stories*, and AFRS 1012: *Affirmative Action in US Society*. Both first-year writing seminars in Africana Studies count toward both the major and the minor. These courses are intended to help students develop the critical thinking, writing and speaking skills that will ensure their success in all their courses at Bowdoin and beyond.

This Fall, we will be offering one section of our *Introduction to Africana Studies* (AFRS 1101); it is capped at 50 students and often fills. This class will likely also be offered in the Spring, depending on student demand.

All Africana Studies classes are open to first-year students, with the exception of those taught at the 3000-level. Most of our courses attract students from all class years and academic interests, allowing first-years to get to know their fellow students in different years and with different levels of academic experience. Because Africana Studies is an interdisciplinary program, there are many courses appropriate for first-year students that are cross-listed in other departments such as History, English, Francophone Studies, Anthropology and Sociology. If you have questions about any of these courses, contact the program director: Professor Tess Chakkalal ([tchakkal@bowdoin.edu](mailto:tchakkal@bowdoin.edu); 721-5150).

### **ANTHROPOLOGY**

Anthropology explores the diversity and complexity of humanity in contemporary cultures and in the "deep past." We integrate the specifics of individual experience, local particularities of landscapes and communities, and broad regional and global contexts to better understand human actions and meanings, including relations of power, identity, and inequality. In our courses in cultural anthropology and anthropological archaeology students learn how to "make the strange familiar, and the familiar strange" through analysis of material, visual, sonic, and textual data.

The Anthropology Department welcomes first-year students into several of our courses. This fall the anthropologists are offering one First-Year Seminar, "People Like Us: Class, Identity, and Inequality" (ANTH 1029). We also will teach one section of "Introduction to Cultural Anthropology" (ANTH 1101) and one section of "Introduction to World Prehistory" (ANTH 1103). In the Spring of 2021, we will teach another section of

“Introduction to Anthropology.” We always save several seats for first-year students in these introductory courses.

None of these courses assume any prior work in anthropology. All of these courses contribute to the major or minor in Anthropology. We encourage students who may want to take 2000-level Anthropology courses – including courses that fulfill the College’s International Perspectives (IP), Exploring Social Differences (ESD), or Difference, Power and Inequity (DPI) requirements – to take an introductory course (ANTH 1101 or ANTH 1103) as soon as possible. Students who plan to major in Anthropology should take both introductory courses by the end of their second year.

## **ARABIC**

Bowdoin students have the opportunity to study the Arabic language at the elementary, intermediate, and advanced level with an exposure to the Levantine and Egyptian spoken dialects. The starting point varies based on each students' previous experience, but most start with ARBC 1101 and ARBC 1102 in their first year and continue with ARBC 2203 and ARBC 2204 in their second year. These rigorous elementary and intermediate level courses are conducted primarily in Arabic and ensure that students have acquired a solid foundation in both grammar and vocabulary before moving on to the advanced level with ARBC 2305 and ARBC 2306. Advanced Arabic, taught exclusively in the language, is typically taken in the third or fourth year of study, and provides additional exposure to authentic reading and audio-visual materials. All language courses will also aim to develop students’ cultural literacy of the Arab region as they progress through the curriculum.

Interested students should contact Professor Batool Khattab [bkhattab@bowdoin.edu](mailto:bkhattab@bowdoin.edu) for more information and a determination of placement into the language courses.

## **ARCTIC STUDIES**

Arctic Studies involves learning about the indigenous cultures, communities, geography, and environments of the most northern regions of the globe, as well as relationships between nation states. People interested in the Arctic do discipline-based and interdisciplinary research. Increasingly, research is collaborative, involving northern people and institutions.

The integration of western and traditional knowledge is an exciting area of rapid growth in Arctic Studies, as is understanding the geopolitics of the region and examining how climate change is affecting global climate. Faculty and staff teaching Arctic Studies courses support initiatives aimed at increasing our understanding and appreciation of the workings of Arctic and North Atlantic climatic, environmental, social, political, and artistic systems and their interrelationships.

Students interested in pursuing a concentration in Arctic Studies should take an



introductory course in Anthropology, Government and Legal Studies, Earth and Oceanographic Studies, and/or Environmental Studies (or another science course) during their first year. Normally, Arctic-focused courses are taught at the 2000-level and have prerequisites.

Students interested in getting involved in Arctic initiatives (lectures, workshops, collection processing, tour guides) before their sophomore year should contact Professor Kaplan ([skaplan@bowdoin.edu](mailto:skaplan@bowdoin.edu)).

## **ART HISTORY**

Welcome to Art History! Art History offers ways to understand our world and our histories through the visual arts. Instead of looking at what people have written about their lives and experiences, we look at the ways they expressed their ideas, responded to their experiences, and created the world they lived in through paintings, sculptures, buildings, furniture, jewelry, stained glass, and much more. By teaching you how to look closely, Art History provides you with new ways to think about the images and objects around you.

We are offering two First Year Writing Seminars this fall:

ARTH 1022. Living in a Material World: Thinking and Writing with Art and Architecture

ARTH 1023. From Decoration to Decolonization: Islamic Art in the Museum

First-year students are also welcome to join all our 1000- and 2000- level courses. The 1000-level courses offer more general introductions to broad themes in art history. The 2000-level courses allow you to dive more deeply into specific topics and periods, but there is no expectation that you have any previous experience with art history.

ARTH 1500/AFRS 2660. Introduction to Art History: African Americans and Art

ARTH 2215/ASNS 2514. Painting in India

ARTH 2220. The Medici's Italy: Art, Politics, and Religion, 1300-1600

ARTH 2430/ENVS 2431/URBS 2431. Modern Architecture: 1750 to 2000

ARTH 2640. American Art from the Civil War to 1945

## **ASIAN STUDIES**

Students considering an Asian Studies major should be advised that majors are required to take two years of an East Asian language (Chinese or Japanese) or the equivalent of one intensive year of a South Asian language (for example, Hindi, which is not offered at Bowdoin but can be accomplished through study abroad programs).

Introductory Chinese and Japanese classes can only be taken in the fall semester and continue sequentially in the spring. Taking Japanese or Chinese language in their first

semester will help students prepare for an Asian Studies major and make it easier to study abroad in Asia if they wish.

Students who have studied Japanese/Chinese in high school should have received a placement recommendation based on their performance on the placement test this summer and their language consultation. Any student who was unable to take the placement exam should consult with a faculty member in Japanese/Chinese as soon as possible.

For questions about Chinese language, please contact Dr. Xiaoke Jia at [xjia@bowdoin.edu](mailto:xjia@bowdoin.edu).

For questions about Japanese language, please contact Dr. Hiroo Aridome at [haridome@bowdoin.edu](mailto:haridome@bowdoin.edu).

## **BIOCHEMISTRY**

The Biochemistry major requires a firm foundation in both chemistry and biology prior to enrollment in the core Biochemistry courses. First-year students with an interest in biochemistry should complete introductory chemistry coursework (CHEM 1091/1092, CHEM 1101/1102 or CHEM 1109) and introductory biology coursework (BIOL 1101/1102 or BIOL 1109) by the end of the first year, if possible. Please consult the tip sheets for Biology and Chemistry for information about introductory course sequences and proper placement.

If placement results indicate a two-semester introductory chemistry sequence is required, students are recommended to begin with introductory chemistry in their first semester. If the two-semester introductory biology sequence (BIOL 1101/1102) is also required, one option is to complete these courses in the sophomore year, in parallel with the organic chemistry sequence; please consult with a member of the Biochemistry Program for suggestions about timing. The most important planning step is to ensure that CHEM 1092/1102/1109 is completed during the first year to enable enrollment in the two-semester organic chemistry sequence in sophomore fall. Please contact a member of the Biochemistry Program if you have any questions.

*Note that completing the tiered biochemistry major requires, in most cases, that students take a math and a lab-science course, or take two lab-science classes, at the same time in their first year. This is most often during their second semester; for example, a student placed in Chem 1101/1102 and Bio 1109 may choose to enroll in Chem 1102 and Bio 1109 in their second semester of their first year. Indiscriminately applying the “only one math/science class” advising recommendation in the first semester sometimes prevents a student from majoring in biochemistry.*

**Additional information:** For a flow diagram of courses required for the Biochemistry major, please click on “Navigating the Major” at the following link: <https://www.bowdoin.edu/biochemistry/requirements/navigating-the-biochemistry-major.html>

## **BIOLOGY**

Most students interested in exploring Biology at Bowdoin start by taking either BIOL 1101 "Biological Principles I" or BIOL 1109 "Scientific Reasoning in Biology."

BIOL 1101 is the first of a two-semester introductory biology sequence. Each year BIOL 1101 is offered in the fall semester and BIOL 1102 "Biological Principles II" is offered in the spring semester, allowing students to explore 2000-level biology courses in the following year.

BIOL 1109 is a one-semester introductory biology course that prepares students to explore 2000-level courses in subsequent semesters. BIOL 1109 is offered every semester.

Incoming first-year students who have completed the Biology placement exam and the Quantitative Reasoning (QR) exam receive one of the four recommendations below:

- Enroll in BIOL 1101
- Contact Prof. Anne McBride ([amcbride@bowdoin.edu](mailto:amcbride@bowdoin.edu)) or Pamela Bryer ([pbryer@bowdoin.edu](mailto:pbryer@bowdoin.edu)) to discuss placement (this category is reserved for those on the boundary of a recommendation of BIOL 1101 or BIOL 1109)
- Enroll in BIOL 1109
- Enroll in a 2000-level Biology course (a small number of students receive this placement; students seeking this placement should contact Prof. McBride)

Incoming first-year students should take the biology placement and QR exams prior to registration. AP/IB scores are considered in combination with information from biology placement and QR exams in recommending placements. *A placement recommendation is required for a student to request a Biology course numbered above 1099 during registration.*

If a student did not complete these exams but wishes to enroll in a Biology Department course, they should complete the biology placement test immediately (it can be found on the Blackboard placement site). Students should immediately inform Pamela Bryer ([pbryer@bowdoin.edu](mailto:pbryer@bowdoin.edu)) once they have completed the placement test so that a recommendation can be made for them.

## **CHEMISTRY**

**Placement:** Students MUST take the Chemistry Placement Exam to enroll in any chemistry course numbered 1091 and higher. If students are missing a Placement in chemistry, they need to:

(1) Take the Chemistry Placement Exam (available throughout the year); (2) Notify Prof. Michael Danahy (fall semester courses; [mdanahy@bowdoin.edu](mailto:mdanahy@bowdoin.edu)) or Prof. Elizabeth Stemmler (spring semester courses; [estemmler@bowdoin.edu](mailto:estemmler@bowdoin.edu)) when they have completed the exam.

Placements are determined based on the result of the Chemistry Placement Exam and other information, which includes the Quantitative Reasoning Placement Exam, Physics Placement Exam (also strongly recommended for students interested in chemistry courses), SAT or ACT scores, and AP or IB scores.

**Chemistry courses numbered between 1000-1090** are meant to fulfill the INS requirement and assume no previous science background. They are appropriate for students who do not intend to take further courses in chemistry at Bowdoin. They do *not* require a Placement in chemistry.

**Chemistry courses numbered 1091 and higher:** Students intending to enroll in any chemistry course numbered 1091 or greater **MUST** complete the *Chemistry Placement Exam*. If students are missing a placement in chemistry, see information about *Placement* (above).

**CHEM 1091** (Introductory Chemistry and Quantitative Reasoning I) is offered as an invitation-only fall-semester course and is intended for students with limited background in chemistry who will benefit from additional time devoted to improving quantitative skills. CHEM 1091 leads to CHEM 1092 in the spring. CHEM 1091 meets for three one-hour lecture sections per week, one three-hour laboratory per week, and one 1.5-hour problem solving/quantitative skills building session per week.

**CHEM 1101** (Introductory Chemistry I) is offered only as a fall-semester course and is intended for students with limited to adequate backgrounds in chemistry. CHEM 1101 leads to CHEM 1102 in the spring. CHEM 1101 meets for a total of three lecture-hours per week, and one three-hour laboratory per week.

**CHEM 1109** (General Chemistry) is a one-semester course, taught during both the fall and spring semesters, and is intended for students with solid high school chemistry preparation. Chemistry 1109 meets for a total of three lecture-hours per week and one four-hour laboratory per week.

**Chemistry courses in the 2000s**, which are open to students with "CHEM 2000-level/CHEM 1109" or "CHEM 2000-level" placement, are appropriate for students with outstanding high-school chemistry preparation. These course options are CHEM 2250 (Organic Chemistry I) and CHEM 2100 (Chemical Analysis) in the fall semester and CHEM 2400 (Inorganic Chemistry) and CHEM 2050 (Environmental Chemistry) in the spring semester (alternate years; offered in Spring of 2022). While CHEM 2510 and CHEM 2520 are also entry points, students must also meet prerequisites in Math and Physics to enroll in these courses. Students interested in CHEM 2100 should contact Prof. Elizabeth Stemmler to learn more about the course.

### Summary of Placements in Chemistry

Placement	Permits registration in:
CHEM 1091	CHEM 1091 only
CHEM 1101	CHEM 1101 only
*CHEM 1109/1101	CHEM 1109 or CHEM 1101

CHEM 1109	CHEM 1109 only
*CHEM 2000-level/CHEM 1109	Chemistry at the 2000-level or CHEM 1109
CHEM 2000-level	Chemistry at the 2000-level or CHEM 1109

\*The **“CHEM 2000-level/CHEM 1109”** or **“CHEM 1109/1101” placement** indicates that a student is on the border between two entry points to the chemistry curriculum. Students should consult with Professor Danahy ([mdanahy@bowdoin.edu](mailto:mdanahy@bowdoin.edu)), Professor Stemmler ([estemmler@bowdoin.edu](mailto:estemmler@bowdoin.edu)), or course instructors to ensure a proper entry to the curriculum but are permitted to enroll in either course.

\*The **CHEM 2000-level placement** indicates that a student should enroll in a 2000-level chemistry course. CHEM 2250 (Organic Chemistry I) is the most common entry point.

**Additional information:** When deciding to begin with a 1000-level chemistry course or a 1000-level biology course during their first semester, many students have found a grounding in chemistry helpful before beginning a course in biology. As a word of caution, some first-year students find it advantageous to wait until their sophomore year to start chemistry; however, this means they cannot take CHEM 2250 (Organic Chemistry I) until their junior year if they begin with CHEM 1091/1101/1109 as a sophomore.

Students who placed into MATH 1050/1051 or PHYS 1093/CHEM 1093 (Introduction to Quantitative Reasoning in the Physical Sciences) need not take both and are strongly recommended to enroll in PHYS 1093/CHEM 1093 as this course provides the appropriate grounding for 1000-level science courses, as well as MATH 1600.

## **CINEMA STUDIES**

Film has emerged as one of the most important art forms of the modern era. Cinema Studies at Bowdoin introduces students to the techniques, history, and literature of film to cultivate an understanding of both the vision and craft of film artists and the views of society and culture expressed in cinema. The Cinema Studies minor consists of five courses.

First-year students interested in Cinema Studies are welcome in any course that does not have a prerequisite. Students can also contact the instructor to ask about joining any of our courses.

In Fall 2021, courses that invite first year students are:

CINE 1025, Crime Film (a First Year Writing Seminar)

CINE 1101, Film Narrative (the program’s basic introductory course and required for the minor)

MUS 1261/CINE 1161, Introduction to Film Music, offered by the Music Department and cross-listed with Cinema Studies

ASNS 2075/ENVS 2475/CINE 2075, Ecocinema: China's Ecological and Environmental Crisis, which is offered by the Asian Studies Department and cross-listed with Cinema Studies and Environmental Studies

## **CLASSICS**

Classics is the study of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds within the broader context of the ancient Mediterranean and the ancient Near East. Our discipline combines the study of art history, archaeology, history, literature, philosophy, and the languages of Greek and Latin. Our students use these multiple perspectives in order to better understand and better imagine the diversity of peoples who lived thousands of years before us, to reflect on what this past has meant to later ages, and to learn more about how it continues to shape our own ideas in the present day.

Please note that the department offers many other classes under the Archaeology and Classics rubrics that are designed for first-year student enrollment, and have spaces set aside especially for first-year students. These classes do not require any knowledge of Latin or Greek, nor do they require any prior study of the Classical World. These include courses like:

- Classical Mythology (CLAS 1101)
- Egyptian Archaeology (ARCH 1103)
- Ancient Empires and Ancient Others (CLAS 1025)
- Shame, Honor, and Responsibility (CLAS 1011)

Members of the Classics Department faculty are always happy to talk with students individually in order to discuss placement and sequencing of courses.

Students interested in beginning Latin should enroll in LATN 1101, which is offered in the fall. Students interested in beginning Greek should enroll in GRK 1101, which is offered in the spring. Because of the sequential nature of language study and the pattern of offerings in the department, students should plan on taking both semesters of Latin over one academic year; students interested in the elementary Greek sequence should plan to take 1101 in the spring and 1102 the following fall.

Students who have studied Latin or Greek in high school, as well as students interested in beginning Latin or Greek here at Bowdoin, should contact Professor Rob Sobak ([rsobak@bowdoin.edu](mailto:rsobak@bowdoin.edu)), Chair of the Classics Department, in order to figure out what level course will be best. In order to make placement recommendations we take into consideration past study, AP and SAT II scores, and a brief conversation with the student about their interests. This information can also be provided via the department questionnaire (in the Blackboard placement exams site). Most first-year students who are continuing Latin enroll in either LATN 2203 or LATN 2209. Students with exceptionally strong backgrounds, however, may enroll in LATN 3309. Most first-year students who are continuing Greek enroll in either GRK 1102 or GRK 2204.

## **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Students interested in computer science generally start with one of the following courses, both of which provide an introduction to core concepts in computer science:

- *CSCI 1101: Introduction to Computer Science* (every semester)
- *CSCI 1103: Programming with Data* (was *Accelerated Introduction to Computer Science*; every Fall)

In unusual cases, students may jump directly into *CSCI 2101: Data Structures* (see below for more information).

*Note that introductory computer science classes regularly fill to capacity, and registration priority is given to first years. You are encouraged to take these courses early, as you will have a smaller chance to enroll as an upper-class student.*

#### **For students with:**

- **No programming background:** *CSCI 1101: Introduction to Computer Science.*

Students with no programming background should enroll in CSCI 1101, which does not assume any prior exposure to computer science. The course introduces students to programming using the Python programming language. The course has a 1½ hour lab.

- **Some programming background:** *CSCI 1103: Programming with Data* (previously *Accelerated Introduction to Computer Science*).

Students with some programming background should enroll in CSCI 1103, which covers the same core material of CSCI 1101 but at an accelerated pace through basic material and with some additional topics. Examples of programming background appropriate for CSCI 1103 include:

- AP or IB coursework in computer science
- Completion of DCS 1100 or DCS 1200
- Informal programming experience or experience from other science courses

While students in CSCI 1103 are expected to have basic comfort with programming concepts, experience with Python, specifically, is not required or expected. The course has a 1½ hour lab.

--> Students intending to enroll in CSCI 1103 as their first CSCI/DCS course must email Professor Eric Chown ([echown@bowdoin.edu](mailto:echown@bowdoin.edu)) to request a registration override.

--> Students with some programming background, but who wish to enroll in CSCI 1101 instead of CSCI 1103, must meet with a professor in the department to discuss their particular situation.

- **Substantial programming background:** *CSCI 2101: Data Structures.*

In exceptional cases, students with a strong computer science and/or programming background may skip CSCI 1101 and CSCI 1103 and enroll directly in CSCI 2101. This course uses Java, but does not assume any prior Java experience (most students enter with Python experience only). The course has a 1½ hour lab. Students interested in this option should fill out this informal [placement recommendation questionnaire](#). If they

receive a result that indicates "CSCI 1103," they should enroll in that course. If they receive a result that indicates "CSCI 1103 or possibly CSCI 2101," and they wish to explore the possibility of enrolling in CSCI 2101, they should follow up with one of the instructors of the CSCI 2101 sections, Sean Barker ([sbarker@bowdoin.edu](mailto:sbarker@bowdoin.edu)) or Stephen Majercik ([smajerci@bowdoin.edu](mailto:smajerci@bowdoin.edu)).

Prior knowledge of computer science is used for placement only and does not count as credit towards the major. Students with any questions about appropriate placement should talk to a member of the department prior to registration.

## **DIGITAL AND COMPUTATIONAL STUDIES**

Digital and Computational Studies addresses topics that span disciplines across campus, uniting them through computational thinking, data analysis, critique of digital objects, and creative problem solving. In particular, computation is not presented merely as a technique to be exploited, but as an object of study with corresponding strengths and weaknesses. Students in DCS classes have the opportunity to work on digital projects, many of them in collaboration with other students.

The following courses are open to first year students and count toward the requirements for the DCS coordinate major or minor:

DCS 1100, Introduction to Digital and Computational Studies (offered every fall)  
DCS 1200, Data Driven Societies (offered most spring semesters)

The following courses, when offered, are also open to first year students and count toward electives for the DCS coordinate major or minor:

DCS 1020, How to Read a Million Books (FYWS) [Offered occasionally in the fall.]  
CSCI 1103/DCS 1300, Programming with Data (This serves as a prerequisite for CSCI 2101 Data Structures)

All of these courses assume no background in any of the subjects covered (ranging from humanities, social sciences, computer science, and mathematics). Several DCS courses are cross-listed with other disciplines. They may be open to first year students, and may count as electives.

## **EARTH AND OCEANOGRAPHIC SCIENCE**

Earth and Oceanographic Science (EOS) faculty and students at Bowdoin investigate fundamental questions about our planet. We sample rocks, sediments, and shells to reconstruct Earth's geologic history and past climates; collect water and deploy sensing robots to discern patterns in properties and processes in the Ocean and its organisms; and employ satellites and scanning electron microscopes to study the intricate relationships across Earth's systems, from global to microscopic scales. From tracking how a harmful algal bloom develops along our coastline, to learning how supervolcanoes form deep within the Earth, a degree in EOS opens up a world of possibilities.



### **First Year Writing Seminar**

EOS 1020 "Archives of Earth: Past and Future" is a newly developed first year writing seminar that explores Earth's vibrant history and considers our role in shaping the future of Earth.

### **Introductory courses**

EOS offers two introductory courses:

- EOS 1105 "Introducing Earth," offered in the fall, is aimed at first-year students. 20 seats are reserved for first-year students.
  - The Earth is a dynamic system that has been shaped in part by geologic processes (ex: earthquakes, volcanic activity, mountain building). Classes and weekly laboratories introduce students to Earth and plate tectonics through accessible field experiences along the Maine coast, rock and mineral specimens, images and models.
- EOS 1505 "Oceanography" is offered in the spring and is cross-listed with Environmental Studies. Registration priority is given to first-year students.
  - Topics include: tectonic evolution of the ocean basins; the record of ocean history preserved in deep-sea sediments; global ocean circulation, waves, and tides; ocean ecosystems; the ocean's role in climate change. Classes and weekly labs examine these principles in the setting of Casco Bay and the Gulf of Maine.

### **Other useful information**

- No placement tests are required for EOS courses.
- Earth and Oceanographic Science is a popular coordinate major with Environmental Studies. Either EOS 1105 or EOS 1505 meets the introductory science course requirement for Environmental Studies.

## **ECONOMICS**

The major in economics is designed for students who wish to obtain knowledge of the theoretical and empirical techniques of economics, and to learn how these techniques complement other perspectives learned at Bowdoin. The major provides an opportunity to learn economics as a social science, to study the process of drawing inferences from bodies of data and testing hypotheses against observation, and to apply economic theory to social objectives, including those that are not obviously "economic" in nature.

Economics as a way of thinking is broadly useful to many students who are interested in a wide range of individual goals and social concerns (pursuit of "The Common Good").

Economics addresses the functioning of economic institutions (i.e., financial markets, labor markets, corporations, government agencies), and current policy issues: determinants of the pace and nature of economic development; the allocation of health-care services; impacts of urban policy and the design of cities; the advantages and disadvantages of government spending and debt; the tendency toward poverty and its alleviation; human impacts on the environment and ways of addressing them; environmental justice; the effects of globalization and technological change on various

groups across society; arguments for and against deregulation; the economics of racial and gender injustice, etc. The major is a useful preparation for graduate study in economics, law, business, finance, or public administration, but majors have also gone on to medicine, environmental policy, education, agricultural work, computer science, non-profit work, and many other fields.

The Economics department will provide an initial course placement for **all** first-year students, based on each student's responses to the previously required Math Questionnaire, Quantitative Skills (QS) assessment tool, and their submitted AP information.

Based on previous math experience and the answers to some of the questions in the QS assessment and Math Questionnaire, students will be placed in one of the following gateway courses for Economics:

- ECON 1050 Principles of Microeconomics and Quantitative Reasoning;
- ECON 1101 Principles of Microeconomics;
- ECON 1102 Principles of Macroeconomics; or
- a 2000-level elective of their choosing.

Students who have questions about their placement, or who wish to register for a first Economics course that is different from their original placement, will need to email the Economics placement coordinator Rachel Connelly at [connelly@bowdoin.edu](mailto:connelly@bowdoin.edu). If students have not officially submitted AP/IB scores, then that information has not been considered and their placement may need to be adjusted.

ECON 1101, Introductory Microeconomics, has multiple sections offered each semester and is the standard gateway course into the department. ECON 1101 serves as a prerequisite for ECON 1102 and several additional 2000 level electives.

ECON 1050, Introductory Microeconomics and Quantitative Reasoning, covers all the material in ECON 1101 in a more supported Quantitative Reasoning (QR) environment. Just as with ECON 1101, ECON 1050 serves as a prerequisite for ECON 1102 and several additional 2000 level electives. The main difference from ECON 1101 is a required weekly lab taught by QR faculty in conjunction with the Economics faculty member assigned to the course. In Academic Year 2021-2022, Econ 1050 will be taught in the spring. Students placed in Econ 1050 who are interested in majoring in economics should be assured that it is fine to wait until the spring to begin taking Economics classes and are encouraged to take Math 1050 in the fall. Students who take Math 1050 in the fall and do well in that course can then take either Econ 1101 or Econ 1050 in the spring. Students who find they need more practice with QR concepts are encouraged to choose Econ 1050 in the spring even after taking Math 1050.

Students who have taken AP Microeconomics and received a 4 or 5 will receive college credit for Econ 1101 and will be placed in ECON 1102, Introductory Macroeconomics. They are discouraged from retaking Introductory Microeconomics; if they nevertheless wish to take ECON 1101, they will forfeit their economics AP credit and will need an override from the Economics placement coordinator.

Students who have taken AP Microeconomics *and* AP Macroeconomics and received a 4 or 5 on both, as well as students who received a minimum score of 6 on the Economics IB exam, should have received a placement that reads "any 2000-level elective". For these students, Econ 2213 (History of Economic Thought) or Econ 2304 (Economics of the European Union) are the appropriate classes if they want to get started right away with economics. If students with these high AP/IB scores are adamant about taking Econ 1101 or Econ 1102, despite not being the recommended path, then they will forfeit their AP economics credits and will need an override from the Economics placement coordinator. With rare exceptions, students wishing to start immediately with Econ 2555 (Intermediate Microeconomics) or Econ 2556 (Intermediate Macroeconomics) should wait until the spring term. Students seeking that exception should see the Economics department placement coordinator Rachel Connelly.

## **EDUCATION**

Students who have an interest in studying education (including those who hope to become certified secondary school teachers) should take EDUC 1101, Contemporary American Education, either their first or second semester (the course is offered every semester). The Department offers a coordinate major, two interdisciplinary majors and a minor.

The Bowdoin Education Department offers a no-cost opportunity to become a certified public school teacher. Students who complete the Bowdoin Teacher Scholars program are eligible for loan reimbursement. This program can be completed as an undergraduate or within two years of graduation. Please see a member of the Education Department to discuss your eligibility and plan your pathway.

## **ENGLISH**

All Bowdoin students must take a First-Year Writing Seminar (FYWS) in their first year of enrollment. Incoming students with concerns about their level of preparation for writing at the college level should consult with their advisor and with the Director of Writing and Rhetoric, Meredith McCarroll ([mmccarro@bowdoin.edu](mailto:mmccarro@bowdoin.edu)). Options for students seeking additional writing support and instruction include enrollment in a first-year writing seminar in the fall followed by ENGL 1060 English Composition in the spring; or a first-year writing seminar in each of the student's first two semesters.

ENGL 1105 "Introduction to Poetry" is open to incoming first-year students, as is ENGL 2750 "Asian American Literature," and ENGL 2801 "Of Comics and Culture." All other 2000-level English courses are open to first-years beginning in the spring semester of their first year.

Some creative writing courses are open to first-year students, but they should be aware that these classes fill up quickly. These classes are: ENGL 1228 "Introductory Fiction Workshop," ENGL-1240 "The Art of the Essay," ENGL 2852 "Creative Writing: Poetry II," ENGL 2864 "The Personal (Essay) is Political," and ENGL 2865 "Structures of the Short Story."

Students who received a score of 4 or higher on the English Literature AP Exam (not the English Language exam) will receive one AP credit upon the successful completion of an English department First-Year Writing Seminar or literature course, with a grade of B- or higher.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**

First-year students interested in Environmental Studies are encouraged to take the gateway course ENVS 1101\* "Introduction to Environmental Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches" in the fall; and an introductory science course, with a weekly lab either fall or spring semester.

In the spring, students should consider taking the environmental science core course ENVS 2201 (cross-listed as BIOL 1158, CHEM 1105) "Perspectives in Environmental Science", or the environmental social science core course ENVS 2330 (cross listed as GOV 2910) "Environmental Policy and Politics."

If a student declares a coordinate major in ES, has a score of 5 on the Environmental Science AP exam, or the Environmental Systems and Societies IB exam, and takes ENVS 2201 "Perspectives in Environmental Science" with a minimum grade of B-, the student is exempt from taking an introductory science course and does not need to replace it with another course. To receive credit for advanced placement work, students must have their scores officially reported to the Registrar's office by the end of their sophomore year at Bowdoin.

\*ENVS 1101 is an interdisciplinary introduction to the environment as framed by perspectives from the natural sciences, social sciences, and arts and humanities. This course does not meet the INS distribution requirement, nor is it a science course. Students in ENVS 1101 will also meet in a small group discussion section with an instructor once a week for 55 minutes. Discussion sections are indicated as L1, L2, etc., but they are not labs. This course is offered every fall.

### **ENVS 2201 Perspectives in Environmental Science**

Understanding environmental challenges requires scientific knowledge about the different spheres of the Earth- land, air, water and life- and how they interact. This course presents integrated perspectives across the fields of biology, chemistry, and earth and oceanographic science to examine the scientific basis for environmental change from the molecular to the global level. Same as BIOL 1158 and CHEM 1105. Offered every Spring. The prerequisite for this class is ENVS 1101 or most any introductory science class with a weekly lab.

### **ENVS 2330 Environmental Policy and Politics**

This course explores the political, economic, legal, ethical, and institutional dimensions of the environmental policy-making process, and examines the formation and implementation of regulatory institutions and policies across a range of issues in the U.S. and internationally. Offered every Spring. The prerequisite for this class is ENVS 1101.

## Environmental Studies Program

### **GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND WOMEN'S STUDIES**

The interdisciplinary Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program (GSWS) combines a variety of scholarly traditions to develop a culture of critical thinking about the intersections of gender, sexuality, race, and class. Drawing primarily on the humanities and the social sciences, courses in GSWS explore the social construction of identity and experience as well as how difference, marginalization, and resistance exist within and across cultures and historical periods. In its curriculum and its faculty research, GSWS explores the multiple directions that feminist and queer scholarship and activism take locally, nationally, and transnationally.

First-year students interested in GSWS have many courses available to them. There are a number of first-year writing seminars as well as GSWS 1101 "Introduction to Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies." GSWS 1101 introduces key concepts, questions, and methods that have developed within the interdisciplinary fields of gender, sexuality, and women's studies; explores how gender norms differ across cultures and change over time; examines how gender and sexuality are inseparable from other forms of identification – race, class, ability, and nationality. It also considers the role that gender, sexuality, and other identity knowledges play in resisting sexism, racism, homophobia, and transphobia. Offered every semester, with few exceptions.

First-year writing seminars offered this fall:

- GSWS 1032 Queering Video Games
- GSWS/ENGL 1005 Victorian Monstrosity
- GSWS 1025 /ENGL 1012 Jane Austen

### **GERMAN**

No matter whether you are new to German or want to continue your study of German language, literature, history, and culture, Bowdoin's German department is excited to welcome you! We offer a seamless curriculum that engages students in the rich cultural traditions of the German-speaking countries from day one. All our courses – even the very beginning German classes – emphasize interdisciplinary connections that relate texts, films, cultural objects in their rich contexts and links to the arts, natural sciences, history, sociology, and politics. Our curriculum integrates study abroad, allowing students to enroll in different programs, universities, and summer study in Germany and Austria. Pathways into our program are flexible and individualized – we meet you where you are and lead you to success!

Our students and alumni have found unparalleled success and satisfaction through their study of German. Please learn about them at <https://www.bowdoin.edu/german/index.html> and the details of our academic and co-curricular program, which was designated a National Center of Excellence by the American Association of Teachers of German.

- First-year students considering either beginning or continuing the study of German are strongly encouraged **to take a course during their first semester.**
- Students with no prior exposure to German are encouraged **to begin their study in the first semester** because doing so will allow them to take full advantage of options open to them, **including study in a German-speaking country.** GER 1101, Elementary German I, is open to those with no previous study in the German language. No placement necessary.
- Students enrolled in either section (A or B) of GER 1101 or either section (A or B) of GER 2203 may attend alternate sections of the same course on alternate days.
- Being a first-year student does not mean that GER 1101 is the only course for you. Your placement exam suggests any course from our full slate of 1102 (only offered spring semesters) to 2203 or 2205 (offered fall semesters) or a 33xx-level seminar. (The latter may very well occur, if you have AP or have studied extensively in a German-speaking environment.) **Please take this advice and placement** at face value – we rely on many years of experience and have an excellent track record in appropriately placing students where they will best succeed. Do not hesitate to ask your advisor to consult with Jill Smith and/or contact her directly at [jsmith5@bowdoin.edu](mailto:jsmith5@bowdoin.edu).
- GER 1150- and 2250-level courses are taught in English and are open to all students with no previous language study required.
- Please see our website <https://www.bowdoin.edu/german/index.html> or the first-year orientation schedule for placement consultations as you prepare your registration for fall 2021, and do attend! If you miss the consultation and open house during orientation, however, don't worry – simply contact Professor Smith (see above).

## **GOVERNMENT AND LEGAL STUDIES**

First-year students interested in Government and Legal Studies are encouraged to take one of the department's First-Year Writing Seminars, all of which are offered during the fall term. These range across the subfields of political science, including American politics, political theory, international relations, and comparative politics. Another option appropriate for students seeking a solid background in a specific area of concentration within the discipline is to take one of the department's introductory lecture/discussion courses. In the 2021-2022 academic year: GOV 1100 ("Introduction to American Government") will be offered in the fall term; GOV 1400 ("Introduction to Comparative Politics") and GOV 1600 ("Introduction to International Relations") are expected to be offered in the spring term.

More advanced students may wish to consider enrolling in a 2000-level course, and many are open to first-year students. Students should be aware that enrollment pressures, particularly during the fall term, mean that only a limited number of first-year students will be able to get into many higher-level courses. Thus it is important to have alternative courses in mind when registering.

## **HISTORY**

First-year students can begin their study of history at Bowdoin at a variety of levels. This includes:

- First-year seminars (1000-1049) that focus on college-level writing through the study of history as a discipline;
- Introductory courses (1100-1999) that introduce students to the methods and skills of history as a humanities and social science discipline;
- Core courses (2000-2499) that survey historical themes and problems and offer opportunities to deepen skills in historical thinking and writing.

Please contact any member of the History Department if you have questions about appropriate course level or the best entry point for you. Because the History Department is committed to providing students with a variety of historical perspectives, we encourage students to explore offerings in non-western history (Africa, Middle East, East Asia, Latin America, and South Asia) early on.

### **LATIN AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN AND LATINX STUDIES**

Latin American, Caribbean and Latinx Studies is an interdisciplinary program with regularly cross-listed courses in the Departments of Anthropology, Art History, History, Music, Romance Languages and Literatures, Sociology, and Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies.

Required courses include one cross-listed course in the Social Sciences, one cross-listed course in History, and one cross-listed course in the Humanities – all with focus on Latin America, the Caribbean, and/or Latinx communities in the U.S. The 1000-level courses in the Humanities and the 2000-level History courses are often a good place to begin as they offer an excellent overview of the regions and have no prerequisites. Students can enter the program through any of its disciplines and at any level, but they may need to take introductory classes such as ANTH 1101, or SOC 1101 as pre-requisites for some of the classes.

Students are expected to address the language requirement (equivalent to Intermediate Advanced Spanish, French or Portuguese) early on. This requirement may be satisfied through the completion of HISP 2204 or FRS 2204 at Bowdoin, placement beyond these courses, or through an oral interview and the submission of a writing sample to the program's Director, Margaret Boyle ([mboyle2@bowdoin.edu](mailto:mboyle2@bowdoin.edu) 207-798-4296).

### **MATHEMATICS**

#### **Understanding your Mathematics Placement**

Your math placement has two parts:

- Mathematics recommendation(s), marked with an (M)
- Statistics recommendation(s), marked with an (S)

Some of these recommendations might not be relevant for this year, but will help you when you decide to take a mathematics or statistics class in the future.

You might see something like this on Polaris:

Mathematics	MATH 1300 (S) ← Statistics Placement
Mathematics	MATH 1700 (M) ← Mathematics Placement

**The Math Department understands that your high school calculus course may not have covered the entire curriculum in the virtual or hybrid setting. Your placement reflects this. Our 2021-2022 calculus courses will provide ample opportunities for review and assistance.**

### **Mathematics Placement**

**Math 1050:** Introduction to Quantitative Literacy. Based on high school mathematical preparation, a placement of Math 1050 is appropriate for some students who may benefit from additional preparation before enrolling in further quantitative courses.

**Math 1600.** This is Differential Calculus, appropriate for students who have not yet seen calculus, or have seen up to one semester of calculus in high school.

**Math 1700 or Math 1750.** This is Integral Calculus, appropriate for students who have had AB calculus or its equivalent in high school.

**Math 1800.** This is Multivariate Calculus, appropriate for students who have had BC calculus or its equivalent in high school. Your score on the AP or IB exam does not affect this placement.

**Math 2000, 2020, 2206 OR Math 2020, 2206.** Students with advanced preparation are recommended for Math 2000 (Linear Algebra), Math 2020 (Mathematical Reasoning), or Math 2206 (Probability). These are courses for students who have already completed multivariate calculus. Students with this placement should attend the information session offered by the department outlining these courses.



A student receiving a placement of either Math 1700, Math 1750, Math 1800 or Math 2000 and above who additionally has a year of high school or college biology is eligible to enroll in Math 1808: Biomathematics. This course is appropriate for students interested in how differential calculus is used to address questions from biology.

### **Statistics Placement**

**Math 1050:** Introduction to Quantitative Literacy. Based on high school mathematical preparation, a placement of Math 1050 is appropriate for some students who may benefit from additional preparation before enrolling in further quantitative courses.

**Math 1300:** Biostatistics. This is an introduction to the statistical methods used in the life sciences. The course assumes minimal or no background in calculus or statistics.

**Math 1400:** Statistics in the Sciences. This is a more comprehensive introduction to statistics as it is used across the natural and social sciences and assumes some background in calculus or statistics.

Students considering a major in economics or psychology should probably refrain from initially enrolling in MATH 1300 or MATH 1400 as these majors have their own discipline-specific statistics courses.

### **If your placement says:**

- See Chair of the Mathematics Department: please email Professor Jennifer Taback, [jtaback@bowdoin.edu](mailto:jtaback@bowdoin.edu)
- See Director of Quantitative Reasoning: please email Professor Eric Gaze, [egaze@bowdoin.edu](mailto:egaze@bowdoin.edu)

For general mathematics or statistics placement questions, please email Professor Jennifer Taback, [jtaback@bowdoin.edu](mailto:jtaback@bowdoin.edu).

Here is a link to the descriptions of all the math courses offered by the Mathematics Department. Please note that they are not all offered this semester.

<https://www.bowdoin.edu/registrar/course-information/pdf-schedules/all-courses-report.pdf>

Here is a link to the descriptions of all the math courses offered by the Mathematics Department **this semester**.

<https://www.bowdoin.edu/math/courses/index.html>

### **MIDDLE EASTERN AND NORTH AFRICAN STUDIES PROGRAM (MENA)**

There are two pathways into the MENA minor. The first is through the study of Arabic. Students interested in Arabic should enroll in Arabic 1101. Students with prior knowledge of Arabic should consult the Arabic tip sheet.

The second pathway into the MENA minor is through courses in other departments.

In the Fall of 2021, MENA courses include:

GOV 2690 *Islam and Politics*

REL 2208 *Islam*

REL 2237 *Judaism Under Islam*

Students are welcome to contact Professor Robert Morrison ([rgmorris@bowdoin.edu](mailto:rgmorris@bowdoin.edu)) with any questions about the MENA program.

## **MUSIC**

See the [Music Department Advising Tip Sheet](#).

## **NEUROSCIENCE**

Students interested in majoring in Neuroscience should begin by taking Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 1101) and/or Introductory Biology, both of which are required for the major. (Please see the student's biology placement to determine which Introductory Biology course is most appropriate.) These courses serve as prerequisites for the two introductory-level neuroscience classes, Neurobiology (BIOL 2135, fall semester) and Physiological Psychology (PSYC 2050, spring semester), either of which will prepare students for entry into the mid-level lab courses that form the core of the Neuroscience major. We encourage students interested in majoring in Neuroscience to speak with faculty in the Neuroscience Program early in their Bowdoin career, particularly if they are interested in studying abroad. Students interested in beginning to explore neuroscience in their first year should consider NEUR 1099, Brains in Motion: Exploring the Interface Between Mind and Body; however, they should be aware that this course will not count towards the Neuroscience major.

Students are also encouraged to consult with the Chemistry Department about their placement into chemistry courses, as an introductory chemistry course and a semester of Organic Chemistry are also required for the major.

## **PHILOSOPHY**

There is no single "Intro" course in Philosophy. Students may start with a first-year writing seminar or a 1000-level course (see below), but many first-year students also choose to begin with 2000-level courses – there are no prerequisites, and no background in philosophy is assumed. The topics at the 2000 level are generally more focused and the material is more challenging. Students can choose their first course according to their interests. Those seeking a background in the history of philosophy are advised to take PHIL 2111: Ancient Philosophy, which is offered every fall, and which covers ancient Greek philosophy (pre-Socratics to Aristotle) and/or PHIL 2112: Modern Philosophy,

offered every spring, which covers 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century philosophy from Descartes to Kant.

PHIL 2223: Logic. This course differs from other philosophy courses in that it has problem sets and exams rather than papers. The course is a rigorous introduction to formal symbolic logic, and its aim is to help us in distinguishing valid from invalid arguments. The course does not presuppose any prior knowledge of logic, and is open to first-year students.

First-year writing seminars and 1000-level courses offered this fall:

PHIL 1031: Ethics and the Embryo. This course addresses moral questions about the human embryo. For example, when, if at all, is genetic enhancement morally permissible? Is it wrong to have children? Can we harm someone simply by bringing her into existence? If the embryo has the moral status of a person, does it follow that abortion is morally impermissible? We will analyze philosophers' answers to these and related questions.

PHIL 1311: Socialism, Capitalism, and Democracy. Explores and critically evaluates philosophical arguments for and against socialism. Questions include: What does the word "socialism" mean? Does socialism violate individual rights? What is the relationship between socialism and capitalism? Between socialism and democracy? Readings from mostly contemporary sources, including work by philosophers, economists, and politicians.

PHIL 1420: Philosophy and the Internet. Explores philosophical questions about knowledge and belief in the age of the internet. Search engine results and social media are sources of knowledge, but also of fake news, conspiracy theories, epistemic bubbles, echo chambers and polarization. Philosophical theories and tools are introduced to distinguish justified and unjustified beliefs, reliable and unreliable sources online.

## **PHYSICS**

Physics has a placement test to help determine which entry-level course in the physics sequence is the appropriate starting point for each student.

Topical physics courses, which many students choose out of general interest in physics or to satisfy college distribution requirements, do **not** require a placement exam. PHYS 1082 (Physics of Musical Sound), PHYS 1083 (Energy, Physics, and Technology), and PHYS 1510 (Introductory Astronomy) are open to all students interested in the ideas of physics and their impact on our built and natural world.

Introductory Physics 1 and 2 (PHYS 1130 and 1140), both offered every semester, provide students with physics tools that support their future work in STEM majors and career fields. PHYS 1093 can help prepare students for the pace and intensity of these introductory courses.

Students cannot enroll in Phys 1093 or 1130 without taking the placement test. **If a student has not completed the on-line physics placement test prior to arriving on campus, it is still available on Blackboard and should be taken as soon as possible in order to be able to register for introductory physics at Bowdoin.** The only introductory students who are exempt from the placement exam are students who submit qualifying official scores on AP (4 or 5) or IB (6 or 7) exams to the Bowdoin Registrar and those who transfer college credits in physics to Bowdoin. Please e-mail Emily Green at [egreen@bowdoin.edu](mailto:egreen@bowdoin.edu) if you have questions about placement or testing.

The three entry point options to the introductory physics sequence are:

- **PHYS 1093 / CHEM 1093** (Introduction to Quantitative Reasoning in the Physical Sciences) develops applied mathematical and physical reasoning skills. This course focuses on improving independent problem-solving skills and STEM literacy with individualized support. Students learn how to build upon and apply quantitative skills that they already have to problem solving for the physical sciences. This course works very well in conjunction with another introductory STEM course in the first college semester, including Chem 1091 or 1101. It satisfies the Mathematical, Computational and Statistical Reasoning (MCSR) distribution requirement. There is no math prerequisite for enrollment in this class.
- **PHYS 1130** (Introductory Physics I) is the first semester of a two-part, calculus-based physics sequence. This course is Newtonian Mechanics with laboratory. It is required for all Physics, Biochemistry, Chemistry, and Chemical Physics majors, and for Pre-medical, Pre-health, and Pre-dental students. This course can satisfy either the Mathematical, Computational and Statistical Reasoning (MCSR) distribution requirement or the Inquiry in the Natural Sciences (INS) requirement. Math prerequisite: concurrent enrollment in or previous credit for Math 1600, or placement in Math 1700 or above.
- **PHYS 1140** (Introductory Physics II) is the second semester of calculus-based physics with laboratory that covers many applications of modern physics. It is required for all Physics, Chemistry, and Chemical Physics majors, and for Pre-medical, Pre-health, and Pre-dental students. This course can satisfy either the Mathematical, Computational and Statistical Reasoning (MCSR) distribution requirement or the Inquiry in the Natural Sciences (INS) requirement. Students with qualifying scores on advanced placement exams can be placed in PHYS 1140 without taking the departmental placement exams. All others must take the placement exam. Math prerequisite: concurrent enrollment in or previous credit for Math 1700 or 1750, or placement in Math 1800 or above.

## **PSYCHOLOGY**

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind, brain, and behavior of individuals (particularly human individuals). The first course in the department is PSYC 1101, Introduction to Psychology, which is a prerequisite to all other psychology courses. This course is offered every semester. It provides a broad overview of the topics covered in psychology as well as an introduction to how psychological research is conducted. There is no placement test for PSYC 1101; we assume that most students have not had the opportunity to take a psychology course in high school. However, a student who has a

score of 4 or better on the Psychology AP exam, or a score of 5 or better on the IB Higher level exam, may skip PSYC 1101. For these students, we recommend PSYC 2025 or 2099 in the fall; or 2010, 2012, 2025, 2030, 2040, or 2050 in the spring. Although these students are also eligible to take PSYC 2510 in the fall of their first year, we advise them to wait at least one semester before doing so.

## **RELIGION**

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind, brain, and behavior of individuals (particularly human individuals). The first course in the department is PSYC 1101, Introduction to Psychology, which is a prerequisite to all other psychology courses. This course is offered every semester. It provides a broad overview of the topics covered in psychology as well as an introduction to how psychological research is conducted. There is no placement test for PSYC 1101; we assume that most students have not had the opportunity to take a psychology course in high school. However, a student who has a score of 4 or better on the Psychology AP exam, or a score of 5 or better on the IB Higher level exam, may skip PSYC 1101. For these students, we recommend PSYC 2025 or 2099 in the fall; or 2010, 2012, 2025, 2030, 2040, or 2050 in the spring. Although these students are also eligible to take PSYC 2510 in the fall of their first year, we advise them to wait at least one semester before doing so.

## **ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**

### **Francophone Studies:**

Course placement recommendations are based on information provided by the student, AP/IB scores, and her/his placement test score. Students should enroll in the recommended course but may move between course levels in the first weeks of classes in consultation with department faculty, should they feel they have been misplaced. We strongly encourage students to begin their language study at Bowdoin in the fall semester, as language courses are sequential, the first course of the sequence (FRS 1101, 2203, and 2305) being offered ONLY in the fall semester.

FRS 1101 is open to students with no previous exposure to the language. All other first-year students who studied French in high school should have taken the placement exam prior to arriving on campus. However, if a student was unable to do so, the test is still available on Blackboard. S/he should complete the test and notify someone in the department (see below) as soon as possible so that the test may be assessed, and the student given an appropriate placement. Native speakers of French should consult with department faculty.

For students placing directly into a 2000-level class, it is important to know that FRS 2407-2410 are not sequential; students may take them in any order. FRS 2409 (Spoken Word and Written Text) and FRS 2410 (Literature, Power, and Resistance) are offered in both the fall and spring semesters, while FRS 2407 (Francophone Cultures) and FRS 2408 (Contemporary France through the Media) are offered only in the spring semester.

Incoming students will receive one course credit for an AP exam on which they scored a 4 or a 5 or a higher-level IB exam on which they scored a 6 or 7 once they have completed at least one French course at Bowdoin (FRS 2305 or higher) with a grade of B- or above.

For questions about Francophone Studies placement, please contact Prof. Hanétha Vété-Congolo at [mvete@bowdoin.edu](mailto:mvete@bowdoin.edu)

### **Hispanic Studies:**

Any student who wishes to take a Spanish course at Bowdoin, has studied Spanish in an academic setting for 2 or more years, and/or who speaks the language at home, is required to take the Spanish language placement test. If a student did not take the placement test, they should consult with the department (see below).

Students should enroll in the recommended course but may move between course levels during the first weeks of classes, after consulting with instructors, if they feel they have been misplaced. We strongly encourage students to begin their language study at Bowdoin in the fall semester, as language courses are sequential.

HISP 1100 is Bowdoin's Elementary Spanish course; it is offered every semester. HISP 1100 is recommended for any student who wishes to begin the study of Spanish, or who may have taken another Romance Language in the past, or who has taken fewer than 2 years of Spanish in school. The course meets 4 times a week with an additional conversation section. Upon successful completion of this course (C-or higher), students will advance to HISP 2203.

HISP 2203 and HISP 2204 are the Intermediate Level I and II language courses. They must be taken in order. The majority of students with more than 2 years of experience in Spanish begin their studies in either 2203 or 2204.

HISP 2305 (Advanced Spanish) covers topics in the political and cultural history of the Spanish-speaking world in the twentieth century, together with an advanced grammar review. It is a required course for the major or minor in Hispanic Studies.

AP/IB information: Students who receive a minimum score of four on the Spanish Language AP exam or the Spanish Literature and Culture AP exam, or a minimum score of six on the Spanish IB exam, are eligible to receive a general credit toward the degree, not the major/minor, if they complete HISP 2305 (Advanced Spanish) or higher and earn a minimum grade of B-. Students meeting these criteria do not receive credit if they place into or elect to take a course lower than HISP 2305.

HISP 2409 and 2410 are not sequential; they can be taken in any order.

For questions about Hispanic Studies placement, please contact Prof. Barbara Sawhill at [bsawhill@bowdoin.edu](mailto:bsawhill@bowdoin.edu).

## **Italian Studies:**

We strongly encourage students to begin their language study at Bowdoin in the fall semester, as language courses are sequential, and the first course of the sequence (1101, 2203, and 2305) is offered ONLY in the fall semester. There is one exception: ITAL 1103, Accelerated Elementary Italian, is offered only in the spring for students who are placed in FRS, HISP, or LATN 2305 or above, or by permission of instructor. ITAL 1103 covers two semesters of Elementary Italian in one semester, but is not twice the contact time or double the credit, just faster paced.

Italian students are encouraged to talk with a member of the department, should they have any questions about courses or their placement (see below). ITAL 1101 is open to students with no previous exposure to the language. Any first-year students who studied Italian in high school should have taken the placement exam prior to arriving on campus. However, if a student was unable to do so, the test is still available on Blackboard. S/he should download the test and return the completed exam to someone in the department as soon as possible. Students who receive a score of 4 or 5 on the Italian Language and Culture AP exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Italian IB exam, are eligible to receive a general credit toward the Bowdoin degree once they have completed ITAL 2305 (or higher) with a grade of B- or above.

For questions about Italian Studies placement, please contact Prof. Davida Gavioli at [dgavioli@bowdoin.edu](mailto:dgavioli@bowdoin.edu)

## **RUSSIAN**

The Russian Department offers courses on Russian language, literature, film, visual and performing arts, culture, and society, spanning the Middle Ages through the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Our offerings are supplemented by courses on Russian history and politics taught in the departments of History and Government and Legal Studies.

### **Russian Language:**

RUS 1101 (Elementary Russian I) has no prerequisite and is open to students who have no prior exposure to the Russian language. Students who plan to study Russian should be advised that the Elementary Russian sequence is offered beginning *only* in the fall semester each year; thus, interested students are strongly encouraged to enroll in RUS 1101 in their first semester, so as not to lose a full year, keeping in mind that the more years of language study a student completes by graduation, the higher the proficiency level that student will achieve. Students interested in study abroad should note that some study abroad programs in Russia require two full years of prior Russian language study for eligibility.

Students who have previously studied Russian must consult with the department for placement (please contact Dr. Reed Johnson [rjohnso3@bowdoin.edu](mailto:rjohnso3@bowdoin.edu) for further information). As a general rule of thumb, two years of high school Russian are equivalent to one year of college Russian; however, the department always decides placement on a case-by-case basis. Heritage speakers (i.e., students who have grown up speaking Russian at home but did not receive their formal schooling in Russia) are likewise

required to consult with the department chair before enrolling in a language course. The department currently offers Russian language courses at the Elementary (first-year), Intermediate (second-year), and Advanced (third-year) levels, as well as 3000-level literature seminars taught entirely in Russian for our most advanced language students.

#### Russian Literature/Culture:

Every semester, the Russian Department offers one or more courses taught in English translation at the 2000 level that explore some aspect of Russia's rich artistic culture and/or literature. These courses are open to all students without prerequisite, and first-year students are welcome to enroll (no knowledge of the Russian language is required). Our 2000-level literature/culture courses are taught in a seminar style and discussion-intensive format; they provide an introduction to a special topic that also opens a window onto Russian culture more generally. These courses can serve as an introduction to the Russian major or can comprise a one-time enhancement to a broad liberal arts education. Up to two such courses may be counted as "internal transfer" credits toward the English major at Bowdoin.

## **SOCIOLOGY**

Sociology is the study of the social lives of people, groups, and societies. Sociology courses cover a range of topics, most of them addressing differences and inequalities among people and groups. Our courses include ones dealing with race and ethnicity; public health; education; sexuality; families; urban sociology; reproductive politics; immigration issues, media, and many others.

The Sociology Department offers several courses appropriate for any first-year student. This fall, Sociology is offering a First-Year Writing Seminar, "Sociology of Campus Life" (SOC 1028). In addition, two sections of the core course, "Introduction to Sociology" (SOC 1101) will be offered for the fall semester and one section in the spring semester.

None of these 1000-level courses assumes any prior work in sociology, and all of these courses contribute to the major or minor in Sociology. "Introduction to Sociology" (SOC1101) is the required gateway course (prerequisite) to other department courses at the 2000 level and introduces students to the different areas and sub-fields of sociology; taking it early will allow a student access to a wide range of courses in the department.

## **THEATER AND DANCE**

### **Introductory Offerings Within the Department**

The following courses are open to all students regardless of experience and without prerequisites: DANC 1104 (Dance Improvisation: Practices, Forms, and Structures); DANC 1211 (Intro. to Modern Dance); DANC 1213 (Intro. to Caribbean Dances and Cultures); THTR/DANC 1203 (Performance and Narrative); THTR/DANC 1301 (Stagecraft); THTR/DANC 1302 (Principles of Design); THTR 1201 (Acting I). All of these courses will fulfill a concentration requirement in the Theater and Dance major.



## **DANCE**

**Students with little or no dance experience:** DANC 1211 (Introduction to Modern Dance); DANC 1213 (Introduction to Caribbean Dance); or DANC 1104 (Dance Improvisation: Practices, Forms, and Structures).

**Students with previous dance experience may enroll in upper-level courses:** DANC 2401 (Choreography for Dancers: Improvisation and Invention); DANC 3211 (Advanced Modern Dance); or DANC 3406 (Performing Purple: Celebrating 50 Years of Dance with SLMDances). Students should consult with Prof. Aretha Aoki ([aaoki@bowdoin.edu](mailto:aaoki@bowdoin.edu)), Prof. Gwyneth Jones ([gjones@bowdoin.edu](mailto:gjones@bowdoin.edu)), or Prof. Adanna Jones ([akjones@bowdoin.edu](mailto:akjones@bowdoin.edu)) to determine which course is most appropriate.

**Note:** Most Dance courses are practice-based. More information is available in specific classes. Students who wish to enroll in a course that they were not placed in should always come to the first class meeting of the semester. There is often some shuffling during the semester's first week as students find their best level.

## **THEATER**

**Students without prior experience and who do not intend to major** are advised to take an introductory course: THTR/DANC 1301 (Stagecraft); THTR/DANC 1302 (Principles of Design); THTR/DANC 1203 (Performance and Narrative); or THTR 1201 (Acting I).

**Students with prior experience and/or considering the major** should enroll in THTR/DANC 1302 (Principles of Design); THTR/DANC 1301 (Stagecraft); or THTR 1201 (Acting I). These courses fulfill a requirement in the Theater concentration and should be completed as early as possible.

Auditions for the Spring 2021 Department musical *Ondine* will occur during the Fall 2021 semester. Students receive 0.5 credits for performing in a faculty-directed Department production. Students interested in auditioning should contact Prof. Davis Robinson ([drobinso@bowdoin.edu](mailto:drobinso@bowdoin.edu)).

## **URBAN STUDIES MINOR** **(New minor, started Fall 2020)**

Cities have played a key role in our lives throughout history as the center of power, culture, economic wealth, migration, social interactions, and as home of our greatest artistic works, buildings, and infrastructure projects. Incredibly complex and multidimensional, the city has been called humanity's "greatest invention." At the same time, the city has also been the locus of our greatest social problems and inequities, including racial discrimination, poverty, homelessness, environmental degradation and unsustainable forms of urban expansion.

Students in the Urban Studies minor will explore the physical, conceptual, spatial, social, cultural, historical, economic, environmental, and political dimensions of the urban realm, drawing from the principles and methods of the humanities and social sciences.

The Urban Studies minor draws together faculty from a variety of disciplines rooted in the humanities and social sciences. The faculty contributors from this new minor come from many different departments and programs including: Africana Studies, Classics, Digital and Computational Studies, Education, English, Environmental Studies, German, Government, History, Latin American Studies and Sociology.

The Urban Studies minor started in the 2020 fall semester, and we are looking forward to our first in-person school year. Here is our website.

<https://www.bowdoin.edu/urban-studies/index.html> Please take a look.

Many of our courses this coming semester will be open to first-year students. Here is a list of our offerings for Fall 2021:

1. URBS 1320/ AFRS 1320/HIST 1320: "Racial and Ethnic Conflict in U.S. Cities" with Brian Purnell
2. URBS 2202/SOC 2202: "Cities and Society" with Theo Greene
3. URBS 2205/ANTH 2205: "Mapping the Social World: Geographic Information Systems in Social Science Research" with Lauren Kohut
4. URBS 2431/ENVS 2431/AH 2430: "Modern Architecture" with Jill Pearlman
5. URBS 2587/ASNS 2587/HIST 2346: "Cities of the Global South" with Rachel Sturman
6. URBS 2004/ DCS 2335/ENVS 2004: "GIS and Remote Sensing" with Eileen Johnson

## **VISUAL ARTS**

Any of our introductory courses in Drawing, Digital Media, Printmaking, or Sculpture are recommended to all students as a starting place in the Visual Arts curriculum, regardless of previous studio art experience. These courses have no prerequisites and presume no previous knowledge or aptitude beforehand, only a strong interest in the subject and the willingness to work. Students who have never taken an art class will be strongly welcomed and encouraged.

Materials and fees: After an initial outlay of \$100, an endowed fund for Visual Arts student materials (the Kaempfer Fund) will pay the cost of additional art materials for anyone who has qualified for financial aid, up to \$300 per student per course.

Introductory credit: We often receive requests from students who have AP credits or previous experience asking if we will waive Drawing I or other introductory courses. We strongly encourage students to take Bowdoin's introductory Visual Art courses.