2020-2021 ADVISING TIP SHEET

INFORMATION ON HEALTH PROFESSIONS ........................................................ 3
INFORMATION ON THE QUANTITATIVE REASONING PROGRAM ......................... 5
INFORMATION ON WRITING PROJECT COURSES AND WORKSHOP ..................... 5

INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS

AFRICANA STUDIES ............................................................................................... 6
ANTHROPOLOGY ................................................................................................. 6
ARABIC .................................................................................................................. 7
ARCTIC STUDIES ............................................................................................... 7
ART HISTORY ....................................................................................................... 7
ASIAN STUDIES ................................................................................................. 8
BIOCHEMISTRY ................................................................................................. 8
BIOLOGY .............................................................................................................. 9
CHEMISTRY ....................................................................................................... 9
CINEMA STUDIES ............................................................................................ 11
CLASSICS .......................................................................................................... 11
COMPUTER SCIENCE ...................................................................................... 11
DIGITAL AND COMPUTATIONAL STUDIES ..................................................... 13
EARTH AND OCEANOGRAPHIC SCIENCE ..................................................... 13
ECONOMICS ..................................................................................................... 13
EDUCATION ....................................................................................................... 14
ENGLISH ........................................................................................................... 14
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES ........................................................................... 15
GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND WOMEN’S STUDIES ............................................ 15
GERMAN .......................................................................................................... 16
GOVERNMENT AND LEGAL STUDIES ............................................................. 16
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HISTORY</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATIN AMERICAN, CARRIBEAN AND LATINX STUDIES</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATHEMATICS</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEUROSCIENCE</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHILOSOPHY</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICS</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELIGION</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francophone Studies:</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Studies:</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian Studies:</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUSSIAN</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIOLOGY</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEATER AND DANCE</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VISUAL ARTS</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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. This advice is especially important during the COVID emergency, and students should certainly not load up on science lab courses thinking they will be easier in a remote format. (If anything, they will likely be demanding in unfamiliar ways.)

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 or x3624. 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 the following courses – MATH 1050, CHEM 1091, BIOL 1101, PHYS 1093, and ECON 1050 – by departments which incorporate the student’s Q-score with other relevant information. Students should know that all of these courses are viable entry points into the major of these disciplines. Placements are made in order to help ensure that students have a successful first semester transition into college academics and the relevant major.

Students who score below 50% on the Q-test are strongly advised to enroll in one of the following courses in their first year in order to strengthen quantitative reasoning skills:

- MATH 1050: Quantitative Reasoning (offered in the fall and the spring by the Director of the QR Program) for a general entry-point course with an emphasis on quantitative, statistical and financial literacies,
- or CHEM 1091 (offered in the fall) or PHYS 1093 (offered in the fall) if the student also has an interest in the natural sciences,
- or ECON 1050 if the student is interested in Economics.

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

- Any of the courses listed above,
- or BIOL 1101 (offered in the fall), or EOS 1305 (offered in the 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.

Student **academic support** includes drop-in tutoring, study groups, and individual tutoring. Schedules and links to make an appointment are found on the QR website using the link above.
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 three first-year seminars taught by members of our core faculty: AFRS 1044: *Fictions of Freedom, Why are You Here?* and AFRS 1012: *Affirmative Action in US Society*. All First-year 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.

For the first time this Fall, we will be offering TWO sections of our *Introduction to Africana Studies* (AFRS 1101) to accommodate popular demand and scheduling needs from students.

Several 2000-level courses are also open to first-year students; AFRS 1101 and all 2000-level 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 Chakkalakal (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, “Ties that Bind: The Anthropology of Relatedness” (ANTH 1025). We also will teach two sections of “Introduction to Cultural Anthropology” (ANTH 1101) and one section of “Introduction to World Prehistory” (ANTH 1103). In the Spring of 2021, we will again teach an additional section of “Introduction to Anthropology.” We always save several seats for first-year students in these introductory courses.

Additionally, in the Fall of 2020, first-year students are invited to enroll in two intermediate-level courses, neither of which carries a prerequisite. These courses are “Who Owns the Past? Contemporary Controversies and Contested Narratives” (ANTH 2105) which is cross-listed in Classical Archaeology, and “Descendants of the Sun: The
Inca and their Ancestors” (ANTH 2830), which is cross-listed in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies.

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 are interested in majoring in Anthropology or who may want to take additional 2000-level Anthropology courses (including courses that fulfill the College’s International Perspectives or Exploring Social Differences requirements) to take the introductory courses (ANTH 1101, ANTH 1103) as soon as possible.

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 for more information and a determination of placement into the language courses.

ARCTIC STUDIES

Arctic Studies involves conducting research and learning about the cultures, communities, geography, and environments of the most northern regions of the globe. 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. 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).

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 three First Year Writing Seminars this fall:

- ARTH 1020: That’s Not Art!: Defining Contemporary Art
- ARTH 1017/ASNS 1014: Envisioning Japan: Landscapes, Cityscapes, and Seascapes
- ARTH 1021: Faked, Forged, Stolen and Repatriated: Crimes Against Art.

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.

Please note: Art History 1100 will not be offered this fall.

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 the first semester will help students prepare for an Asian Studies major and make it easier to study abroad in Asia if they so 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.
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) or Prof. Barry Logan (blogan@bowdoin.edu) or Pamela Bryer (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 or Logan)

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.

If students did not complete these exams but wish to enroll in a Biology Department course, students should complete the biology placement test immediately (it can be found on the Blackboard placement site). Students should inform Pamela Bryer (pbryer@bowdoin.edu) when they have completed the placement test so that a recommendation can be made for them. A recommendation is required for a student to request a Biology course during registration.

**CHEMISTRY**

**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.

**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, they need to (1) take the Chemistry placement exam on Blackboard and (2) notify Professor Michael Danahy (mdanahy@bowdoin.edu, 798-4239) when they have completed the exam. Students are also strongly recommended to take the Physics placement exam to facilitate appropriate placement in chemistry courses. Placements are determined based on the result of the Chemistry placement exam and other information (including the Quantitative Reasoning Placement Exam, Physics Placement Exam, SAT or ACT scores, and AP or IB scores; for 2020, we will look at any self-reported AP/IB scores provided as part of the Chemistry placement exam).
**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). While CHEM 2510 and CHEM 2520 are also entry points, students must also meet prerequisites in Math and Physics to enroll in these courses. *For Fall 2020, first year students SHOULD NOT enroll in Chem 2250 (organic chemistry) or Chem 2100 (chemical analysis) until their sophomore year when labs should be offered as in-person experiences.*

**Summary of Placements in Chemistry**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Permits registration in:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 2000-level</td>
<td>Chemistry at the 2000-level or CHEM 1109</td>
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*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), Professor Stemmler (estemmle@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. *For Fall 2020, first year students SHOULD NOT enroll in Chem 2250 (organic chemistry)*.
chemistry) or Chem 2100 (chemical analysis) until their sophomore year when labs should be offered as in-person experiences.

**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 may enroll in CINE 1101 “Film Narrative,” or CINE 2201 “History of Film 1895 to 1935.”

**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.

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), Chair of the Classics Department, in order to arrange for a placement interview. The Classics department placement questionnaire can be
downloaded from Blackboard. Most first-year students who are continuing Latin enroll in either LATN 2203 or LATN 2208. Students with exceptionally strong backgrounds, however, may enroll in LATN 3308. Most first-year students who are continuing Greek enroll in either GRK 1102 or GRK 2204. All students interested in either language should meet with the department faculty so that we can make placement recommendations on an individual basis.

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 Roman Archaeology (ARCH 1102), Roman History (CLAS 1112), The Heroic Age: Ancient Supermen and Wonder Women (CLAS 1017), Shame, Honor, and Responsibility (CLAS 1011), and Buried by Vesuvius: The Archaeology of Roman Daily Life (ARCH 2204). Members of the Classics Department faculty are always happy to talk with students individually in order to discuss placement and sequencing of courses.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

The Computer Science department offers a variety of introductory courses that are appropriate for students of all backgrounds. Most students interested in computer science start with one of the following courses, all of which provide an introduction to core concepts in computer science:

- CSCI 1101: Introduction to Computer Science (every semester)
- CSCI 1103: Programming with Data (previously called Accelerated Intro to Computer Science; every Fall)
- CSCI 1055: The Digital World (every Spring)

In unusual cases, students may jump directly into CSCI 2101: Data Structures.

**Special note for Fall, 2020:** This fall the department will not be offering CSCI 1103; and since CSCI 1055 is a spring semester course, the only two possibilities for the fall are CSCI 1101 and CSCI 2101.

As detailed below, if a student has no programming background, CSCI 1101 is the usual choice. Students not intending to major/minor may wish to take CSCI 1055, which involves less programming and has no lab. Note, however, that we cannot guarantee that CSCI 1055 will be offered in the Spring 2021 semester.

Students with some programming background would normally take CSCI 1103. Since that is not being offered in the fall, such students should consult with a faculty member in the department. (Please e-mail Professor Stephen Majercik at smajerci@bowdoin.edu.) It is very likely that they will be placed into CSCI 1101 (rather than CSCI 2101). This could be followed by CSCI 2101 in the Spring 2021 semester. If a student does not want to start with CSCI 1101 because they feel they have too much programming experience, they might decide to wait to take CSCI 1103 in the Fall 2021 semester, followed by CSCI 2021 in the Spring 2022 semester. We do not recommend this, however, since we
cannot guarantee that CSCI 1103 will be offered then and, in any case, this course of action would delay their progress in a possible major by a year.

For the sake of completeness, we include information on all of the courses below.

- **No programming background**: CSCI 1101 or CSCI 1055. Students planning to major/minor, or those interested in taking additional CS courses, should begin with CSCI 1101 (although 1055, followed by 1103, may also be used as a longer gateway). Students not intending to major/minor may take either course. CSCI 1101 involves more programming and has a lab component, while CSCI 1055 involves less programming and has no lab. Neither course assumes any prior exposure to computer science, and both introduce students to programming using Python.

- **Some programming background**: CSCI 1103. Students with some programming background should enroll in CSCI 1103, which covers the same core material of 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 CSCI 1055 or DCS 1100 or DCS 1200
  - Informal programming experience or experience from other science courses

While students in 1103 are expected to have basic comfort with programming concepts, experience with Python, specifically, is not required or expected.

- **Substantial programming background**: CSCI 2101. In exceptional cases, students with a strong computer science and/or programming background may skip 1101/1103 and enroll directly into 2101. Students interested in this option must consult with the department to determine whether the student is adequately prepared to do so. This course uses Java, but does not assume any prior Java experience (most students enter with Python experience only).

*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 in your time at Bowdoin, as you will have a smaller chance to enroll as an upper-class student.*

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 consult with a member of the department prior to registration.

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**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 every spring)

The following courses 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)
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.

EOS 1105 “Investigating Earth,” offered in the fall, is aimed at first-year students and assumes no previous science background. EOS 1505 “Oceanography” is offered in the spring and is cross-listed with Environmental Studies. 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 and fulfills the INS distribution requirement.
ECONOMICS

Economics is the study of a society's allocation of natural and human resources. In a modern capitalist society, most allocation occurs through markets in which firms and individuals interact as producer and consumers, or as employer and employee, and government plays a variety of roles as rule-setter, participant or incentivizer. The economics program at Bowdoin is designed to introduce the basic theoretical and empirical techniques of the field of economics. The aim of the program is to develop students' ability to apply systematic economic thinking to social problems.

The Economics department will provide an initial course placement for all matriculated students, based on each student's responses to the previously required Math Questionnaire, Quantitative Skills (QS) assessment tools and their submitted AP information. (All students are required to fill out the Math Questionnaire and complete the QS assessment over the summer before arriving at Bowdoin.)

Based on previous math experience and 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 see the Economics placement coordinator Rachel Connelly; 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 1050, Introductory Microeconomics and Quantitative Reasoning, covers all the material in ECON 1101 in a more supported Quantitative Reasoning (QR) environment. 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 2020-2021, Econ1050 will be taught in the spring. Students placed in Econ1050 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 Math1050 in the fall. Students who take Math1050 in the fall and do well in that course can then take either Econ1101 or Econ1050 in the spring. Students who find they need more practice with QR concepts are encouraged to choose Econ1050 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”. The Economics department holds slots for first-year students in 2000 level electives each fall. These 2000 level electives are the appropriate classes for first semester first year students who have AP/IB credit in Economics and want to get started right away taking additional economics classes. If students with these AP/IB scores nevertheless wish to take ECON 1101 or ECON 1102, they will forfeit their AP economics credit or 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.

**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). 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 1106 “Introduction to Drama,” is open to incoming first-years, and 30 seats are saved for first-years in this course. All 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 1225 “Creative Writing: Poetry I,” ENGL 1200 “The Personal is Political,” and ENGL 2861 “Advanced Narrative Nonfiction: Writing About the History, Culture, and Politics of Food.”
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 humanities core course ENVS 2403 (cross-listed as HIST 2182) “Environment and Culture in North American History”.

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
This course explores the functioning of the earth as defined by the complex and fascinating interaction of processes within and between four principal spheres – land, air, water, and life – and leverages key principles of environmental chemistry and ecology to unravel the intricate connectedness of natural phenomena and ecosystem function. 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 2403 Environment and Culture in North American History
This course examines the changing relationships between human beings and the natural world through time from the fifteenth century to the present. Same as HIST 2182. Offered every spring. Prerequisite 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.

One first-year seminar is offered this fall:

- GSWS 1006 Global Queer and Trans Ethnography

Another course open to first-year students in the fall is GSWS 1101, Introduction to Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies, in which 15 spaces are reserved for first-year students.

**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](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 for synchronous study on alternate days.
- Being a first-year 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 Birgit Tautz and/or contact her directly at btautz@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 for any available consultations, via Teams or Zoom, as you prepare your registration for fall 2020.

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 2020-2021 academic year: GOV 1100 “Introduction to American Government” and GOV 1400 “Introduction to Comparative Government” will both be offered in the fall term; GOV 1600 “Introduction to International Relations” will be offered in the spring term.

More advanced students may wish to consider enrolling in a 2000-level course, and many are technically open to first-year students; however, 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 these higher-level courses. It is very 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 placement. 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 regular 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 course in the social sciences (such as LAS/ANTH 2737, LAS/GSWS 2345, LAS/GOVS 2482/EVS 2313 or LAS/SOC 2320); one course in History (LAS/HIS 2401, LAS/HIS 2402, LAS/HIS 2403, or LAS/HIS 2430); and one course in the Humanities covering several countries and/or periods in Latin America, the Caribbean, and/or Latinx communities in the U.S (options include LAS 1045, LAS/AHIS 1300, LAS/FRS 2407, LAS/HISP 2409 or 2410, LAS/MUS 1271).

Students can enter the program through any of its disciplines and at any level, but they may need to take introductory classes such ANTH 1101, or SOC 1101 as pre-requisites. 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 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, Nadia Celis (ncelis@bowdoin.edu; 207-721-5687).

**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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>MATH 1300 (S) ← Statistics Placement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>MATH 1700 (M) ← Mathematics Placement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Math Department understands that your high school calculus course may not have covered the entire curriculum last spring. The topics covered in our 2020-2021 calculus courses will make up what you might have missed last spring. Your placement reflects this.
Mathematics Placement

1. **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.

2. **Math 1700.** This is Integral Calculus, appropriate for students who have had AB calculus or the equivalent of one year of calculus in high school. Your score on the AP or IB exam does not affect this placement.

3. **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.

4. **Math 2000, 2020, 2303, or 2206.** Students with advanced preparation are recommended for Math 2000 (Linear Algebra), Math 2020 (Mathematical Reasoning), Math 2303 (Introduction to Complex Variables) or Math 2206 (Probability).
   These are courses for students who have already completed multivariate calculus. The math department will advertise an information session to describe these courses.

A student receiving a placement of either Math 1700, 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 can be used to address questions from biology.

Note that the Mathematics Department will not be offering Math 1750: Integral Calculus, Advanced Section, during the 2020-21 academic year.

Statistics Placement

1. **Math 1050:** Introduction to Quantitative Literacy. Students whose mathematical background indicates the need for additional preparation prior to enrolling in other quantitatively intense courses should consider enrolling in this course.

2. **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. 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.

3. **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.

4. **Math 2206:** Probability. For students who have completed multivariate calculus, enrolling directly in Probability is also an option. The math department will advertise an information session to further describe our probability course.

If your placement says:
- See Chair of the Mathematics Department: please email Professor Jennifer Taback, jtaback@bowdoin.edu
- See Director of Quantitative Reasoning: please email Professor Eric Gaze, egaze@bowdoin.edu
For general mathematics or statistics placement questions, please email Professor Jennifer Taback, 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

**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 either the INS course, Brains in Motion: Exploring the interface between mind and body (NEUR 1099) or the First Year Writing Seminar, Approaches to Neuroscience (BIOL 1026). Be aware that neither of these courses will count towards the Neuroscience major.

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

**PHILOSOPHY**

There is no single “Intro” course in Philosophy. Students may start with a first-year seminar or a 1000-level course, but many first-years 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 17th and 18th century philosophy from Descartes to Kant.
PHIL 2223: Logic 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.

**PHYSICS**

Physics has a placement test to help determine which entry-level course into the physics sequence is appropriate for each student. Almost anyone who plans to take the introductory physics sequence at Bowdoin should take this placement exam; the exceptions are students with high scores on AP (4 or 5) or IB exams (6 or 7), or those who plan to transfer college credits in physics to Bowdoin. (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 for the student to be able to register for any of these three classes.)

For placement questions please e-mail Emily Green at egreen@bowdoin.edu

Other topical physics courses, including **PHYS 1082** (Physics of Musical Sound), **PHYS 1083** (Energy, Physics, and Technology), and **PHYS 1510** (Introductory Astronomy) do not require a placement exam.

The three entry points to the physics sequence are:

**PHYS 1093 / CHEM 1093** (Introduction to Quantitative Reasoning in the Physical Sciences) is an innovative course that develops applied mathematical and physical reasoning skills. The course focuses on improving independent problem-solving skills and STEM literacy with individualized support. 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 a calculus-based course in 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
**PSYCHOLOGY**

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior to understand mental processes. The first course in the department is PSYC 1101, Introduction to Psychology, which is prerequisite to all other psych courses. 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 2010, 2025, 2060 or 2099 in the fall; or 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**

Because the Religion Department at Bowdoin does not require students to take REL 1101 in order to enroll in its intermediate or upper level courses, there is more than one entry point into the department's curriculum.

The department consistently offers one or two first-year seminars each year for incoming students. These are designed to afford students ample opportunities for discussion and writing on topics that are multifaceted, controversial, timely, and of particular interest to college students. In the fall of 2020 the Religion first-year seminar is REL 1044, Religion, Nature, and the Environment.

REL 1101, Introduction to the Study of Religion, is comparative in approach and lays out the theoretical contours of the field. Since it is an excellent preparation for intermediate and advanced level courses in the department, potential majors should enroll in it as early as possible. Students are introduced to a theme or topic in at least two religious traditions and to various methodologies and specialized vocabularies employed in the field.

The Religion Department has begun to offer an additional 1000-level course every year. In the spring of 2021, this course will be REL 1104, Introduction to Religions of the Modern Middle East.

Finally, first-year students are welcome to enroll in our 2000-level courses. The Religion Department at Bowdoin is one of the few departments that regularly offers courses at the 2000-level in which students closely examine a particular topic or area (e.g. Christianity, Buddhism, Bible, Islam) in any one semester, and many students do begin with a 2000-level course.

**ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**

**Francophone Studies:**

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 better.

For questions about Francophone Studies placement, please contact Prof. Katherine Dauge-Roth at kdauge@bowdoin.edu

**Hispanic Studies:**

All students who plan on taking Hispanic Studies courses are required to take the placement exam in Spanish. If a student did not take the placement exam, s/he 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 1101 is exclusively for students with no previous exposure to the language. If the student speaks the language at home, please consult with Hispanic Studies faculty. HISP 1103 is an accelerated elementary Spanish class designed for students with some previous non-systematic exposure to the language or students familiar with other Romance languages. It covers two semesters of Elementary Spanish in one semester, but is not twice the contact time or double the credit, just faster paced. After taking HISP 1101 students should go on to HISP 1102. After taking HISP 1103 students should take HISP 2203. HISP 2409 and 2410 are not sequential; they can be taken in any order.

AP/IB Credit Guidelines: Incoming students who received scores of 4 or higher in the AP Spanish exam, or 5 or higher in the IB exam, will be awarded one AP/IB credit upon completion of a HISP course, level 2305 or higher, with a grade of B- or higher. Only one AP/IB credit may be earned per person per language.
For questions about Hispanic Studies placement, please contact Prof. Margaret Boyle at mboyle2@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. Incoming students will receive one course credit for an AP exam on which they score a 4 or a 5, or an upper-level IB exam on which they score a 6 or a 7 (once they have completed at least one Italian course at Bowdoin and earned a B- or above).

For questions about Italian Studies placement, please contact Prof. Davida Gavioli at 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 21st 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 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.

**SOCIOWEY**

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 1101 (Making Dances in the Digital Age), DANC 1211 (Intro. to Modern Dance); THTR 1201 (Acting I) – required for the Theater major, THTR/CINE 1151 (Acting for the Camera); THTR/DANC 1301 (Stagecraft), or THTR/DANC 1302
(Principles of Design). All of these courses will fulfill a concentration requirement in the Theater and Dance major.

Theater concentrators should take THTR 1201 (Acting I) as early as possible. Please note THTR/DANC 1302 (Principles of Design and THTR/DANC 1301 (Stagecraft) also fulfill the Technical Theater requirement in the Theater concentration.

**DANCE**

**Students with little or no dance experience** are advised to take: DANC 1101 (Making Dances in the Digital Age), DANC 1211 (Introduction to Modern Dance), or DANC 1213 (Introduction to Caribbean Dance).

**Students with previous dance experience** may enroll in upper-level courses: DANC 3242/AFRS 3242 (Afro-Modern III Rep and Performance), DANC 3211 (Advanced Dance for Challenging Times). Students should consult with Prof. Aretha Aoki (aaoki@bowdoin.edu) or Prof. Adanna Jones (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, especially THTR 1151/CINE 1151 (Acting for the Camera), THTR/DANC 1301 (Stagecraft), or THTR/DANC 1302 (Principles of Design).

**Students with prior experience and/or considering the major** should enroll in THTR 1201 (Acting I) at their earliest convenience. This course is aimed at students interested in continued theater performance and begins an acting track that includes intermediate and advanced level acting courses. Note that performance-based courses typically require approximately four hours of outside class time per week for rehearsal and attendance in these courses is mandatory.

**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 students (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.

**Online experience:** Visual Arts courses this Fall 2020 will still offer hands-on studio immersions. Visual Arts instructors will guide students in setting up a workspace at home for remote creative work. Many of these courses will culminate in an online exhibition at the semester’s end.