



COLUMBIA COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



COLUMBIA ENGINEERING  
The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science

2025–2026

# ACADEMIC PLANNING GUIDE FOR NEW STUDENTS



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME FROM THE DEAN OF ADVISING3			
1. JAMES H. AND CHRISTINE TURK BERICK CENTER FOR STUDENT ADVISING4			
THE ADVISING PARTNERSHIP4			
2. COLUMBIA COLLEGE5		3. COLUMBIA ENGINEERING17	
Letter from the Dean6		Letter from the Dean18	
Planning Your First Year7		Planning Your First Year19	
Worksheet8		Worksheet20	
The Core Curriculum9		First-Year/Sophomore Curriculum21	
Majors and Minors12		Majors and Minors24	
Placement13		Advanced Standing24	
Advanced Standing13			
		4. TRANSFER AND COMBINED PLAN29	
		The Basics30	
		Transfer Credit Evaluations30	
		Course Approval30	
		Columbia College: The Core Curriculum31	
		Columbia Engineering: Selecting Your Classes33	
		Combined Plan Students36	
		Combined Plan36	
		Transfer Credit Evaluation36	
5. ACADEMIC RESOURCES39		6. CAMPUS RESOURCES45	
7. APPENDICES51			
Registration Tools40		James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising46	
School Bulletin40		Live Well   Learn Well46	
Directory of Classes40		Undergraduate Student Life46	
Vergil40		Center for Student Success and Intervention47	
Academic Support40		Center for Career Education47	
Departmental Resources40		International Students and Scholars Office47	
Tutoring and Academic Support40		Student Services47	
Columbia University Libraries41		Columbia Health48	
Making Plans41		Sexual Respect49	
Study Abroad41		Office of Religious Life49	
Undergraduate Research and Fellowships41		University Chaplain49	
Dual Degree Programs41		Public Safety49	
Preparation for Professional Study41		Bookstore50	
Professional Advising41			
Academic Integrity42			
Honor Pledge and Honor Code42			
Strategies for Maintaining Academic Integrity42			
Types of Academic Integrity Violations43			
Dean's Discipline43			
		Foreign Language Requirement52	
		Foreign Languages Offered at Columbia54	
		Faculty Contacts for Science Majors55	
		Academic Calendar56	
		Directory57	

# WELCOME

Dear New Student,

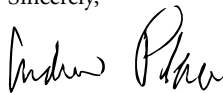
Welcome to Columbia! In the course of your time with us, you will explore academic disciplines, hone your abilities as a critical thinker, expand your interests and discover new passions. You will engage in discussion and debate with the world's brightest minds, consider perspectives very different from your own and be challenged to discover, grow and change, both personally and intellectually.

We at the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising (CSA) are here to help you navigate your time at Columbia. Throughout your time here, we will serve as your primary contacts for academic advising and are available to offer advice, answer questions, help solve problems, connect you with resources and brainstorm with you about courses of study, life plans or anything else on your mind. More immediately, we want to help you get ready for your first term at college. To this end, we provide this *Academic Planning Guide for New Students*, which contains helpful information about planning your schedule, required and elective courses, campus resources and an overview of the requirements for your degree.

You have been assigned a CSA adviser, who will invite you to schedule your first advising appointment this summer. This meeting can be held virtually or by phone. It is intended to discuss your personal and academic goals, refine your plans for the Fall term and answer your questions as the school year approaches. Before that, as preparation for your first conversation with your adviser, we strongly urge you to read this guide and to think about plans for your first-term schedule, potential majors and any other questions. We also invite you to visit [Countdown to Columbia](#), which will provide a broader introduction and welcome to life at Columbia College and Engineering.

In short, we are here for you. We look forward to meeting you and helping you make the most of your time at Columbia.

Sincerely,



Andrew Plaa  
Dean of Advising  
James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising



# JAMES H. AND CHRISTINE TURK BERICK CENTER FOR STUDENT ADVISING

The James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising (CSA) guides and supports students at Columbia College and Columbia Engineering as they navigate their educations and lives at Columbia University. CSA advisers help students recognize and pursue their passions, challenge them to set realistic academic and life goals, and empower them to think and act creatively and independently.

You will have an adviser at the CSA throughout your time at Columbia. You will receive the name and contact information of your assigned adviser by the end of July, and will be invited to meet with this person in August.

CSA advisers have diverse educational and professional backgrounds that complement the varied interests, goals and backgrounds of our student population. The CSA works closely with offices across Columbia to create a seamless advising experience for students as they grow intellectually, socially and professionally.

Your CSA adviser is a point of contact for a variety of issues and questions, including:

- General academic questions, concerns or difficulties
- Registration questions and problems
- Choosing a major
- Connecting with faculty
- Changes in academic program, in consultation with faculty advisers
- Receiving transfer, AP/IB/GCE or summer course credit
- Premed and prelaw requirements
- Understanding University policies and petitioning for exceptions to academic policy
- Planning to study abroad
- Progress toward and completion of requirements for the degree
- Personal problems and concerns
- Leaves of absence
- Referrals to other resources on campus

Your CSA adviser is one of a community of advising resources available. Faculty members are another vital source of advice, particularly once you have decided on a major. They are available to discuss research opportunities, to elucidate the finer points of course material and major requirements, and to guide you through your declared field of study.

Please see the [Campus Resources section](#) of this guide to learn about other offices that provide support.

## THE ADVISING PARTNERSHIP

Advising is a partnership in which the student and the adviser work together in planning the student's journey at Columbia.

### TO MAKE THIS PARTNERSHIP A SUCCESS:

#### Students should:

- Actively engage in the advising relationship
- Respond to adviser outreach and be forthcoming about perceived obstacles to success
- Research and plan ways to reach academic goals and share these goals with their advisers
- Be open to researching the answers to questions with advisers in order to learn how to find information on their own
- Act upon referrals to other sources of information and advice
- Let advisers know when they have not been able to find needed information and advice
- Ask their adviser any questions about issues not mentioned above

#### Advisers will:

- Be knowledgeable, responsive and supportive
- Reach out to advisees on a regular basis
- Inquire about students' short- and long-term goals, including study abroad, fellowships, scholarships, internships, research opportunities and professional ambitions
- Research the answers to questions with students in order to demonstrate how and where to find information
- When asked, refer students to other sources of advice and information and connect advisees with appropriate faculty members and departments
- Follow up with students when they are struggling



**COLUMBIA  
COLLEGE**

Dear Student,

You are now at the beginning of a new journey—one that will go beyond your major, your transcript and the resume you build in the years ahead. As you read through this *Academic Planning Guide*, you may find yourself focusing on credits and requirements, which classes you will have to take and in what order. This is natural and expected, but as you map a plan to your degree, I encourage you to keep sight of the curiosity, and the questions, that drew you to Columbia College.

When you enter your first courses in the Core Curriculum (Literature Humanities, Frontiers of Science and University Writing) you become part of something that's much bigger than any individual person, book or class—an educational experiment and an intellectual community that's been in progress for more than a century and that includes generations of students, faculty and alumni. Like those before you, you will encounter, discuss and debate enduring ideas that will challenge you, your classmates and your professors. And you'll lend your thoughts and voice to an incredibly diverse cohort of scholars. Throughout these classes, you may find some of your ideas reaffirmed while others are transformed. You'll gain knowledge, understanding, insight and empathy. And your views of yourself and the world will evolve in ways that reflect the spirit of dialogue, diversity of thought and experimentation that has long defined the undergraduate experience at Columbia.

As you begin selecting courses to complement your learning in the Core, you may consider favorite subjects and the areas of study on which you hope to focus. While these will remain important, I urge you to stretch beyond the familiar and to take intellectual risks. After all, you'll have the opportunity to explore more than 125 majors and minors at Columbia College, which open up to the University as a whole. Throughout this process you will develop your own intellectual identity. You will also cultivate new skills and competencies, even as you are considering a range of professional trajectories.

As you navigate this richness of choices, you will be supported by faculty, advisers, mentors, program coordinators, friends and more. We are here to help you make thoughtful decisions about your academic and cocurricular life, keeping in mind areas that you would like to explore and, ultimately, to help you pursue your interests and dreams.

It is my privilege to welcome you to Columbia College.

With respect and excitement for the journey ahead,



Josef Sorett

Dean of Columbia College and Henry L. and Lucy G. Moses Professor  
Vice President for Undergraduate Education



## PLANNING YOUR FIRST YEAR: INITIAL STEPS ON THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE JOURNEY

Your Columbia College experience is a journey. Each choice you make — every class, extracurricular activity, internship, residential experience, research opportunity, conversation and interaction — is helping you grow personally, professionally and as citizens of the world.

Our goal isn't just for you to develop skills, capacities and capabilities, it's also to understand how you developed them, where you developed them and how the experiences fit in with your entire Columbia College journey and the path you will take after Commencement. We invite you to explore your first steps by visiting [My Columbia College Journey](#).

### THE BASICS

To earn a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia College, you must:

- Complete the Columbia College Core Curriculum
- Satisfy the specific requirements for a major
- Earn 124 credits

You are expected to complete these requirements within eight terms of study (not including summer sessions).

You must register for at least 12 credits and no more than 18 credits per term.

### YOUR FIRST TERM

As an incoming first-year, you will be preregistered in the fall for the first half of the yearlong course "Literature Humanities" and either "University Writing" or "Frontiers of Science" (each one term). This means you have space in your schedule for two to three other classes, which can satisfy other Core requirements and help you explore potential majors.

The pages that follow in this section provide information about the Core, policies regarding majors and minors, and placement and advanced standing in disciplines such as science, math and foreign languages. Please review them, as well as the following online resources, which will help you as you plan your first term at Columbia College.

- The [Columbia College Bulletin](#) contains a list of courses and descriptions of majors, organized by academic department.
- The [Directory of Classes](#) is a list of all courses offered at Columbia University. (Note that not all are available to Columbia College students. Check the "Open To" field of the relevant class and ask your CSA adviser any questions.)
- [Vergil](#) allows you to search for courses by instructor, date and time, department, subject area, keywords and more. You'll also register for courses in Vergil when the time comes.

Please use the worksheet on the following page to write down a few potential class schedules for the Fall term and bring it, along with your questions, to your meeting with your CSA adviser.

As you create potential schedules, keep in mind:

- Classes at Columbia are generally worth three to four credits. First-years usually register for four or five classes. You must register for a minimum of 12 credits and no more than 18 credits per term.
- You should begin or continue a language in your first year, unless you have placed out of the language requirement (by means of a standardized test score accepted by the relevant department or by a Columbia [departmental placement exam](#), which will be offered before you register). For information on the more than 50 languages taught at Columbia, visit the [Language Resource Center](#) or review [Appendix A](#).
- If you are uncertain about your major, you may start to explore various disciplines by taking an elective in any department. As a rule, first-years are encouraged to take introductory courses, which are usually at the 1000-level or 2000-level. You should also plan to speak with your CSA adviser about which majors might be a good match for you, and about other resources and opportunities at Columbia that will help you explore your academic options.
- If you intend to major in a science, you should focus on the introductory math and science classes required by the prospective major department. Information about all majors can be found in the [Columbia College Bulletin](#).
- If you intend to go to medical school you should take general chemistry, calculus and possibly chemistry lab in your first year.

## COLUMBIA COLLEGE WORKSHEET

This worksheet is designed to help you start thinking about your first term and potential courses of study, as well as to prepare for your first meeting with your CSA adviser.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Using the online resources listed below, please create two possible schedules for the Fall term. Be sure to include at least two or three courses that may lead to a major or minor. Please keep in mind that you will be pre-enrolled in Literature Humanities and either University Writing or Frontiers of Science.

- [Columbia College Bulletin](#): A list of departments and requirements of their majors
- [Directory of Classes](#): A list of all courses offered at Columbia University\*
- [Vergil](#): An online platform where you can search for courses by instructor, date and time, department, subject area, keywords and more

### FALL SCHEDULE OPTION 1

1. [Literature Humanities I](#)
2. [University Writing or Frontiers of Science](#)
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

### FALL SCHEDULE OPTION 2

1. [Literature Humanities I](#)
2. [University Writing or Frontiers of Science](#)
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTIONS?

Use the space below to write any questions you have or concerns you would like to discuss with your CSA adviser. These may be academic or nonacademic, and they may pertain to the transition to college, the role of your CSA adviser, registration details, personal long- and short-term goals, extracurricular interests and so on.

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\*Not all classes are open to Columbia College students. Check the "Open To" field for the relevant class in the [Directory of Classes](#) and ask your CSA adviser any questions.



## REGISTRATION ADVICE

You will meet with your CSA adviser this summer to ask questions about courses of study, life at Columbia, potential majors and anything else. After you have met, you will register for classes on the Friday before the semester begins. By then you will have received an assigned UNI (University Network ID) and password, which you will use to create an email account and to log into Vergil. Before you register, you'll be able to see when and where your preregistered classes meet under "My Schedule/Registration." Your registration times will appear on that screen as well.

Do not worry if your schedule is not complete at the end of the first registration period. You will have the opportunity to finalize it during the first two weeks of classes, when there is much movement in enrollment. Please continue to direct any questions and concerns to your CSA adviser, who is there for you as you find your footing at Columbia College.

## THE CORE CURRICULUM

Since 1919, the Core Curriculum has provided Columbia College students with wide-ranging perspectives on significant ideas and achievements in literature, philosophy, history, music, art and science. Though celebrated for their content, Core courses are equally important for their small-class format. Taught in seminars of approximately 22 students, these courses ensure that education at the College begins with an emphasis on active intellectual engagement. The small class sizes provide students with opportunities to develop intellectual relationships with faculty early on in their College career and to participate in a shared process of intellectual inquiry. In the Core, the pursuit of better questions is every bit as important as the pursuit of better answers. The skills and habits honed by the Core — observation, analysis, argument, imaginative comparison, respect for ideas, nuances and differences — provide a rigorous preparation for life as an engaged citizen in today's complex and changing world.

In your first year, you will be required to complete "Literature Humanities," "University Writing" and "Frontiers of Science." You will complete "Contemporary Civilization" in your second year. You should aim to complete "Masterpieces of Western Art" (Art Humanities) and "Masterpieces of Western Music" (Music Humanities) by the end of your third year. Plan the rest of your program according to your own academic goals. The College envisions that the Core will arc across your years of study, introducing you to disciplines and paralleling or converging with

your major. The complete Core requirements are listed below, along with brief descriptions of each course. For a more in-depth look, please visit the [Center for the Core Curriculum](#).

### The Core:

- HUMA CC1001-CC1002: Literature Humanities, I and II
- ENGL CC1010: "University Writing"
- Foreign language (four terms or equivalent proficiency)
- Science (SCNC CC1000: "Frontiers of Science" plus two one-term science courses from an [approved list](#))
- COCI CC1101-CC1102: "Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West, I and II"
- HUMA UN1121: "Masterpieces of Western Art"
- HUMA UN1123: "Masterpieces of Western Music"
- Global Core (two one-term courses from an [approved course list](#))
- PHED UN1001 or UN1002: "Physical Education," two terms, and a swim test

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### LITERATURE HUMANITIES

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What is required? HUMA CC1001-CC1002: Literature Humanities, I and II

When? Fall and Spring term of the first year.

Can I test out? No.

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"Literature Humanities," or "Lit Hum," is a yearlong course that offers Columbia College students the opportunity to engage in intensive study and discussion of some of the most significant texts of Western culture. The course is not a survey, but rather a series of careful readings of literary works that reward both first encounters and long study. Whether classwork focuses on the importance of the text to literary history or on its significance to our contemporary culture, the goal is to consider particular conceptions of what it means to be human as well as the place of such conceptions in the development of critical thought.

The principal objectives of Lit Hum are to teach students to analyze literary texts and to construct well-reasoned arguments. An interdepartmental staff of professorial and preceptorial faculty meets with groups of approximately 22 students for four hours a week of discussion-based class. Today's Literature Humanities

includes works ranging from The Holy Bible and Augustine's *Confessions* to Montaigne's *Essays* and Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*.

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### UNIVERSITY WRITING

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What is required? ENGL CC1010: "University Writing"

When? You must take this course in the first year. You will be preassigned "University Writing" or "Frontiers of Science" in your first term, and you will take the other course in the Spring term.

Can I test out? No.

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"University Writing" is a one-semester seminar designed to facilitate students' entry into the intellectual life of the University by teaching them to become more capable and independent academic readers and writers. The course emphasizes habits of mind and skills that foster students' capacities for critical analysis, argument, revision, collaboration, metacognition and research. Students read and discuss essays from a number of fields, complete regular informal reading and writing exercises, compose several longer essays and devise a research-based project of their own design.

You must complete "University Writing" during the first year. Credit from Advanced Placement exams in English does not exempt students from this requirement.

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### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

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What is required? Proficiency at the intermediate level of a foreign language, typically Intermediate Level II

When? It is recommended that you start in the first year.

Can I test out? Yes. Exemption or placement level can be determined by AP scores, SAT II scores or departmental placement tests.

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You may choose to begin studying a new language or continue to study a language with which you are familiar. If you wish to continue studying a language, you must take a placement exam offered by the relevant foreign language department in order to determine the appropriate course level for you at Columbia. [Departmental placement exams](#) in many languages will be

administered prior to the start of the Fall term. Students who place into an appropriate level based on AP or SAT II scores do not have to take a Columbia placement test. All language instruction courses must be taken for a letter grade. See [Appendix A](#) for more information on satisfying the foreign language requirement.

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### SCIENCE

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What is required? SCNC CC1000: "Frontiers of Science" and SCNC CC1100: "Frontiers of Science: Discussion," plus two one-term courses from an [approved course list](#)

When? "Frontiers of Science" in the first year. Additional courses at any time.

Can I test out? No.

Special notes: You may not use Barnard College courses to fulfill the science requirement unless otherwise noted on the approved list of courses in the [Columbia College Bulletin](#).

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"Frontiers of Science" is a one-term course that integrates modern science into the Core Curriculum. The course includes lectures and seminar sections. On Mondays throughout the term, Columbia's leading scientists present a series of lectures. During the rest of the week, senior faculty and Columbia postdoctoral science fellows (research scientists selected for their teaching abilities) lead seminar sections limited to 22 students to discuss the lecture and its associated readings, and to debate the implications of the most recent scientific discoveries. Frontiers of Science is one of the three required courses for Columbia College.

The two additional terms in specific disciplines will allow you to study a natural science in greater depth. You can take these courses in the same department or in different departments. However, at least one course must be taken in one of the following departments: Astronomy; Biological Sciences; Chemistry; Earth and Environmental Sciences; Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology; Physics; or Psychology. The remaining course may be a mathematics, statistics or computer science course.

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**CONTEMPORARY CIVILIZATION**


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What is required? COCI CC1101-CC1102: “Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West, I and II”

When? This two-term sequence is usually taken in the sophomore year.

Can I test out? No.

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The central purpose of “Contemporary Civilization,” or “CC,” is to introduce students to a range of issues concerning the kinds of communities — political, social, moral and religious — that human beings construct for themselves and the values that inform and define such communities, in order to prepare students to become active and informed citizens. Because Contemporary Civilization is a yearlong course, readings are necessarily selective. While these readings change from time to time, the factors that lead to adoption of a text always include historical influence, the presentation of ideas of enduring importance, and the demonstrated ability of a text to provoke productive discussion. Among the readings currently required in the course are the Bible, the Qur’an, Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Machiavelli, Aquinas, Christine de Pizan, Descartes, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Smith, Kant, Wollstonecraft, Tocqueville, Mill, Marx, Darwin, Nietzsche, Ambedkar, Du Bois, Gandhi, Arendt, Fanon and Foucault.

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**ART HUMANITIES**


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What is required? HUMA UN1121: “Masterpieces of Western Art”

When? By the end of your junior year.

Can I test out? No.

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“Masterpieces of Western Art,” or “Art Humanities,” teaches students how to look at, think about and engage in critical discussion of the visual arts. It is not a historical survey, but rather an analytical study of a limited number of monuments and artists. The course focuses on the formal structure of works of architecture, sculpture, painting and other media, as well as the historical contexts in which these works were made and understood. Classes are limited to 22 students; they are discussion-based and make extensive use of New York City through field trips to museums, buildings and monuments. If you are interested in majoring in art history, architecture, or visual arts, you should take Art Humanities as soon as possible.

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**MUSIC HUMANITIES**


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What is required? HUMA UN1123: “Masterpieces of Western Music”

When? By the end of your junior year.

Can I test out? Yes. The [exemption exam](#) is usually offered on the first Friday of the Fall term and may be taken only once, at the beginning of a student’s first term at Columbia.

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The focus of “Masterpieces of Western Music” or “Music Humanities” is on the many forms of the Western musical imagination in art music, through works studied in their historical and cultural contexts. The specific goals of the course are to awaken and encourage active, critical and comparative listening practices; to provide tools to respond verbally to a variety of musical idioms; and to create engagement with the debates about the character and purposes of music that have occupied composers and musical thinkers since ancient times. The extraordinary richness of musical life in New York is an integral part of the course.

Music Humanities moves chronologically from the Middle Ages to the present, examining the choices and assumptions of composers, their patrons, audiences and performers, and exploring what we can and cannot know about how music of the past may have sounded.

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**GLOBAL CORE**


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What is required? [Two courses from an approved list](#)

When? Recommended in sophomore and junior years.

Can I test out? No.

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The Global Core requirement consists of courses that examine areas that are not the primary focus of Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilization, and that, like other Core courses, are broadly introductory, interdisciplinary and temporally or spatially expansive.

Courses in the Global Core typically explore the cultures of Africa, Asia, the Americas and the Middle East in an historical context. They are organized around a set of primary materials produced in these traditions and may draw from texts or other forms of media, as well as from oral sources or performance, broadly defined.

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**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**


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What is required? Two courses and a swim test

When? Before graduation.

Can I test out? No.

Special notes: Students unable to complete the swim requirement due to physical restrictions should obtain a waiver from [Columbia Health](#) before contacting the [Physical Education Department](#). Students may also request waivers and accommodations on the grounds of religious observance or gender identity/expression. All requests for waivers and accommodations are reviewed by the Director of Physical Education.

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Successful completion of two terms of physical education (PHED UN1001 or UN1002) is required for a degree. All students are also required to pass a swimming test or take beginning swimming for one term to fulfill the swimming requirement. Two Barnard Dance/Studio Technique courses may be substituted for the two Columbia Physical Education courses. No more than 4 points of physical education courses may be counted toward the degree.

Students who participate in an intercollegiate sport may receive physical education credit by registering for the appropriate team section of PHED UN1005: "Intercollegiate Athletics."

**MAJORS AND MINORS**

You must complete at least one major to fulfill the requirements for a degree. You may select a second major, minor or two minors. Selecting only a minor or special concentration will not fulfill the requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree.

**Double Majors:** You are permitted to declare a maximum of three programs of study (a "program of study" being defined as a major, a minor or a special concentration). You are permitted to declare a maximum of two majors. Students who pursue more than one program of study may be able to count some courses toward multiple programs. Please consult your CSA adviser or the [Columbia College Bulletin](#) for more information about this policy.

**Premedical Students:** You must complete a regular major or minor while fulfilling the [premedical curriculum](#).

Columbia College students declare their major and/or minor during the Spring term of sophomore year. For more information on the requirements for a particular major, please consult the [Columbia College Bulletin](#). Some programs require an early start, and this may impact course selection in your first year.

Students who are undecided as to a major should talk to their CSA adviser about choosing classes that will help them explore potential majors. Additionally, each department and academic program has a [Director of Undergraduate Studies](#), a faculty member who can answer questions about requirements for the major or minor, guide choices about placement level, discuss opportunities to study abroad and assist in planning your program.

## PLACEMENT

If you believe that you can demonstrate proficiency beyond the introductory level in chemistry, physics or a foreign language and wish to take an advanced class in one or more of these subjects, you must take a [placement exam](#).

## LANGUAGES

If you are interested in continuing with a language, you may need to take a placement exam. Some language departments, including French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Latin and Spanish, can place students into the correct course level based on SAT II or AP scores. Please see [Appendix A](#).

**Note:** If you are beginning a language, you may register for an Elementary Level I (1101) section without taking a placement exam.

## CALCULUS

Placement in calculus or the honors math sequence is determined by AP, IB and A-level scores. Students who place into Calculus II or III without receiving credit for Calculus I may be required to take an additional math class to fulfill the requirements for their major or minor. Consult the [Mathematics Department](#) for more information.

## CHEMISTRY

There are three different first-year tracks. In Track 1, students take CHEM UN1403-UN1404, a one-year course in general chemistry, with CHEM UN1500, a one-term laboratory course. Calculus I or the equivalent is a corequisite.

In Track 2, students take CHEM UN1604, a one-term intensive course in general chemistry. Calculus II or the equivalent is a corequisite. The accompanying lab can be either CHEM UN1500 or CHEM UN1507, depending on placement.

In Track 3, students take CHEM UN2045-UN2046, a one-year intensive course in organic chemistry. All students in Track 3 take CHEM UN1507, a one-term laboratory course.

If you wish to take a chemistry course at a level higher than UN1403-UN1404, you must attend an information session and take a [placement exam](#). The chemistry class you take will be determined by the results of this exam.

**Note:** If you are considering the premedical curriculum, you should take chemistry and the appropriate lab in your first year.

## PHYSICS

If you have a strong background in physics, you may wish to take PHYS UN2801: "Accelerated Physics I." In order to place into this advanced course, you must either take a [placement exam](#) or have scored a 5 on the AP Calculus BC exam, as well as scored at least a 4 on both AP Physics C exams (Mechanics and Electricity & Magnetism) and a 5 on at least one of the two AP Physics C exams. If you are interested in taking this course, you must attend the [information session](#) offered.

## THEATRE

Auditions are required for each term's acting classes and productions. Please consult the [Barnard Theatre Department](#) for more information.

## MUSIC PERFORMANCE

For information about music lessons, University Orchestra, chamber ensembles, jazz ensembles, Collegium Musicum, Bach Society, Wind Ensemble, Klezmer Band and more, please visit the [Music Performance Program](#).

## ADVANCED STANDING

### TEST SCORES

Columbia College grants up to 16 credits earned from Advanced Placement (AP), General Certificate of Education Advanced Level Examinations (A levels), the International Baccalaureate Examination (IB) and some other national systems. A description of policies, credits and/or exemptions can be found in the [Columbia College Bulletin](#). Please note that students are governed by the academic standing policies that are in place at the start of their first year of enrollment at Columbia.

The table on [pages 15–16](#) sets forth ways in which Columbia College students can obtain credit based on AP scores. This chart is designed to be a guide only. When you first meet with your CSA adviser, you should discuss what credit you may be eligible to receive, and how this will affect your Fall term registration. The point equivalents are determined by the relevant academic department. You should not rely exclusively on this chart without further consultation with your CSA adviser. This chart is subject to change at any time based on the academic discretion of the Columbia faculty.

If you wish to receive advanced placement credit, you may not register for or take courses at Columbia that cover similar or more



basic material than that covered by your AP exam; nor may you receive credit for two exams that cover the same material (for example, AP Calculus and Mathematics A Level). In some cases, you must complete a particular course and/or achieve a particular grade before credit is awarded. In general, advanced standing credit is awarded prior to the sophomore year. An official score report is required for credit to be evaluated. Advanced standing may not be used for exemption from any of the Core Curriculum courses, with the exception of AP or IB scores that may satisfy the foreign language requirement.

Appropriate placement should not depend simply upon test scores and the credit you hope to receive upon evaluation of those scores. For some students, appropriate placement may mean forfeiting advanced credit to achieve stronger preparation in a subject area.

### COURSES TAKEN AT OTHER COLLEGES

Entering students may receive up to 6 points of credit toward the Columbia degree for college courses taken after graduation from secondary school and prior to enrollment at Columbia College. You will be eligible for credit only in subjects that are taught at Columbia; you should not take courses that duplicate those in the Core Curriculum. You must earn a minimum grade of C– in order to receive credit. If you would like to exercise this option, please contact the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising at 212-854-6378 or [csa@columbia.edu](mailto:csa@columbia.edu) before enrolling in courses.

Official transcripts for this work, along with catalog descriptions and a copy of the syllabus for each course, should be submitted to the CSA for review. There is no guarantee of credit, which will be awarded only upon approval by the CSA.

If you plan to take summer classes through Columbia's Summer Session, you must obtain approval from the CSA prior to enrollment.

Grades for summer school classes taken prior to matriculation will not be calculated into the Columbia GPA and the classes might not count toward your eventual major, even if the summer classes are taken at Columbia.

**Note:** You will not be granted credit for courses taken at other colleges prior to your graduation from secondary school.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT CREDIT CHART

In order to receive AP credit, you must send official score reports to Columbia. The CEEB code is 2116.

SUBJECT	SCORE	CREDIT	
Biology	5	3	The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the AP Biology exam, but you are not entitled to any exemptions.
Chemistry	4 or 5	3 or 6	The department grants credit for a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Chemistry exam, provided you complete CHEM UN1604 or CHEM UN 2045-46 with a grade of C or better. You must complete a department placement exam prior to registering for either of these courses. Students who complete CHEM UN1604 with a grade of C or better are granted 3 points of credit; students who complete CHEM UN2045-UN2046 with a grade of C or better are granted 6 points of credit.
Computer Science (Principles and/or A)	4 or 5	3	The department grants 3 credits for a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Computer Science Principles exam, along with exemption from COMS W1001. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Computer Science A exam, along with exemption from COMS W1004. For each exam, the amount of credit is reduced to 0 if the course from which a student could have been exempted from is taken at Columbia.
Economics (Micro and Macro)	5 on one and 4 or 5 on the other	4	You must take <b>both</b> the AP Microeconomics <b>and</b> the AP Macroeconomics exams and earn a score of 5 on one exam and at least a 4 on the other. Provided that this is achieved, the department grants 4 credits along with exemption from ECON UN1105. The amount of credit is reduced to 0 if ECON 1105 is taken at Columbia.
English (Language and Composition and/or Literature and Composition)	5	3	The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the AP Language and Composition exam, but you are not entitled to any exemptions, and these credits will not count toward an English major or minor. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the AP Literature and Composition exam, but you are not entitled to any exemptions, and these credits will not count toward an English major or minor.
French (Language and/or Literature)	5	3	A score of 5 on the AP French Language or Literature exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on either exam, provided you complete a 3000-level (or higher) course that is taught in French with a grade of B or higher. Courses taught in English may not be used to earn AP credit.
German	5	3	A score of 5 on the AP German exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the AP German exam, provided you complete a 3000-level (or higher) course that is taught in German with a grade of B or higher. Courses taught in English may not be used to earn AP credit.
	4	0	A score of 4 on the AP German exam satisfies the foreign language requirement but 0 credits will be granted.
Government and Politics (U.S. and/or Comparative)	5	4	The department grants 4 credits and exemption from POLS UN2201 for a score of 5 on the U.S. Government and Politics AP exam. The department grants 4 credits and exemption from POLS UN2501 for a score of 5 on the Comparative Government and Politics AP exam. For each exam, the amount of credit is reduced to 0 if the course from which a student could have been exempted from is taken at Columbia. Students majoring or concentrating in Political Science will be given an exemption based on AP scores from only one undergraduate introductory political science class, either POLS UN2201 or POLS UN2501.

SUBJECT	SCORE	CREDIT	
History (European and/ or U.S.)	5	3	The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the AP European History exam, but you are not entitled to any exemptions, and these credits will not count toward a history major or minor. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the AP United States History exam, but you are not entitled to any exemptions, and these credits will not count toward a history major or minor.
Italian	5	3	A score of 5 on the AP Italian exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the AP Italian exam, provided you complete a 3000-level (or higher) course that is taught in Italian with a grade of B or higher. Courses taught in English may not be used to earn AP credit.
	4	0	A score of 4 on the AP Italian exam satisfies the foreign language requirement, but 0 credits will be granted.
Latin	5	3	A score of 5 on the AP Latin exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the AP exam, provided you complete a 3000-level (or higher) course with a grade of B or higher.
Mathematics AB	4 or 5	3	The department grants 3 credits for a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Calculus AB exam, provided you complete MATH UN1102 or MATH UN1201 with a grade of C or better. The amount of credit is reduced to 0 if you take MATH UN1101.
Mathematics BC	5	6	The department grants 6 credits for a score of 5 on the AP Calculus BC exam, provided you complete MATH UN1201, MATH UN1205, or MATH UN1207 with a grade of C or higher. The amount of credit is reduced to 0 if you take MATH UN1101, or to 3 if you take MATH UN1102.
	4	3	The department grants 3 credits for a score of 4 on the AP Calculus BC exam, provided you complete MATH UN1102, MATH UN1201, MATH UN1205, or MATH UN1207 with a grade of C or higher. The amount of credit is reduced to 0 if you take MATH UN1101.
Physics	4 or 5	Up to 6	You may earn a maximum of 6 credits in physics. The department grants 6 credits for a score of 4 or 5 on both of the AP Physics 1 and 2 exams, but you are not entitled to any exemptions. The amount of credit is reduced to 3 or 0 if you take one or more 1000-level physics courses. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Physics C/MECH exam, but you are not entitled to any exemptions. The amount of credit is reduced to 0 if you take PHYS UN1001, UN1201, UN1401 or UN1601. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Physics C/E&M exam, but you are not entitled to any exemptions. The amount of credit is reduced to 0 if you take PHYS UN1001, UN1202, UN1402, or UN1602.
Psychology	5	0	A score of 5 on the AP Psychology exam exempts students from PSYC UN1001, but no credit will be awarded. In order to fulfill the credits required for the Psychology and Neuroscience and Behavior majors, students who wish to skip PSYC UN1001 after having received a 5 on the AP Psychology exam must take a more advanced course to replace PSYC UN1001. Students should consult the Director of Undergraduate Studies to select an appropriate replacement course.
Spanish (Language and/ or Literature)	5	3	A score of 5 on the AP Spanish Language or Literature exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on either exam, provided you complete a 3300-level (or higher) course with a grade of B or higher. This course must be for at least 3 points of credit and taught in Spanish. Courses taught in English may not be used to earn AP credit.
	4	0	A score of 4 on the AP Spanish Language or Literature exam satisfies the foreign language requirement, but 0 credits will be granted.
Statistics	5	3	The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the AP Statistics exam. Students who are required to take introductory statistics for their major should consult with the Director of Undergraduate Studies of the relevant department to determine if this credit provides exemption from their requirement. Note: The Economics Department does not permit a 5 on AP Statistics to substitute for STAT UN1201: "Calculus-Based Introduction to Statistics."

# COLUMBIA ENGINEERING

Dear Student,

In 1864, Columbia Engineering began as the Columbia School of Mines. At that time, we had just three faculty and a location on Madison Avenue. Today, situated on our beautiful Morningside campus, we have more than 270 faculty across nine departments focused on foundational topics as well as on interdisciplinary research.

Our faculty are world leaders in their field of expertise. You will have the opportunity to learn from them in the classroom, in cocurricular team projects, and in the laboratory doing hands-on, cutting-edge research.

At Columbia, you join a dynamic community of scholars and practitioners. Students like you come from around the country and around the world to the heart of New York City to take advantage of the incredible opportunities for learning and enrichment.

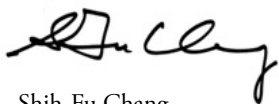
We live at a time when engineering has become a foundational degree. It gives students the skills and problem-solving acumen to succeed in any field. From your first semester on, you will encounter a wide range of topics in engineering and applied science spanning our departments. First-year students are exposed to all facets of the discipline through the introductory class “The Art of Engineering.” If you are joining as a transfer or combined plan student, we provide guidance to ensure you reach the academic and personal goals that brought you to our school.

Over the years, we have steadily integrated entrepreneurship and embedded design thinking into our curriculum and cocurricular programming to reflect the desire of our faculty and students to translate their ideas into practical solutions, particularly to address the pressing challenges of our time. You will find many opportunities to flex your creative muscles while deeply considering the impact of your creations on people and the planet.

Our school vision—Columbia Engineering for Humanity—is one that students are proud to be a part of. This vision outlines our dedication to research and education that further progress in critical areas, such as sustainability and climate, health and medicine, artificial intelligence, quantum science and technology, and new materials and devices. Our students are an integral part of this vision, and I encourage all of you to think about how you will make your mark and contribute to this endeavor.

Welcome to Columbia Engineering.

Sincerely,



Shih-Fu Chang

Dean, Columbia Engineering

Morris A. and Alma Schapiro Professor

**ENGINEERING.COLUMBIA.EDU/ENGINEERING-HUMANITY**





## PLANNING YOUR FIRST YEAR AT COLUMBIA ENGINEERING

### THE BASICS

To earn a Bachelor of Science degree from Columbia Engineering, you must:

- Complete all first-year/sophomore technical requirements
- Take at least 27 points of nontechnical coursework
- Satisfy the requirements for your major
- Earn 128 points

You are advised to take a minimum of five classes each term, and you are expected to complete all requirements within eight terms of study (not including summer terms). You must register for a minimum of 12 credits and not more than 21 credits per term.

### YOUR FIRST TERM AT COLUMBIA

As an incoming first-year, you will be preregistered in the fall for “University Writing” or “The Art of Engineering” (each one term). You must also enroll in a physics class at the 1400-level or higher, in the appropriate level of calculus, and in “General Chemistry” or higher. [Placement tests](#) can be taken in chemistry and physics and the results will be communicated to you prior to registration. For students who wish to enroll in a higher level, your AP scores and background in math will help determine correct placement. You will have space in your schedule for a fifth elective.

Please review the pages that follow in this section for further information about the first-year/sophomore curriculum and about placement and advanced standing in math, science and other disciplines.

The following online resources will also help you as you plan your first term at Columbia:

- The [Columbia Engineering Bulletin](#) provides information about the first-year/sophomore program and all engineering majors.
- The [Directory of Classes](#) is a list of all courses offered at Columbia. (Note that not all are available to Engineering students. Check the “Open To” field of the relevant class and ask your CSA adviser if you have any questions.)
- [Vergil](#) allows you to search for courses by instructor, date and time, department, subject area, keywords and more. You'll also register for courses in Vergil when the time comes.

Please use the worksheet on the following page to write down a few potential class schedules for your first semester. Bring the completed worksheet, along with your questions, to your first meeting with your CSA adviser. Keep in mind the following:

- You should take an average of 16 credits (five or six classes) per term in order to fulfill the 128 points needed to graduate in eight terms. First-years usually take five classes in their first term.
- Your options for your fifth class (after calculus, physics, chemistry and either “The Art of Engineering” or “University Writing”) may include: ECON UN1105: “Principles of Economics,” computer science or a nontechnical elective.

### REGISTRATION ADVICE

Prior to registering for classes, you will meet with your CSA adviser to ask questions about courses of study, life at Columbia, potential majors and anything else. After you have met, you will register for classes on the Friday before the semester begins. By then you will have received an assigned UNI (University Network ID) and password, which you will use to create an email account and to log into Vergil. Before you register, you'll be able to see when and where your preregistered classes meet under “My Schedule/Registration.” Your registration times will appear on that screen as well.

Do not worry if your schedule is not complete at the end of the first registration period. You will have the opportunity to finalize your schedule during the first two weeks of classes, when there is much movement in enrollment. Please continue to direct any questions and concerns to your CSA adviser, who is there for you as you find your footing at Columbia Engineering.

## COLUMBIA ENGINEERING WORKSHEET

This worksheet is designed to help you start thinking about your first term and potential courses of study at Columbia, as well as to prepare for your first meeting with your CSA adviser.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Using the online resources below, please create possible schedules for the Fall term. Keep in mind that in your first term you must take calculus, physics, chemistry and either “University Writing” or “The Art of Engineering.” Your level of physics, chemistry and calculus will depend on AP/IB scores as well as the results of [placement exams](#).

- [Columbia Engineering Bulletin](#): Information about the first-year/sophomore program and Columbia Engineering majors
- [Directory of Classes](#): A list of all courses offered at Columbia University\*
- [Vergil](#): An online platform where you can search for courses by instructor, date and time, department, subject area, keywords and more

1. The Art of Engineering or University Writing (preassigned)
2. Calculus (please indicate anticipated level): \_\_\_\_\_
3. Physics (please indicate anticipated level): \_\_\_\_\_
4. Chemistry (please indicate anticipated level): \_\_\_\_\_
5. (Please indicate a few options for your fifth class) \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTIONS?

Use the space below to write down any questions or concerns you would like to discuss with your CSA adviser. These may be academic or nonacademic, and they may pertain to the transition to college, the role of your CSA adviser, registration details, personal long- and short-term goals, extracurricular interests and so on.

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\*Not all classes are open to Columbia Engineering students. Check the “Open To” field for the relevant class in the [Directory of Classes](#) and ask your CSA adviser if you have questions.

## FIRST-YEAR/SOPHOMORE CURRICULUM

The Bachelor of Science degree comprises:

1. The first-year/sophomore technical requirements:
  - Calculus (some departments have additional math requirements)
  - Physics
  - Chemistry
  - ENGI E1102: “The Art of Engineering”
  - Computer Science
  - Lab requirement for selected major
2. At least 27 points of nontechnical requirements:
  - ENGL CC1010: “University Writing”
  - Core Humanities sequence (two courses)
  - Art or Music Humanities
  - ECON UN1105: “Principles of Economics”
  - 3–4 courses from an [approved list of electives](#)
3. Requirements for a major
4. Physical education (two courses)

The first-year/sophomore curriculum at Columbia Engineering is designed to provide you with a firm background in pure science as well as a comprehensive grounding in the humanities. In this section, you will find detailed information on what to expect academically in your first two years.

## FIRST-YEAR/SOPHOMORE TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

### CALCULUS

What is required?	Completion of MATH UN1101: “Calculus I” through APMA E2000: “Multivariable Calculus for Engineers and Applied Scientists”
When?	All students must take calculus at the appropriate level in the first year term.
Can I test out?	No. However, background will determine placement level.

### LEVELS OF CALCULUS

“Calculus I” (MATH UN1101): Covers primarily differential calculus of functions of one variable with geometric applications and the “Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.” Take “Calculus I” if you:

- did not take calculus in high school, or
- have less than a full year of high school calculus, or
- have a full year of calculus but have a score of less than 4 on an AP exam.

“Calculus II” (MATH UN1102): Covers special functions, integration techniques, more geometric applications of integration and infinite series, including Taylor series. Take “Calculus II” if you:

- received a 4 or 5 on the AB exam, or
- received a 4 on the BC exam, or
- received a 6 or 7 on the IB HL calculus exam, or
- received an A or B on the A-level GCE Further Maths exam, or
- didn’t take an AP exam but received a grade of A in a full-year high school calculus course.

“Multivariable Calculus for Engineers and Applied Scientists” (APMA E2000): Topics include partial differentiation; optimization of functions of several variables; line, area, volume and surface integrals; vector functions and vector calculus; theorems of Green, Gauss and Stokes; and applications to selected problems in engineering and applied science. Take “Multivariable Calculus” if you received a 5 on the BC exam.

**Note:** Columbia Engineering students with a 4 or 5 on Calc AB, or a 4 on Calc BC, must begin with “Calculus II.” If you have these scores and self-place into “Multivariable Calculus,” you will still be required to take “Calculus II.” If you have taken an equivalent math course (beyond “Calculus I” and “Calculus II”) that covers material beyond the Advanced Placement BC curriculum (e.g., “Multivariable Calculus”) at a four-year accredited college and received a B+ or better, you must provide an official transcript and syllabus for evaluation to faculty member Drew Youngren: [dcy2@columbia.edu](mailto:dcy2@columbia.edu).

Placement into the appropriate level math course will be determined by Columbia Engineering. If you place out of “Multivariable Calculus,” you will be required to replace those credits with alternative, upper-level math courses from a list of approved courses. Those alternative choices cannot be used to satisfy any other requirement.

**It is imperative that you heed these guidelines for two reasons:**

1. You must master the material covered in both “Calculus II” and “Multivariable Calculus” in order to lay the groundwork for success in the Columbia Engineering curriculum.
2. Accreditation guidelines outlined by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology require that you either fulfill the requisite amount of calculus as indicated for the major or prove equivalent knowledge.

**PHYSICS**

What is required? At least a one-year sequence of introductory physics at the 1400-level or higher; some majors may require one or more additional courses

When? First year, Fall and Spring terms

Can I test out? No. However, your previous background in physics and/or the physics [placement exam](#) will help to determine level.

You are required to take physics in your first year. You may choose from three sequences, or tracks:

**Track 1**

PHYS UN1401: “Introduction to Mechanics and Thermodynamics”

PHYS UN1402: “Introduction to Electricity, Magnetism and Optics”

The 1400-level track is less mathematical and more oriented toward problem solving.

Note: If you begin with “Calculus I,” you must take this sequence.

**Track 2**

PHYS UN1601: “Mechanics and Relativity”

PHYS UN1602: “Thermodynamics, Electricity and Magnetism”

This is a more mathematical sequence than the 1400-level track.

**Note:** If you place into “Multivariable Calculus,” it is recommended that you enroll in the 1600-level track.

**Track 3**

PHYS UN2801: “Accelerated Physics I”

PHYS UN2802: “Accelerated Physics II”

This sequence is extremely challenging and is designed primarily for students with an intense interest in physics.

It is possible to place into the “Accelerated Physics” course in one of two ways:

- a [placement test](#), or
- a 4 or 5 on the AP Physics Exam and a 5 on the AP Calculus BC Exam.

If you are interested in taking “Accelerated Physics,” you must attend the information session offered prior to registration.

**CHEMISTRY**

What is required? At least one term of chemistry (possibly two, depending on your major)

When? Recommended Fall term of the first year

Can I test out? No. However, your previous background in chemistry and/or your score on the chemistry placement exam will help to determine placement level.

There are three chemistry tracks:

**Track 1**

CHEM UN1403-UN1404: “General Chemistry” (Fall term and/or Spring term)

CHEM UN1500: “General Chemistry Lab” (Fall or Spring term, usually taken in the first year)

**Track 2**

CHEM UN1604: “Intensive General Chemistry” (Fall term of first year)

CHEM UN1500: “General Chemistry Lab” (Fall or Spring term, usually taken in the first year) or CHEM UN1507: “Intensive General Chemistry Lab” (if you place into it)

**Track 3**

CHEM UN2045: “Intensive Organic Chemistry I” (Fall term of first year)

CHEM UN2046: “Intensive Organic Chemistry II” (Spring term of first year)

CHEM UN1507: “Intensive General Chemistry Lab” (Spring term of first year)

If you wish to take a chemistry course at a level higher than UN1403-UN1404, you must attend an information session and take a [placement exam](#). The chemistry class you take will be determined by the results of this exam.

Three majors (biomedical engineering, chemical engineering, and earth and environmental engineering) require two terms of chemistry. All other majors require only one term. It is recommended that you fulfill this requirement in your first year,

but in some cases it may be possible to postpone chemistry until your sophomore year after consultation with your CSA adviser.

**Note:** If you are considering the premedical curriculum, you must take a full year of chemistry and the appropriate lab in your first year, regardless of major requirements.

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### THE ART OF ENGINEERING

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What is required? One term of ENGI E1102: "The Art of Engineering"

When? Either Fall or Spring term of the first year. You will be preassigned "The Art of Engineering" or "University Writing" in your first term, and you will take the other course in the Spring term

Can I test out? No.

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In this course, students see how their high school science and math knowledge can be applied in an engineering context to solve real-world problems through classroom presentations and participation in an in-depth, hands-on project. Along the way, guest lecturers discuss social implications of technology, entrepreneurship, project management and other important nontechnical issues affecting the practicing engineer.

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### COMPUTER SCIENCE

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What is required? One term of a computer science is required for all majors

When? First or sophomore year

Can I test out? It is unlikely. Consult with your CSA adviser.

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Choose from one of the following, depending on your anticipated major:

ENGI E1006: "Introduction to Computing for Engineers and Applied Scientists," or  
COMS W1004: "Introduction to Computer Science and Programming in Java"

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### LAB

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What is required? One term of chemistry and/or physics laboratory work; selection will depend upon major

When? First or sophomore year

Can I test out? No.

Special note: In most cases, you may decide as to whether you want to take a chemistry or physics lab. Students who choose chemistry lab should take it in the first year. Students who choose physics lab must wait until their sophomore year. There are a few Columbia Engineering majors that specify either chemistry or physics lab (or require both). Students should consult with their CSA adviser and/or the [Bulletin](#) before choosing a lab.

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### NONTECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

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What is required? 27 points of nontechnical coursework; 16–18 of these points are mandated by Columbia Engineering, and 9–11 points are electives

When? Before graduation

Note: "ENGL CC1010: "University Writing" must be taken in the first year.

Can I test out? No, but AP scores may be applied toward portions of the 27-point nontechnical requirement.

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### Nontechnical Courses (27 Points)

- ENGL CC1010: "University Writing," 3 points. Required in the first year.
- Core Humanities sequence: [HUMA CC1101-CC1102: "Literature Humanities"](#); [COCI CC1101-CC1102: "Contemporary Civilization in the West"](#) or a [Global Core sequence](#), 6–8 points. Recommended in the sophomore year.
- HUMA UN1121: ["Masterpieces of Western Art"](#) or [HUMA UN1123: "Masterpieces of Western Music"](#); 3 points. Can be taken at any time.
- ECON UN1105: "Principles of Economics," 4 points. Recommended in the first or sophomore year.
- Elective Nontechnical Courses, 9–11 points. Of the 27-point nontechnical requirement, 16–18 points will be fulfilled by taking the required courses listed above. The remaining 9–11 points (three or four classes) are at your discretion. Please consult the Elective Nontechnical Courses section in the [Columbia Engineering Bulletin](#) for additional information on eligible courses. Can be taken at any time.



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**UNIVERSITY WRITING**


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<b>What is required?</b>	One term of ENGL CC1010: "University Writing"
<b>When?</b>	Preassigned in either Fall or Spring term of the first year (taken in the term opposite ENGI E1102)
<b>Can I test out?</b>	No.

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"University Writing" is a one-semester seminar designed to facilitate students' entry into the intellectual life of the University by teaching them to become more capable and independent academic readers and writers. The course emphasizes habits of mind and skills that foster students' capacities for critical analysis, argument, revision, collaboration, metacognition and research. Students read and discuss essays from a number of fields, complete regular informal reading and writing exercises, compose several longer essays and devise a research-based project of their own design.

You must complete "University Writing" during your first year. Credit from AP exams in English does not exempt students from this requirement.

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**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**


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<b>What is required?</b>	Two courses
<b>When?</b>	Before graduation
<b>Can I test out?</b>	No.

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Two terms of physical education (PHED UN1001 or UN1002) are required for Columbia Engineering students. Two Barnard Dance/Studio Technique courses may be substituted for the two Columbia Physical Education courses. No more than 4 points of physical education courses may be counted toward the degree. If you intend to participate in an intercollegiate sport, you should register for the appropriate section of PHED UN1005: "Intercollegiate Athletics."

**MAJORS AND MINORS**

Columbia Engineering students must complete the requirements for a major as listed by department in the [Columbia Engineering Bulletin](#). You will declare your major online during the first term of your sophomore year. If you are undecided, talk to your CSA adviser about ways to assess your options. You may opt to declare one or more minors at the same time.

**Double Minors/Double Majors:** You may declare more than one minor but may not use the same courses to satisfy the requirements of more than one minor. To double major, you are required to have approval from both departments, with a signed plan to complete all requirements within eight terms. This plan must be approved by the vice dean for undergraduate programs.

**ADVANCED STANDING**
**TEST SCORES**

Columbia Engineering grants up to 16 credits earned from [Advanced Placement \(AP\)](#), [General Certificate of Education Advanced Level Examinations \(A levels\)](#), the [International Baccalaureate Examination \(IB\)](#) and other national systems. Please note that students are governed by the advanced-standing policies that are in place during their first year at Columbia.

If you wish to receive AP credit, you may neither register for courses at Columbia that cover similar or more basic material than the work already completed, nor may you receive credit for two exams that cover the same material (for example, AP Calculus and Mathematics A-Level). In some cases, you must complete a particular course and/or achieve a particular grade before credit will be awarded. Advanced standing credit is awarded prior to the sophomore year in accordance with the policies stated in that year's [Columbia Engineering Bulletin](#). Advanced placement credit in appropriate nontechnical areas may be applied toward the 27-point nontechnical requirement.

Pending review by the appropriate department, students whose secondary school work was in other national systems (such as the French baccalauréat) may be granted credit in certain disciplines for sufficiently high scores. The appropriate

transcript should be submitted to the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising (CSA).

Appropriate placement should not depend simply upon test scores and the credit you hope to receive upon evaluation of those scores. For some students, appropriate placement may mean forfeiting advanced credit to achieve stronger preparation in a subject area.

### COURSES TAKEN AT OTHER COLLEGES

Entering students may receive up to 6 points of credit toward the Columbia degree for college courses taken after graduation from secondary school and prior to enrollment in Columbia Engineering. You must earn a minimum grade of B in order to receive credit. If you would like to exercise this option, please contact the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising at 212-854-6378 or [csa@columbia.edu](mailto:csa@columbia.edu) before enrolling in courses.

Official transcripts for this work, along with catalog descriptions and a copy of the syllabus for each course, should be submitted to the CSA for review. There is no guarantee of credit, which will be awarded only upon approval by the CSA. If you plan to take summer classes through Columbia's Summer Session, you must obtain approval from the CSA prior to enrollment.

Grades for summer school classes taken prior to matriculation will not be calculated into your Columbia GPA and the classes might not count toward your eventual major, even if the summer classes are taken at Columbia.

**Note:** You will not be granted credit for courses taken at other colleges prior to your graduation from secondary school.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT CREDIT CHART

In order to receive AP credit, you must send official score reports to Columbia. The CEEB code is 2116.

SUBJECT	SCORE	CREDIT	REQUIREMENTS OR PLACEMENT STATUS CREDIT
Art History	5	3	No exemption from HUMA UN1121, but credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
Biology	5	3	No exemption
Chemistry	4 or 5	3	Requires completion of CHEM UN1604 with grade of C or better.
	4 or 5	6	Requires completion of CHEM UN2045-UN2046 with grade of C or better.
Computer Science			
A	4 or 5	3	Exemption from COMS W1004. The amount of credit is reduced to 0 if COMS 1004 is taken.
Principles	4 or 5	3	Exemption from COMS W1001. The amount of credit is reduced to 0 if COMS 1001 is taken.
Economics			
Micro & Macro	5 & 4	4	Exemption from ECON UN1105. Exam must be taken in both micro <b>and</b> macro with a score of 5 in one and at least 4 in the other.
English			
Language and Composition	5	3	No exemption, but credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
Literature and Composition	5	3	No exemption, but credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
French	5	3	Credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
German	4 or 5	3	Credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
Government and Politics			
United States	5	4	Exemption from POLS UN2201. Credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
Comparative	5	4	Exemption from POLS UN2501. Credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.  Students minoring in political science may be given an exemption based on AP scores from only one undergraduate introductory political science class, either POLS UN2201 or POLS UN2501.
History			
European	5	3	No exemption, but credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
United States	5	3	No exemption, but credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
Italian	4 or 5	3	Credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
Latin	5	3	Credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.

SUBJECT	SCORE	CREDIT	REQUIREMENTS OR PLACEMENT STATUS CREDIT
Mathematics			
Calculus AB	4 or 5	3*	Requires completion of MATH UN1102 with a grade of C or better. Credit is reduced to 0 if MATH UN1101 is taken.
Calculus BC	4	3*	Requires completion of MATH UN1102 with a grade of C or better. Credit is reduced to 0 if MATH UN1101 is taken.
Calculus BC	5	6	Requires completion of APMA E2000 with a grade of C or better. Credit is reduced to 0 if MATH UN1101 is taken, or to 3 if MATH UN1102 is taken.
Physics (max. of 6 credits)			
C-MECH	4 or 5	3	Credit is reduced to 0 if PHYS UN1401 or UN1601 is taken. Credit is reduced to 0 if PHYS 2801 is taken and the final grade is C– or lower.
C-E&M	4 or 5	3	Credit is reduced to 0 if PHYS UN1402 or UN1602 is taken. Credit is reduced to 0 if PHYS UN2801 is taken and the final grade is C– or lower.
Physics 1 <b>and</b> 2	4 or 5	3	No exemption. Both AP Physics 1 <b>and</b> 2 must be taken to receive credit.
Psychology	5	0	A score of 5 on the AP Psychology exam exempts students from PSYC UN1001, but no credit will be awarded. Provided they meet additional prerequisites, students with a 5 in AP Psychology wishing to fulfill the nontechnical elective requirement may select a more advanced psychology course from the list of approved nontechnical elective courses listed in the Columbia Engineering Bulletin. Students planning to minor in Psychology who wish to skip PSYC UN1001 after having received a 5 on the AP Psychology exam must take a more advanced course to replace PSYC UN1001. Students should consult the Director of Undergraduate Studies to select an appropriate replacement course.
Spanish			
Language	4 or 5	3	Credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.
Literature	4 or 5	3	Credit will count toward the elective nontechnical requirement.

\*Columbia Engineering students with a 4 or 5 on Calculus AB or a 4 on Calculus BC must begin with MATH UN1102: “Calculus II.” If a Columbia Engineering student with these scores goes directly into APMA E2000: “Multivariable Calculus,” the student must still complete MATH UN1102: “Calculus II.” Students with A-level or IB calculus credit must start with MATH UN1102: “Calculus II.”





# TRANSFER AND COMBINED PLAN

## THE BASICS

- As a transfer student, you are expected to graduate in eight terms, including terms completed before entering Columbia. This does not include courses taken during summer sessions prior to your eighth term.
- You will not be granted extended time to finish a particular major.
- Depending on prerequisite requirements, some majors may not be available to you.
- A normal course load is four or five academic classes a term.
- You must complete a minimum of 60 credits at Columbia.

## TRANSFER CREDIT EVALUATIONS

The courses you have taken at outside institutions (or at Columbia while not matriculated as a Columbia College or Columbia Engineering student) have been reviewed. For courses that are substantively similar to those taught at Columbia College or Columbia Engineering, credit has been tentatively awarded. The Transfer Credit Evaluation (TCE) that you received this spring identifies which credits from your prior or home institution have been accepted for transfer to your Columbia degree.

Courses that were taken online and college classes that were completed in high school do not transfer.

Some TCEs may note that specific course syllabi are needed for further credit review. Please forward additional paperwork to [csa-transfers@columbia.edu](mailto:csa-transfers@columbia.edu).

Be mindful of the distinction between credit and course approvals. Credit gets you closer to the 124 Columbia College or 128 Columbia Engineering points you need to complete your Columbia degree. Course approval means that you have satisfied a particular requirement. The credit shown on your TCE is general degree credit, unrelated to any course approvals. Sometimes (but rarely) a course approval for a requirement is given without any corresponding credit.

To earn a B.A. from Columbia College or a B.S. from Columbia Engineering, you must complete a minimum of 60 points of credit at Columbia. For Columbia College students, no more than 64 points from outside sources will be counted toward the degree, and no more than 68 points for students at Columbia

Engineering. Outside sources of credit include transfer credit from another college and advanced standing earned on the basis of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and other standardized examinations. Please review the AP credit chart for [Columbia College](#) or [Columbia Engineering](#). Credit is not granted for college-level courses taken while in high school.

You have been assigned a class standing and an expected graduation date based on previously completed academic credit. Your class standing might change upon receipt of an updated transcript. All students at Columbia College and Columbia Engineering are expected to graduate within eight terms, including terms completed before entry. The expected graduation date cannot be extended. You are expected to work with your CSA adviser to create a plan to graduate by the assigned graduation date.

A final credit evaluation is completed when you matriculate and a final official transcript has been received. During your first year at Columbia, the transfer credit from your prior institution will be added to your record.

## COURSE APPROVAL FOR THE MAJOR/MINOR AND THE CORE CURRICULUM

Course approval for your major/concentration needs to be carried out by a departmental representative in your intended major department. Such exemptions cannot be granted by the The James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising. You will have an opportunity to speak with departmental representatives during the first few weeks of the term. It is recommended that transfers entering as fifth-term juniors make appointments with their faculty adviser in the beginning of the Fall term. Make sure that you bring appropriate course descriptions and transcripts so you can discuss major requirements.

You must petition to request course approval for any of the Core Curriculum requirements. During the summer, you will receive petitioning instructions. Your CSA adviser can answer questions about the process.

## COLUMBIA COLLEGE: THE CORE CURRICULUM

Please review the Columbia College section of this guide for a detailed outline of the [Core Curriculum](#). You are also invited to read about your [Columbia College Journey](#).

Core Curriculum requirements:

- HUMA CC1001-CC1002: "Literature Humanities," two terms\*
- ENGL CC1010: "University Writing," one term
- Science (three terms from the [approved course list](#).)  
Transfer students are not expected to take SCNC CC1000: "Frontiers of Science."
- Foreign language (four terms or equivalent proficiency)
- COCI CC1101-CC1102: "Contemporary Civilization," two terms\*
- HUMA UN1121: "Masterpieces of Western Art," one term
- HUMA UN1123: "Masterpieces of Western Music," one term
- Global Core (two one-term courses from the [approved course list](#))
- PHED UN1001 or UN1002: "Physical Education," two terms, plus swim test. You may substitute one or two Barnard dance technique courses for PHED UN1001 and PHED UN1002.

\*You must complete Literature Humanities prior to Contemporary Civilization. These classes cannot be taken concurrently.

### UNIVERSITY WRITING

What is required? ENGL CC1010: "University Writing"

When? This course must be taken in your first year, provided you have not been granted exemption from the requirement.

May I test or place out? You may petition to receive exemption from the "University Writing" requirement by submitting a portfolio of three essays written for a course or courses taken at your prior institution. You will receive instructions for submitting a petition the summer prior to your first term at Columbia.

### LITERATURE HUMANITIES

What is required? HUMA CC1001-CC1002: "Literature Humanities"

When? Fall and Spring term of the first year

May I test or place out? It is very unlikely that courses taken at other institutions will be considered adequate substitutions. If you feel strongly that you have a case for exemption, please contact your CSA adviser.

### CONTEMPORARY CIVILIZATION

What is required? COCI CC1101-CC1102: "Contemporary Civilization, I and II"

When? Fall and Spring term of second year

May I test or place out? It is unlikely that courses taken at other institutions will be considered adequate substitutions. If you feel strongly that you have a case for exemption, please contact your CSA adviser.

### ART HUMANITIES

What is required? HUMA UN1121: "Masterpieces of Western Art"

When? Before graduation

May I test or place out? You may not test out of this requirement. Exemption from Art Humanities may be obtained by filing a course substitution request. You must request an exemption during your first term. If you feel strongly that you have a case for exemption, please contact your CSA adviser.

**MUSIC HUMANITIES**

What is required?	HUMA UN1123: “Masterpieces of Western Music”
When?	Before graduation
May I test or place out?	While it is difficult to obtain exemption from this course, you may be exempted by passing an <a href="#">exemption exam</a> or by filing a course substitution request. Exemption must be requested during your first term. The exemption exam is usually offered on the first Friday of the Fall term and may be taken only once. If you feel strongly that you have a case for exemption and wish to file a course substitution request, please contact your CSA adviser.

**GLOBAL CORE**

What is required?	Two courses
When?	Before graduation
May I test or place out?	You may petition for exemption from one or both of the requirements based on coursework completed at your previous institution. You will receive instructions for submitting a petition the summer prior to your first term at Columbia. A Global Core course may also be “double-counted” toward a major or minor requirement.
Special note:	The Global Core course approval process is not the same as the College credit approval process.

**SCIENCE**

What is required?	Three courses
When?	Before graduation
May I test or place out?	No. It is possible to be granted partial Core course approval for courses in the natural sciences, mathematics, computer science and statistics taken at your prior institution. You must complete at least one of the courses for the requirement at Columbia. Please note that social science courses are not approved for the science requirement. Psychology courses that cover biological foundations of the discipline may be considered, but not those that focus on social or abnormal psychology. Petitions are reviewed by the faculty Committee on Science Instruction. You will receive instructions for submitting a petition the summer prior to your first term at Columbia.
Special notes:	At least one science course must be taken in the Departments of Astronomy; Biological Sciences; Chemistry; Earth and Environmental Sciences; Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology; Physics; or Psychology. After matriculating at Columbia, you may not use Barnard College courses to fulfill the science requirement unless otherwise noted.  Please note that Barnard's BC 1001 Introduction to Psychology course does not count toward the science requirement.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

What is required?	Satisfactory completion of the fourth term of a foreign language (typically Intermediate Level II) or demonstrated equivalent knowledge. The requirement may also be fulfilled by the successful completion of an advanced-level foreign language or literature course that requires Intermediate Level II or the equivalent as a prerequisite.
When?	We recommend you either begin or continue a language during your first year.
May I test or place out?	Yes. Exemption or placement level can be determined by AP scores, SAT II scores or departmental placement tests. Consult your CSA adviser and see <a href="#">Appendix A</a> for more information.
Special notes:	If you are continuing your studies in a language, you must take a departmental <a href="#">placement exam</a> to determine your appropriate course level. If your native language is not English and the language of instruction in your secondary school was in your native language, you are not required to take an additional foreign language or a <a href="#">placement test</a> .

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

What is required?	Two courses and a swim test
When?	Before graduation
May I test or place out?	No; however, you may receive exemption from one of the two physical education requirements with departmental approval if transfer credit for approved physical education courses is awarded on your TCE. In addition, you may receive physical education credit for participating in varsity intercollegiate athletics at Columbia. Please speak with your CSA adviser for details.

## COLUMBIA ENGINEERING: SELECTING YOUR CLASSES

Continue working with your CSA adviser in the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising (CSA) for information on course approvals for first-year/sophomore and nontechnical requirements. We recommend that you take any outstanding required courses as soon as possible. Course approval for major requirements can be given only by departmental faculty and will be reviewed after your arrival on campus. All Columbia Engineering students must complete the following:

- Calculus (proficiency through “Multivariable Calculus”) and additional math courses as determined by your major selection
- General chemistry (minimum one term) and additional courses as determined by your major selection
- Physics (minimum two terms) and additional courses as determined by your major selection
- Laboratory requirement (minimum one term) as determined by your major selection
- Computer science (minimum one term: ENGI E1006 or COMS W1004) as determined by your major selection
- ENGI E1102: “The Art of Engineering,” one term, unless granted course equivalency as determined by petition
- ENGL CC1010: “University Writing,” one term, unless granted course equivalency as determined by petition and portfolio review
- ECON UN1105: “Principles of Economics”
- Other nontechnical coursework (total nontechnical requirement is 27 points, which must include “University Writing,” “Principles of Economics,” Art or Music Humanities, [9–11 credits of elective nontechnical credit](#) and one of the humanities sequences: Contemporary Civilization, Literature Humanities or two courses from the [approved Global Core list](#))
- Physical education (two terms)

## TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Please review the Columbia Engineering section in this guide for more information on the following first-year/sophomore requirements, available courses/tracks and appropriate placement.

**CALCULUS**

- What is required? All Columbia Engineering students are required to take calculus. Proficiency through Multivariable Calculus is required for all Engineering majors.
- When? Fall term of your first year at Columbia if course approval is not granted
- May I test or place out? You should discuss with your CSA adviser partial or full math course approval based on equivalent courses from your prior institution.

**CHEMISTRY**

- What is required? At least one term of chemistry (possibly two, depending on your declared major)
- When? Fall term of your first year at Columbia if course approval is not granted
- May I test or place out? You should discuss with your CSA adviser partial or full chemistry course approval based on equivalent courses from your prior institution.

**PHYSICS**

- What is required? At least two terms of introductory physics; some majors may require one.
- When? Fall term of your first year at Columbia if course approval is not granted
- May I test or place out? You should discuss with your CSA adviser partial or full physics course approval based on equivalent courses from your prior institution.

**LAB**

- What is required? One term of chemistry and/or physics laboratory work; selection will depend upon major
- When? As soon as possible
- May I test or place out? You should discuss with your CSA adviser lab course approval based on an equivalent course from your prior institution.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

- What is required? One term of a programming course (ENGI 1006 or COMS W1004)
- When? As soon as possible
- May I test or place out? You should discuss with your CSA adviser computer science course approval based on an equivalent course from your prior institution.

**THE ART OF ENGINEERING**

- What is required? One term of ENGI E1102: "The Art of Engineering"
- When? Must be taken in your first year at Columbia
- May I test or place out? Students entering as juniors are exempt from this requirement. Sophomore transfers should consult with their CSA adviser about approval based on an equivalent course from their prior institution.



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**NONTECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**


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- What is required? 27 points of nontechnical coursework; 16–18 of these points are mandated by Columbia Engineering (Required Nontechnical), and 9–11 points are elective ([Elective Nontechnical](#))
- When? Before graduation
- May I test or place out? You may not test out, but it is possible for AP scores or approved courses taken at your prior institution to be applied toward the 27-point nontechnical requirement. You should discuss course approvals with your CSA adviser.

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**UNIVERSITY WRITING**


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- What is required? ENGL CC1010: “University Writing”
- When? Entering Fall or Spring term, if course equivalency is not granted
- May I test or place out? You may petition to receive exemption from the “University Writing” requirement by submitting a portfolio of three essays written for courses taken at your prior institution. You should work closely with your CSA adviser to learn more about this petition process.

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**PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS**


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- What is required? ECON UN1105: “Principles of Economics”
- When? As soon as possible, if course approval is not granted
- May I test or place out? You should discuss with your CSA adviser an exemption based on the Economics AP/IB or approved course(s) taken at your prior institution.
- Special note: Introductory economics courses taken outside of Columbia must cover both microeconomics and macroeconomics.

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**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**


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- What is required? Two courses
- When? Before graduation
- May I test or place out? No; however, transfer students may receive exemption from one of the two physical education requirements with departmental approval if transfer credit for approved physical education courses is awarded on a student’s TCE. In addition, you may receive physical education credit for participating in intercollegiate athletics. Please speak with your CSA adviser for details.

## COMBINED PLAN STUDENTS

This section provides information regarding the Combined Plan transfer credit process. You will have already received a letter outlining your academic status and any first-year and sophomore requirements you need to complete. Prior to registration, please meet with your departmental faculty adviser to plan your course sequence for your major. You should also meet with your CSA adviser.

Listed below are the requirements for the first two years of study in Columbia Engineering, as laid out in the articulation agreements with Combined Plan schools.

- 27 points of nontechnical work, including a writing-intensive course and an economics course
- Computer science
- Calculus through Multivariable Calculus
- Additional math\*
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Lab (physics and/or chemistry)
- Other technical electives required by the department

\*Check with your department for additional math requirements.

To view your major program requirements for the third and fourth years, please refer to the [Columbia Engineering Bulletin](#). The Combined Plan Program must be completed within a two-year period. Additional time is not permitted. It is your responsibility to clear all remaining requirements for your B.A. with your home institution. You must meet the residency requirement of 60 credits in four consecutive terms (not including summer) at Columbia to graduate.

## COMBINED PLAN TRANSFER CREDIT EVALUATION

The Combined Plan Transfer Credit Evaluation reviews courses taken at your prior institution(s). Only credit-bearing courses with a B or better are eligible for transfer or exemption credit. In most cases, you will receive 68 advanced-standing credits, regardless of how many were already earned at your home institution.

It is important to note that the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising reviews only first-year and sophomore foundation requirements. Your academic department will advise you in major requirements and grant any engineering-specific exemptions.

## EXPLANATION OF YOUR ACADEMIC CREDENTIAL FORM

Your academic credential form from the The James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising outlines four areas: courses currently in progress, courses to be completed the summer prior to enrollment at Columbia, courses to be completed within the next two years at Columbia, and courses complete pending department approval. Please note that it is not possible to accommodate a change of major after your arrival at Columbia.

A. Required courses currently in progress: These are prerequisite courses you are currently enrolled in. You must receive a grade of B or better in science/math courses to fulfill the requirement. If your enrollment in these courses has changed, you must notify Undergraduate Admissions as soon as possible ([combinedplan@columbia.edu](mailto:combinedplan@columbia.edu)).

B. Courses to be completed this summer prior to enrollment at Columbia: These are the courses that you are required to take this summer. You must notify Undergraduate Admissions ([combinedplan@columbia.edu](mailto:combinedplan@columbia.edu)) and your CSA adviser with your anticipated enrollment, institution at which you will be enrolling and course descriptions for pre-approval as soon as possible. If in-person instruction is not available, you may take these courses online, whether at Columbia, your home institution, or another accredited four-year college or university. All courses must be taken for a grade, and not with pass/fail grading. If you do not complete these courses during this summer, your admission to the Combined Plan Program may be revoked. In all cases, transcripts must be received by Friday, August 1, 2025, by Undergraduate Admissions. Please note that you may not be able to register for courses at Columbia if a transcript with completed summer coursework is not received by this time.

C. Courses to be completed within the next two years at Columbia: These are courses that you will take once enrolled at Columbia. You do not need to take these courses prior to

enrollment. If you believe that you have completed a course that is equivalent to one of these courses, please retain your course materials and syllabi for review upon enrollment and orientation.

D. Courses complete pending department approval: These are prerequisite courses that you have completed, but whose equivalence must be evaluated by faculty once you are enrolled at Columbia. These are not courses that need to be retaken over the summer. Once course descriptions, syllabi, or any other necessary material have been reviewed, if the course is not determined to be equivalent, you may be required to take the Columbia course within the next two years at Columbia. Be sure to retain course syllabi.

### REQUESTING ADDITIONAL EXEMPTIONS

You will work with your adviser in the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising to request exemptions for the first two years' requirements. You will work with your major department adviser to request exemptions for the major requirements. It is strongly suggested that you keep a file that includes a course description and syllabus for each class, especially those courses for which you may request exemption by the department. It will make the process much smoother when you meet with your major adviser.

alma mater



# **ACADEMIC RESOURCES**

## Registration Tools

The following websites will help you prepare your Fall schedule and consider potential courses of study.

### SCHOOL BULLETIN

[Columbia College](#)  
[Columbia Engineering](#)

From course descriptions and major requirements to rules, regulations and disciplinary procedures, your school's Bulletin is the official source for answers to your academic questions.

### DIRECTORY OF CLASSES

The Directory of Classes contains all courses offered in all undergraduate and graduate programs at Columbia (with the exception of Teachers College). Students should use their respective Bulletins for registration purposes, as not all courses in the Directory of Classes are open to Columbia College and Engineering students. Speak with your CSA adviser if you have questions about which courses are available to you.

### VERGIL

Vergil provides instant access to student records, including grades, registration appointments, class schedules, financial aid information and account details. Official transcripts may also be ordered via Vergil. To access this information, you must first activate your [Columbia UNI](#). Vergil also allows you to search for courses by instructor, date and time, department, subject area, key words and more. Vergil's Course Planner and graphical calendar interface enable you to keep track of courses of interest and register when your assigned registration time arrives.

## Academic Support

### DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES

A number of resources are available through the academic departments. For information regarding each of these services, refer to each department's website.

**Faculty and teaching assistant office hours** are posted on course syllabi, departmental websites and faculty office doors. Office hours are times set aside by a faculty member to meet with students to clarify concepts, discuss assignments and mentor potential majors. You should take advantage of these hours to ask questions, address concerns and connect with faculty.

**Help Rooms** are available for subjects taught in a number of departments, including [physics](#), [statistics](#), [mathematics](#) and [chemistry](#). During their open hours, you may ask questions of faculty and graduate assistants. Help Room schedules are available on the relevant departmental websites.

The **Writing Center** is staffed by graduate students and provides writers of all levels and abilities — from first-years to seniors working on their theses — with the opportunity to have detailed conversations about their writing with experienced readers. Writing consultants will work with students at any stage in the writing process. You may sign up for appointments at the Writing Center or drop by during operating hours.

The **Language Resource Center** supports students throughout the course of their language study at Columbia. The LRC provides flexible physical and virtual spaces for language learning, facilitates access to resources and connects students to language-related opportunities at Columbia and beyond. The LRC is also home to the Shared Course Initiative, which uses specialized distance classrooms for sharing several languages among Columbia, Cornell and Yale.

### TUTORING AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising (CSA) provides peer tutoring in a range of introductory courses. Trained tutors assist students with mastering course content and maximizing their potential for academic success. Students should meet with their CSA adviser to request a tutor as soon as the need becomes apparent. Additionally, the CSA also offers a peer academic skills consultant program, where trained upperclass students are available to meet individually with students to discuss effective learning strategies. Peer academic consultants can assist with time management and test-taking strategies, goal setting, note taking and other study methods. Academic success seminars are also presented each term. Topics range from time management and exam preparation to how to form an effective study group. Seminars are open to all students. Speak with your CSA adviser for more information.



## **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES**

The Columbia University Libraries extend student learning by supporting the development of literacy skills — cultural, textual and visual — through workshops, training programs and personal consultation. The Libraries collection includes resources in more than 450 languages and primary source materials that span more than 4,000 years of thought. Libraries staff can help you design research strategies and develop new skills, while serving as a key node in connecting you to a boundless multitude of print and electronic resources around the world. The Libraries also provide many kinds of study spaces across campus for quiet and collaborative study.

## **Making Plans**

### **STUDY ABROAD**

Students who are interested in studying abroad must plan their schedules early and with care. The Center for Undergraduate Global Engagement helps students participate in intellectually rigorous global experiences that enhance and complement their Columbia education as well as their personal, academic and professional growth. Students from every major should explore the possibilities that international education has to offer. Make an appointment with a study abroad adviser to learn more.

### **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Undergraduate Research and Fellowships supports Columbia undergraduates and alumni in exploring and applying for internal, national and international fellowships and research opportunities. To this end, the office works with students to ascertain which opportunities best meet their intellectual, professional and personal goals and seeks to give each student the personalized support necessary to submit the most compelling application possible. The office conducts workshops on the fellowship application process, and hosts meetings with representatives from foundations and universities around the world that provide funded summer and postgraduate opportunities. From helping students connect with faculty members, to providing feedback on research proposals, to conducting mock interviews, to general advising, the office helps students develop confidence in articulating and pursuing their aspirations and in best representing themselves within each application submitted.

## **DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS**

### **3-2 COMBINED PLAN PROGRAM**

This program is for students who wish to earn both a B.A. and B.S. in five years. Students enter Columbia Engineering after their third year in Columbia College. For more information, see the [Columbia Engineering Bulletin](#).

### **4-1 PROGRAM**

This program allows Columbia Engineering students to earn a B.S. from Columbia Engineering and a B.A. from Columbia College in five years of study. Students who plan to enter the 4-1 Combined Plan Program should meet with their CSA adviser no later than their second year to discuss feasibility and to plan their schedules. Students apply for admission upon completing their third year. Final acceptance is contingent upon their completion of the B.S. and the entire Columbia College Core Curriculum by the end of their fourth year. Speak with your CSA adviser for more information.

### **SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM**

This program allows students from Columbia College to earn an M.I.A. or M.P.A. from the School of International and Public Affairs in addition to their B.A. in five years of study. Students apply for admission to the program in their junior year. Interested students should consult their CSA adviser early in their academic career to begin planning.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM**

The dual degree program between Columbia College and The Mailman School of Public Health allows students to earn both a B.A. and an M.P.H. in five years of study. Students apply for admission to the program the Fall term of their junior year and should consult their CSA adviser as early as possible to discuss application prerequisites and to begin course planning.

## **Preparation for Professional Study**

### **PREPROFESSIONAL ADVISING**

The James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising includes preprofessional advising for Columbia College and Columbia Engineering. Preprofessional advisers help guide students who are planning a career in law, business or one of the health professions. They advise and assist students throughout their undergraduate years and beyond, working most intensively with students during their application year.

**HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

If you are thinking about medical school or other health professions graduate programs, you should attend the prehealth advising meeting during the New Student Orientation Program, which will introduce you to the prehealth curriculum and advising system and give you detailed advice about planning your schedule prior to registering. Check [Countdown to Columbia](#) for session dates.

**LAW SCHOOL**

Law schools do not require a specific course of study; they prefer that applicants have a broad background of knowledge, with extensive work in writing and good analytical skills. Admission to schools of law depends on the quality of academic work rather than on the field of study. Your undergraduate program should include courses with substantial writing and reading components that strengthen analytical and research skills.

**BUSINESS SCHOOL**

Admission to business school depends on the quality of overall academic work and related experiences. Students planning to attend business school may major in any field; however, the undergraduate program should include courses that improve analytical and quantitative skills.

**NEW YORK STATE INITIAL TEACHING CERTIFICATION**

Columbia College students may qualify for New York State Initial Teaching Certification in either Childhood Education (grades 1–6) or Adolescent Education (grades 7–12) through the [Barnard College Education Program](#). Interested students are encouraged to attend an open house within their first year.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity defines a university and is essential to the mission of education. At Columbia, you are expected to participate in an academic community that honors intellectual work and respects its origins. The abilities to synthesize information and produce original work are key components in the learning process. As such, a violation of academic integrity is one of the most serious offenses that one can commit at Columbia. If found responsible, violations range from conditional disciplinary probation through expulsion from the University. Compromising academic integrity not only jeopardizes a student's academic, professional and social development but also violates the standards of our community. As a Columbia student, you are responsible for making informed choices with regard to academic integrity both inside and outside the classroom.

**HONOR PLEDGE AND HONOR CODE**

The Student Councils of Columbia College and undergraduate Columbia Engineering, on behalf of their respective student bodies, have resolved that maintaining academic integrity is the preserve of all members of our intellectual community.

As a consequence, all College and Engineering students make the following pledge:

*We, the undergraduate students of Columbia University, hereby pledge to value the integrity of our ideas and the ideas of others by honestly presenting our work, respecting authorship and striving not simply for answers but also for understanding in the pursuit of our common scholastic goals. In this way, we seek to build an academic community governed by our collective efforts, diligence and Code of Honor.*

In addition, College and Engineering students are committed to the following honor code:

*I affirm that I will not plagiarize, use unauthorized materials or give or receive illegitimate help on assignments, papers or examinations. I will also uphold equity and honesty in the evaluation of my work and the work of others. I do so to sustain a community built around this Code of Honor.*

**STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Columbia classes are challenging, and frequently the workload and grading standards greatly exceed students' high school experiences. When students — pressed for time, unprepared for an assignment or exam or anxious about the need to earn a high

grade — choose to cheat, it compromises the integrity of our academic community, disrespects instructors and classmates, and deprives those students of the opportunity to learn.

You should be prepared, manage your time and consider the following when approaching your coursework:

- Discuss with each of your faculty their expectations for maintaining academic integrity. Understand that you have a responsibility to uphold academic integrity based on the expectations outlined in each of your course syllabi.
- Understand instructors' criteria for academic integrity and their policies on citation and group collaboration.
- Clarify any answers to questions or concerns about assignments with instructors as early as possible.
- Develop a timeline for drafts and final revision of assignments and begin preparation in advance.
- Use campus resources such as the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising and Counseling and Psychological Services if you feel overwhelmed, burdened or pressured.
- Attend Academic Integrity workshops offered throughout the year.
- If you suspect that an academic integrity violation has occurred, know that you can talk to your instructor, CSA adviser, the director of Academic Integrity or the Center for Student Success and Intervention.

If you have any questions about Academic Integrity, send an email to [ugrad-integrity@columbia.edu](mailto:ugrad-integrity@columbia.edu).

## TYPES OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY VIOLATIONS

Violations of academic integrity may be intentional or unintentional and may include dishonesty in academic assignments or dealing with University officials, including faculty and staff members. Moreover, dishonesty during the Dean's Discipline hearing process may result in more serious consequences. Learn more about the types of academic integrity violations by reading our [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

## DEAN'S DISCIPLINE

Overseen by the Center for Student Success and Intervention, the Dean's Discipline process is an educational one that

determines responsibility using the principle of "preponderance of evidence."

A student charged with a violation of academic integrity is notified and provided the opportunity to respond through the Dean's Discipline process. If the student is found responsible for a violation, sanctions will be issued upon consideration of the specifics of the case, institutional precedent, disciplinary history, aggravating circumstances and community impact. A student found responsible for an academic integrity violation may expect to receive a sanction ranging from conditional disciplinary or disciplinary probation and may even be suspended or expelled. Students will also be referred to meet with the Director of Academic Integrity to reflect on the process and reconnect to campus support resources.

Additionally, students found responsible for violations of academic integrity may be required to report such offenses on future applications to graduate and professional schools. Such offenses will also be noted on recommendations for Latin honors and Phi Beta Kappa. The parents or guardians of dependent students may be notified when a student is no longer in good disciplinary standing. The University reserves the right to indicate disciplinary suspension or expulsion on a student's academic transcript. Furthermore, the instructor of record reserves the right to determine how the student's final grade will be affected in the course where the violation occurred.

For information on the Dean's Discipline process, please visit the [Center for Student Success and Intervention](#).





# **CAMPUS RESOURCES**

To help you prepare for the start of the term, detailed information for incoming Columbia College and Columbia Engineering undergraduates is available through [Countdown to Columbia](#). Sign in to view an interactive, customized checklist of your deadlines to help you track everything you'll need to do before starting the term. Continue to check back regularly for updates and announcements.

### **JAMES H. AND CHRISTINE TURK BERICK CENTER FOR STUDENT ADVISING**

The Center for Student Advising (CSA) brings together, under one roof, general academic advising, Academic Success Programs, First-in-Family Programs, the Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program and Preprofessional Advising. Students are assigned an adviser who works with them throughout their time at Columbia. CSA advisers help plan academic programs each term, answer questions about degree and Core Curriculum requirements (for Columbia College) and first-year/sophomore and nontechnical requirements (for Columbia Engineering) and may address other questions or concerns. CSA advisers work collaboratively with faculty members and other campus offices and resources to help you succeed.

### **LIVE WELL | LEARN WELL**

Live Well | Learn Well aims to create a campus culture that values and promotes individual well-being and a healthy community for undergraduates at Columbia University. Along with student stories and a calendar of events to enhance well-being, the website provides a comprehensive list of on-campus resources that can help support you throughout your time as a student, from where to turn for mental health counseling to funding academic tutoring to accessing support tailored to specific communities, including LGBTQ students, first-generation students, international students and students of color.

### **UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT LIFE**

Undergraduate Student Life (USL) comprises Multicultural Affairs, Residential Life and Student Engagement. Collectively, these offices foster community by promoting inclusivity, encouraging responsibility, and creating and supporting opportunities for you to develop connections within and beyond Columbia's campus. Throughout the year, USL supports community events; provides leadership, cultural and civic engagement programs and opportunities; offers diversity education and training; supports identity development and exploration; and advises students, student organizations and residential communities.

### **MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS**

Multicultural Affairs promotes an inclusive campus community by providing educational resources and creating supportive environments for personal identity development, intercultural connections and intergroup dialogue. Multicultural Affairs facilitates student engagement with many facets of diversity, including race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, country of origin, sexual orientation and gender identity/expression. Offering programs in diversity education, social justice, leadership development, advocacy and mentoring, Multicultural Affairs also advises cultural and identity-based student organizations. In addition to serving as a resource for all students, Multicultural Affairs works with first-generation and low-income students, LGBTQ students, students of color and international students through all phases of the campus experience.

### **RESIDENTIAL LIFE**

Residential Life comprises a team of students, faculty and professional staff who strive to enhance the quality of the residential experience by cultivating an atmosphere conducive to educational pursuits and developing community among the student body. This team includes resident advisers, undergraduates who live in the residence halls and serve as peer mentors and educators. Residential Life helps facilitate connections among hallmates, provides programming opportunities and supports shared community standards. Residential Life staff provide guidance through challenges you may experience adjusting to residential living. [Fraternity and Sorority Life](#) is also a vibrant part of the residential experience and the Columbia community.

### **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

Student Engagement is committed to building a strong sense of campus community by providing programming that enhances leadership skills, fosters community engagement and encourages the exploration of the variety of cocurricular opportunities available to Columbia students. Student Engagement staff advise the Columbia College and Columbia Engineering student councils, as well as a broad range of student organizations recognized by the student governing boards, and provide support for a host of community traditions and celebrations. You can find opportunities for community building, social interaction and participation in campus life through programs and events supported by Student Engagement, including the New Student Orientation Program, pre-orientation programs, Urban NY, Alternative Break Program, the WKCR radio station and more.



## CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS AND INTERVENTION

The Center for Student Success and Intervention strives to effect change and promote integrity, accountability and respect in the Columbia community. Working with students, faculty and other community partners, this office thoroughly investigates and resolves incidents of academic, behavioral and gender-based misconduct through a collaborative, educational and reflective process guided by established values.

## CENTER FOR CAREER EDUCATION

The Columbia University Center for Career Education (CCE) supports our diverse body of undergraduate students and alumni in reaching their personal and professional goals by providing access to networking connections, experiential learning opportunities and jobs, comprehensive resources and customized career counseling. CCE encourages students to visit the Career Center and our website, as well as to engage with their profiles in Lionshare, CCE's dedicated job and internship database.

CCE develops relationships with employers to connect students with high-quality internships, as well as full-time, part-time and temporary on- and off-campus employment opportunities throughout the year. In addition, CCE provides career development opportunities for students beginning in their first year and offers externships, internships, résumé and interviewing preparation, site visits to employers, career fairs, alumni-student networking events and individual career counseling. Highlights among employer events are the Undergraduate Career Fair and Engineering Career Fair in the fall and specialized industry showcases throughout the year. In partnership with alumni and employers, CCE has also developed formal externship, internship and professional development programs, including the Navab Fellowship Program, Career Exploration Summit, Spring Break Site Visit Program, Columbia Exploration Externship, the Virtual Practice Interview Program, the CCE Alumni Mentorship Program (CAMP) and Internships+. CCE also administers the Work Exemption Program, the Columbia College Summer Funding Program and the Columbia Engineering Internship Fund. Learn more about eligibility [here](#).

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS OFFICE

The International Students and Scholars Office is authorized to oversee students' immigration status. The ISSO offers full advisory and documentation services for international students and serves as a source of comprehensive and up-to-date information on government regulations that affect international students throughout their program of study.

The ISSO participates in orientation programs and offers information sessions throughout the year on how to apply for work permission during and/or after a program of study. It provides tax workshops in the Spring term as well as free access to online nonresident tax-preparation software. The ISSO Student Advising Team is located in Armstrong Hall, 545 West 112th Street, 4th Floor. Email us with any questions at [isso@columbia.edu](mailto:isso@columbia.edu) or arrange to speak with an adviser by appointment.

## STUDENT SERVICES

### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Columbia University Information Technology provides students with central computing and communications services including email, printing services, computer security and other software licensing, online course management, web publishing and student information applications. For technical support, contact CUIT at 212-854-1919 or visit the website.

### DINING

Explore the Columbia Dining website to plan your menu, see which locations are open, track nutritional info, learn about resources for special diets and food allergies, or leave feedback. The dining office's registered dietitian is available to address questions and concerns related to food allergies, intolerances and dietary preferences. Please email [dining@columbia.edu](mailto:dining@columbia.edu) if you have any questions, or want to schedule a consultation or discuss meal planning.

### FINANCIAL AID AND EDUCATIONAL FINANCING

The Office of Financial Aid and Educational Financing serves undergraduate students at Columbia College and Columbia Engineering, awards financial aid and provides guidance to students and families about education loans and other financing options — whether or not you are receiving financial aid.

### HOUSING

Visit the Columbia Housing website to learn more about your assigned residence hall and other housing options on campus. For information on the vibrant residential community you'll be joining, visit [Residential Life](#).

### MAIL SERVICES

The Undergraduate Package Center provides drop-off and pick-up services for both mail and packages. It is located on the lower level of Wien Hall.

### OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR

The Office of the University Registrar manages the academic calendar, student registration, degree conferral, class and exam times, and student transcripts.

### STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

Student Financial Services supports the University community by managing student billing, accepting and processing payments, distributing refunds and administering federal work-study.

### COLUMBIA HEALTH

Columbia Health provides extensive on-campus healthcare programs and services for students while they are enrolled. It works with the Columbia Student Health Insurance Plan (or an accepted, comparable plan) to meet students' healthcare needs and help them achieve personal and academic success.

### STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

Columbia requires all full-time students to have health insurance. To meet this requirement, students can confirm their enrollment in the Columbia Student Health Insurance plan or request a waiver that provides proof of alternate coverage that meets the established criteria set by Columbia Health (domestic students only).

All international students, regardless of credit load, are required to enroll in the Columbia Student Health Insurance plan. On a case by case basis, some international students may be eligible for an exception. Details are available on our website.

### IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCE

In compliance with New York State Law and University policy, all students are required to complete [immunization requirements](#) at least 30 days before their scheduled course registration.

### MEDICAL SERVICES

Medical Services provides routine and urgent medical care, travel medicine, immunizations, as well as sexual health services, reproductive and gynecological services, LGBTQ healthcare, confidential HIV testing, acupuncture, and sports medicine services. Services are provided virtually and in-person.

Students can schedule an appointment by calling 212-854-7426 (available 24/7 for medical emergencies) or through the [Patient Portal](#).

### COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Counseling and Psychological Services offers short-term individual counseling, referrals for longer-term therapy, consultations for couples, student-life support groups, medication consultation, and crisis intervention. Students can schedule an appointment by calling 212-854-2878 (available 24/7 for urgent mental health concerns) or find [support space](#) on our website.

### DISABILITY SERVICES

Disability Services provides in-person and virtual academic accommodations, support services, accommodations for University events, facilitates on-campus housing accommodations, and service/assistance animals for students with various types of disabilities including but not limited to physical, hearing, visual, learning, psychological, chronic medical conditions, and temporary injuries to cultivate a campus culture that is responsive to their needs. Students must register with Disability Services to receive accommodations and support services. Detailed information about the registration process is available on our website. Services received in high school or at other universities do not automatically transfer to Columbia University.

The registration process can take three to five weeks to complete, and it is strongly recommended that you contact the office no later than July 15, so accommodations can be determined prior to your arrival for the Fall term. Students can find more information or schedule an appointment by calling 212-854-2388, emailing [disability@columbia.edu](mailto:disability@columbia.edu) or by attending drop-in hours.

### ALICE! HEALTH PROMOTION

Alice! Health Promotion provides virtual and in-person one-on-one health education appointments; group workshops; short-term substance abuse intervention (BASICS); and support for stress, sleep, time management, birth control, alcohol and drugs, and more to prioritize well-being and enhance capacity within a campus community where students can thrive. Alice!

publishes [Go Ask Alice!](#), an award-winning health Q&A website that features thousands of questions submitted by readers since 1993. Students can schedule an appointment by calling 212-854-5453 or emailing [alice@columbia.edu](mailto:alice@columbia.edu). [Drop-in hours](#) are also available.

### [GAY HEALTH ADVOCACY PROJECT](#)

GHAP offers HIV testing and treatment management, PrEP and PEP consultations, STI testing information, birth control education, and individual and group support by peers and professional staff to students of all genders and orientations. Students can schedule an appointment by calling 212-854-6655 or emailing [ghap@columbia.edu](mailto:ghap@columbia.edu).

### [SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESPONSE AND RAPE CRISIS ANTI-VIOLENCE SUPPORT CENTER](#)

Sexual Violence Response (SVR) is available to all students and provides advocacy, connection to resources, online orders of protection, and virtual or in-person accompaniment. Through prevention education and training, SVR promotes behaviors to foster a campus culture that encourages positive, thriving, and consensual relationships and supports survivors and co-survivors of violence. SVR Advocates are available 24/7 year-round via our Helpline: 212-854-HELP (4357). Students can schedule an appointment by calling 212-854-3500 or emailing [SVResponse@columbia.edu](mailto:SVResponse@columbia.edu).

### [SEXUAL RESPECT](#)

Columbia is committed to fostering an environment that is free from gender-based discrimination and harassment, including sexual assault, and all other forms of gender-based misconduct. The University recognizes its responsibility to increase awareness of such misconduct, prevent its occurrence, support students who experience gender-based misconduct and deal fairly and firmly with students who violate University policy. In addressing issues of gender-based misconduct, all members of the University must respect each other and work together in a manner consistent with our deeply held academic and community values.

### [OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS LIFE](#)

The Office of Religious Life provides resources to meet the diverse religious needs of students at Columbia. Housed in Earl Hall, the office acts as a hub for religious services, advisers, spiritual counseling and spaces for prayer and meditation. The office also sponsors a variety of multi-faith programs that allow students from different faith traditions to dialogue with and to learn from one another.

### [UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN](#)

The Office of the University Chaplain ministers to the Columbia community while promoting interreligious understanding and supporting individual spirituality and faith perspectives. The University Chaplain promotes interfaith and intercultural awareness; fosters learning through spiritual, ethical, religious, political and cultural exchanges; and hosts programs on matters of justice, faith and spirituality. The University Chaplain is available for confidential pastoral counseling to individuals, couples and families in the Columbia community, and the Office of the University Chaplain may also assist with private ceremonies such as weddings, christenings and memorial services.

### [PUBLIC SAFETY](#)

At Columbia, the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff is our top priority. The Department of Public Safety provides comprehensive services to help keep the community safe, including uniformed personnel stationed at fixed locations, and foot, bicycle and motorized patrols that provide a highly visible presence around campus. An on-campus emergency number, extension 4-5555, along with emergency call boxes across campus, connect directly to our 24-hour operations centers to help ensure rapid response to calls for assistance.

The Lion Safe app allows the user to request emergency services at the touch of a button along with other useful quick links including maps, shuttle schedules, crime alerts, emergency protocols, campus safety notifications, and nonemergency numbers for each campus. Additional information including download instructions can be found on the Public Safety website. The department also operates the “Safe Haven” program, which provides more than 100 storefront locations near campus where people who feel threatened can take refuge, and manages the University’s Emergency Notification System. Please sign up on the [Public Safety](#) website.

### **BOOKSTORE**

The Columbia bookstore is located on the lower level of Lerner Hall. It is a full-service bookstore for the purchase of textbooks, general reading books, school supplies, stationery, Columbia apparel, gifts and room essentials for residence hall living.

# APPENDICES

## Appendix A

### Foreign Language Requirement

You may satisfy the requirement in one of the following ways:

1. Complete the second term of an intermediate language sequence.
2. Demonstrate an equivalent competence through the appropriate score on an SAT II Subject Test or Advanced Placement exam.
3. Demonstrate an equivalent competence through one of the College's placement tests.
4. Successfully complete an advanced-level foreign language or literature course that requires Intermediate II or the equivalent as a prerequisite.

If your native language is not English, you are not required to take an additional foreign language or a placement exam if you completed your secondary school curriculum in your native language.

Additional information:

- You must take all language courses for a letter grade.
- If you wish to test out of the language requirement with a language not taught at Columbia, consult with your CSA adviser and contact the [Language Resource Center](#).
- For some languages, equivalent courses offered at Barnard College may be used to satisfy the requirement.
- If you have taken a language course at another institution in fulfillment of the language requirement, you must pass a departmental placement exam at Columbia.
- If you wish to receive advanced credit or exemption for the language requirement, you may not take courses at Columbia that cover similar or more basic material than the advanced work already completed.

### PLACEMENT POLICIES

See below for SAT II and Advanced Placement information for Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Russian and Spanish.

Please visit the [placement exams](#) page, which will be updated throughout the summer.

### CHINESE

Neither the Chinese AP exam nor the SAT II Subject Test in Chinese satisfies the language requirement. If you wish to continue your study of Chinese, you must take the departmental [placement exam](#) prior to registering.

### FRENCH

The French department recognizes the SAT II Subject Test and AP Exam as outlined below. If you have not taken either of these exams but wish to continue with French or use French to place out of the foreign language requirement, you must take the departmental [placement exam](#) prior to registering.

SAT II: Subject Test in French

Score	Course Placement
below 420	Elementary I
420–499	Elementary II
500–639	Intermediate I
640–779	Intermediate II
780+	satisfies language requirement

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM IN FRENCH

A score of 5 on the AP French language exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. Upon successful completion of a 3-point 3000-level (or higher) course in French at Columbia, the Department of French and Romance Philology will award 3 points of AP credit, provided the grade in the course is a B or better.

### ADDITIONAL EXAMS IN FRENCH

A score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB Exam in French satisfies the foreign language requirement, as does completion of the B2 level of DELF (Diplôme d'Etudes en Langue Française) or the C1 level of DALF (Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française). Additionally, a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB Exam in French results in 6 points of transfer credit, or completing the C1 level of DALF results in 3 points of transfer credit, with no obligation to take French courses while at Columbia. Completing the B2 level of DELF makes you eligible for 3 points of transfer credit if you subsequently complete a 3000-level (or higher) course at Columbia with a grade of B or higher that is taught in French.

### GERMAN

The Department of Germanic Languages recognizes the AP Exam as outlined below, but very strongly encourages students with high school German to take the Columbia [placement exam](#) to ensure proper placement. If you do not submit scores from these exam but wish to continue with German, you must take a departmental placement exam prior to registering.



### ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM IN GERMAN

A score of 5 on the AP German language exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. Upon successful completion of a 3-point 3000-level (or higher) course in German at Columbia, the department will award 3 points of AP credit, provided the grade in the course is a B or better. A score of 4 on the German language exam satisfies the foreign language requirement, but no points will be awarded.

### HEBREW

A score of 700+ on the SAT II Subject Test in Hebrew and/or a passing grade on the Jerusalem Examination satisfies the foreign language requirement. Depending on their scores, students who passed the Jerusalem Examination may also receive credit. If you plan to enroll in Hebrew language courses beyond Elementary Hebrew I, you must take a [placement exam](#) prior to registering. Beginners should register for Elementary Hebrew I.

### ITALIAN

A score of 5 on the AP Italian language exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. Upon successful completion of a 3-point 3000-level (or higher) course in Italian at Columbia, the Department of Italian will award 3 points of AP credit, provided the grade in the course is a B or better. A score of 4 on an Italian language exam satisfies the foreign language requirement, but no points will be awarded. If you plan to continue your study of Italian, you must take a departmental [placement exam](#) prior to registering.

### JAPANESE

A score of 5 on the AP Japanese Exam satisfies the foreign language requirement, as does a score of 780 or higher on the SAT II Subject Test in Japanese.

### KOREAN

No external tests satisfy the language requirement. If you wish to continue your study of Korean, you must take the departmental [placement exam](#) before registering for classes.

### LATIN

A score of 5 on the AP Latin exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. Upon successful completion of a 3-point 3000-level (or higher) course at Columbia, the Department of Classics will award 3 points of AP credit, provided the grade in the course is a B or better. No credit or placement is given for the SAT II Subject Test. If you wish to continue with Latin, you should take the departmental placement test and/or speak with the program director prior to registering.

### RUSSIAN

A score of 5 on the AP/NEWL Russian exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. Upon successful completion of a 3-point 3000-level (or higher) course taught in Russian, the Department of Slavic Languages will award 3 points of additional credit, provided the grade in the course is a B or better. No credit or placement is given for the SAT II Subject test. If you wish to continue with Russian, you should take the departmental [placement test](#) and speak with the Russian program director prior to registering to ensure proper placement.

### SPANISH

The Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures recognizes SAT II Subject Tests and AP exams as outlined below. All students not submitting those scores but continuing with Spanish must take a departmental [placement exam](#) prior to registering.

#### SAT II: Subject Test in Spanish

Score	Course Placement
below 420	Elementary I
420–569	Elementary II or Comprehensive Beginning*
570–689	Intermediate I
690–779	Intermediate II or Comprehensive Intermediate*
780+	satisfies language requirement

\*with instructor approval and if Spanish is not your first foreign language

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM IN SPANISH

A score of 5 on the AP Spanish language or literature exam satisfies the foreign language requirement. Upon successful completion of a 3-point 3300-level (or higher) course in Spanish at Columbia, the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures will award 3 points of AP credit, provided the grade in the course is a B or better. A score of 4 on the Spanish language or literature exam satisfies the foreign language requirement, but no points will be awarded.

### INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE EXAM IN SPANISH

A score of 5 or higher on the Higher Level IB Exam in Spanish satisfies the foreign language requirement.

### ADDITIONAL EXAMS IN SPANISH

The certification of the DELE Examination (Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera) for either the Intermedio or the Superior levels satisfies the foreign language requirement, as does the certification of the CELU Examination (Certificado de Español: Lengua y Uso) for either the Intermedio or the Avanzado levels.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGES OFFERED AT COLUMBIA

Please contact the faculty members listed on this page, if you have questions about courses in the following languages:

**Arabic** | Taoufik Ben-Amor | [tb46@columbia.edu](mailto:tb46@columbia.edu)  
**Armenian** | Charry Karamanoukian | [ck2444@columbia.edu](mailto:ck2444@columbia.edu)  
**Bengali** | Dwijen Bhattacharjya | [db174@columbia.edu](mailto:db174@columbia.edu)  
**Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian** | Aleksandar Boskovic | [ab3865@columbia.edu](mailto:ab3865@columbia.edu)  
**Burmese** | Vera Felder | [vf2321@columbia.edu](mailto:vf2321@columbia.edu)  
**Catalan** | Elsa Ubeda | [eu2130@columbia.edu](mailto:eu2130@columbia.edu)  
**Chinese** | Zhirong Wang | [zw30@columbia.edu](mailto:zw30@columbia.edu)  
**Czech** | Christopher Harwood | [cwh4@columbia.edu](mailto:cwh4@columbia.edu)  
**Dutch** | Wijnie de Groot | [wed23@columbia.edu](mailto:wed23@columbia.edu)  
**Finnish** | Heli Sirvioe | [hs3026@columbia.edu](mailto:hs3026@columbia.edu)  
**French** | Pascale Hubert-Leibler | [ph2028@columbia.edu](mailto:ph2028@columbia.edu)  
**German** | Jutta Schmiere-Heller | [js2331@columbia.edu](mailto:js2331@columbia.edu)  
**Greek (Classical)** | Nikolas Kakkoufa | [nk2776@columbia.edu](mailto:nk2776@columbia.edu)  
**Greek (Modern)** | Nikolas Kakkoufa | [nk2776@columbia.edu](mailto:nk2776@columbia.edu)  
**Hebrew** | Naama Harel | [nh2508@columbia.edu](mailto:nh2508@columbia.edu)  
**Hindi-Urdu** | Rakesh Ranjan | [rr2574@columbia.edu](mailto:rr2574@columbia.edu)  
**Hungarian** | Carol Rounds | [chr2@columbia.edu](mailto:chr2@columbia.edu)  
**Indonesian** | Christopher Kaiser | [ck2831@columbia.edu](mailto:ck2831@columbia.edu)  
**Italian** | Lani Muller | [italian@columbia.edu](mailto:italian@columbia.edu)  
**Japanese** | Kyoko Matsui Loetscher | [kml2168@columbia.edu](mailto:kml2168@columbia.edu)  
**Khmer** | Vera Felder | [vf2321@columbia.edu](mailto:vf2321@columbia.edu)  
**Korean** | Joowon Suh | [js604@columbia.edu](mailto:js604@columbia.edu)  
**Latin** | Nikolas Kakkoufa | [nk2776@columbia.edu](mailto:nk2776@columbia.edu)  
**Nepali** | Vera Felder | [vf2321@columbia.edu](mailto:vf2321@columbia.edu)  
**Persian** | Saeed Honarmand | [sh3468@columbia.edu](mailto:sh3468@columbia.edu)  
**Polish** | Christopher Caes | [cc4038@columbia.edu](mailto:cc4038@columbia.edu)  
**Portuguese** | João Nemi Neto | [jn2395@columbia.edu](mailto:jn2395@columbia.edu)  
**Pulaar** | Mariame Sy | [sms2168@columbia.edu](mailto:sms2168@columbia.edu)  
**Punjabi** | Sandeep Singh Chohan | [ss2343@columbia.edu](mailto:ss2343@columbia.edu)  
**Romanian** | Christopher Kaiser | [ck2831@columbia.edu](mailto:ck2831@columbia.edu)  
**Russian** | Marina Tsylyna | [mt3750@columbia.edu](mailto:mt3750@columbia.edu)  
**Sanskrit** | Jay Ramesh | [jr3203@columbia.edu](mailto:jr3203@columbia.edu)

**Sinhala** | Vera Felder | [vf2321@columbia.edu](mailto:vf2321@columbia.edu)  
**Spanish** | Francisca Aguiló-Mora | [fa2443@columbia.edu](mailto:fa2443@columbia.edu)  
**Swahili** | Mariame Sy | [sms2168@columbia.edu](mailto:sms2168@columbia.edu)  
**Swedish** | Heli Sirvioe | [hs3026@columbia.edu](mailto:hs3026@columbia.edu)  
**Tamil** | Jay Ramesh | [jr3203@columbia.edu](mailto:jr3203@columbia.edu)  
**Telugu** | Vera Felder | [vf2321@columbia.edu](mailto:vf2321@columbia.edu)  
**Tibetan: (Classical and Modern Colloquial)** | Sonam Tsering | [st2931@columbia.edu](mailto:st2931@columbia.edu)  
**Turkish (Modern and Ottoman)** | Zuleyha Fikret | [zc2208@columbia.edu](mailto:zc2208@columbia.edu)  
**Ukrainian** | Yuri Shevchuk | [sy2165@columbia.edu](mailto:sy2165@columbia.edu)  
**Vietnamese** | Chung Nguyen | [cn2496@columbia.edu](mailto:cn2496@columbia.edu)  
**Wolof** | Mariame Sy | [sms2168@columbia.edu](mailto:sms2168@columbia.edu)  
**Yiddish** | Agnieszka Legutko | [abl2109@columbia.edu](mailto:abl2109@columbia.edu)  
**Yoruba** | Vera Felder | [vf2321@columbia.edu](mailto:vf2321@columbia.edu)  
**Zulu** | Vera Felder | [vf2321@columbia.edu](mailto:vf2321@columbia.edu)

Columbia students may also register to take courses in the following languages at NYU. It is recommended that you plan your schedule carefully to allow for travel time to and from NYU's campus. Please email Genesis Alcantara ([ga2287@columbia.edu](mailto:ga2287@columbia.edu)) for more information.

**Akkadian**  
**Ancient Egyptian**  
**Aramaic**  
**Cantonese**  
**Filipino**  
**Haitian Creole (Kreyòl)**  
**Irish**  
**Quechua**  
**Ugaritic**

For more information about languages at Columbia, please visit the [Columbia Language Portal](#).

## Appendix B

### Faculty Contacts for Columbia College Science Majors

If you are considering a major in the sciences you should, in your first two years, focus on the required introductory science classes. Consult the [Columbia College Bulletin](#) and speak with your CSA adviser to plan your academic program. Students planning to follow a premedical program should also attend a premedical information session prior to registering.

The following professors are also available to answer the questions of students who:

- Are interested in the sciences
- Are considering a major or minor in one of the following departments
- Have questions about courses offered in the sciences
- Wonder where a degree in science can lead

#### Astronomy

Frederik Paerels | [frits@astro.columbia.edu](mailto:frits@astro.columbia.edu)

#### Biology

Alice Hecklen | [ah2289@columbia.edu](mailto:ah2289@columbia.edu)

#### Chemistry

Vesna Gasperov | [vg2231@columbia.edu](mailto:vg2231@columbia.edu)

#### Computer Science

Jae Woo Lee (CC) | [jae@cs.columbia.edu](mailto:jae@cs.columbia.edu)

Paul Blaer (SEAS) | [pblaer@cs.columbia.edu](mailto:pblaer@cs.columbia.edu)

#### Earth and Environmental Sciences

Terry Plank | [dees-dus@columbia.edu](mailto:dees-dus@columbia.edu)

#### Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology

Matthew Palmer (Environmental Biology) | [mp2434@columbia.edu](mailto:mp2434@columbia.edu)

Jill Shapiro (Evolutionary Biology of the Human Species) | [jss19@columbia.edu](mailto:jss19@columbia.edu)

#### Mathematics

Julien Dubedat | [jd2653@columbia.edu](mailto:jd2653@columbia.edu)

#### Neuroscience and Behavior

Erin Barnhart | [eb3305@columbia.edu](mailto:eb3305@columbia.edu)

Alfredo Spagna (Psychology) | [as5559@columbia.edu](mailto:as5559@columbia.edu)

#### Physics

Jeremy Dodd | [dodd@phys.columbia.edu](mailto:dodd@phys.columbia.edu)

#### Psychology

Christopher Baldassano | [cab2304@columbia.edu](mailto:cab2304@columbia.edu)

Katherine Fox-Glassman | [kjr2111@columbia.edu](mailto:kjr2111@columbia.edu)

Patricia Lindemann | [pgl2@columbia.edu](mailto:pgl2@columbia.edu)

#### Statistics

Daniel Rabinowitz | [dr105@columbia.edu](mailto:dr105@columbia.edu)

## Appendix C

### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY 2025–2026 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

#### FALL TERM

September 1	Labor Day — University Holiday
September 2	First Day of Classes
September 12	End of Change of Program Period Last Day to Add a Class without Instructor Permission Deadline to Add, Drop or Change Sections of Literature Humanities, Contemporary Civilization, Music Humanities or Art Humanities
October 7	Last Day to Drop a Class for Columbia College Students
November 3–4	Election Day Break — No Classes
November 13	Last Day to Drop a Class and Exercise Pass/Fail Option for Columbia Engineering Students
November 26–28	Thanksgiving Break — No Classes
December 8	Last Day of Classes Last Day to Exercise Pass/D/Fail Option for Columbia College Students
December 9–11	Study Days
December 12–19	Exam Days

#### SPRING TERM

January 19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day — University Holiday
January 20	First Day of Classes
January 30	End of Change of Program Period Last Day to Add a Class without Instructor Permission Deadline to Add, Drop or Change Sections of Literature Humanities, Contemporary Civilization, Music Humanities or Art Humanities
February 24	Last Day to Drop a Class for Columbia College Students
March 16–20	Spring Break — No Classes
March 26	Last Day to Drop a Class and Exercise Pass/Fail Option for Columbia Engineering Students
May 4	Last Day of Classes Last Day to Exercise Pass/D/Fail Option for Columbia College Students
May 5–7	Study Days
May 8–15	Final Exams
May 20	Commencement

#### IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. Dates are subject to change. See the University Registrar's [Academic Calendar](#) for important deadlines pertaining to adding and dropping classes, and the Pass/D/Fail and Pass/Fail options.
2. Vacation travel – Students should not make travel plans until they know their final exam schedule. **Final exams will not be rescheduled for vacation travel purposes.**

[ACADEMIC INTEGRITY](#)

601 Lerner Hall  
212-853-1772

[ALICE! HEALTH PROMOTION](#)

John Jay Hall, 3rd Floor  
212-854-5453

[BOOKSTORE](#)

Lerner Hall, Lower Level  
212-854-4131

[CENTER FOR CAREER EDUCATION](#)

Uris Hall, 2nd Floor  
212-854-5609

[CENTER FOR THE CORE CURRICULUM](#)

202 Hamilton Hall  
212-854-2453

[CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT](#)

606 Kent Hall  
212-854-2559

[COLUMBIA HEALTH](#)

212-854-2284

[COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY \(CUIT\)](#)

202 Philosophy Hall  
212-854-1919

[COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES](#)

Lerner Hall, 8th Floor  
212-854-2878

[DEAN OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE](#)

208 Hamilton Hall  
212-854-2441

[DEAN OF COLUMBIA ENGINEERING](#)

510 Mudd  
212-854-2993

[DINING SERVICES](#)

118 Hartley Hall  
212-854-4076

[DISABILITY SERVICES](#)

108A Wien Hall  
212-854-2388

[FINANCIAL AID AND EDUCATIONAL FINANCING](#)

618 Lerner Hall  
212-854-3711

[FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE](#)

515 Lerner Hall  
212-854-3612

[HOUSING SERVICES](#)

118 Hartley Hall  
212-854-2779

[IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCE](#)

John Jay Hall, 3rd Floor  
212-854-7210

[INTERCULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER](#)

552 W. 114th St.  
212-854-0720

[INTERNATIONAL STUDENT'S AND SCHOLARS OFFICE](#)

524 Riverside Dr., 4th Floor  
212-854-3587

[JAMES H. AND CHRISTINE TURK BERICK CENTER FOR STUDENT ADVISING](#)

403 Lerner Hall  
212-854-6378  
[csa@columbia.edu](mailto:csa@columbia.edu)

[ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAMS](#)[FIRST-IN-FAMILY PROGRAMS](#)[PREPROFESSIONAL ADVISING](#)[SCHOLARS PROGRAM](#)[LIBRARY SERVICES](#)

201 Butler Library  
212-854-7309

[LIVE WELL | LEARN WELL](#)[MEDICAL SERVICES](#)

John Jay Hall, 3rd and 4th Floors  
212-854-7426  
After hours: 212-854-9797

[MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS](#)

505 Lerner Hall  
212-854-0720

[NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION PROGRAM](#)

505 Lerner Hall  
212-854-3611

[PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION](#)

Dodge Physical Fitness Center  
212-854-3439

[PUBLIC SAFETY](#)

111 Low Library  
212-854-2797  
Emergency: 212-854-5555

[RELIGIOUS LIFE](#)

Earl Hall  
212-854-2184

[RESIDENTIAL LIFE](#)

515 Lerner Hall  
212-854-6805

[STUDENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT](#)

601 Lerner Hall  
212-854-2446

[CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS AND INTERVENTION](#)

800 Watson Hall  
212-854-6872

[STUDENT ENGAGEMENT](#)

515 Lerner Hall  
212-854-3612

[STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE](#)

John Jay Hall, 3rd Floor  
212-854-3286

[STUDENT SERVICE CENTER FINANCIAL SERVICES](#)

[REGISTRAR](#)  
205 Kent Hall  
212-854-4400

[UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND FELLOWSHIPS](#)

202 Hamilton Hall  
212-853-2375

[UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT LIFE](#)

510–515 Lerner Hall  
212-854-3612

[UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN](#)

Earl Hall Center  
212-854-6242

Help foster a campus culture that values and promotes  
individual well-being and a healthy undergraduate  
community.



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[WELLBEING.COLUMBIA.EDU](http://WELLBEING.COLUMBIA.EDU)