

**FIRST-YEAR
REGISTRATION BOOKLET**
Spring 2025



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For more information, go to the First-Year Seminar webpage at
<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/fys>



Middlebury

November 1, 2024

Dear Members of the Class of 2028.5,

Welcome to Middlebury! The information in this booklet will assist you in signing up for a First-Year Seminar in December (Section I) and in preparing to register for the rest of your first-semester courses in January (Section II).

The First-Year Seminar (FYS), a mandatory, writing-intensive course limited to sixteen students per section, is the first course for which you will register at Middlebury. Your seminar instructor will serve as your academic advisor at the beginning of your undergraduate career and will stay with you as a guide well beyond your first semester, until you select an advisor within your academic major during your sophomore year. Each faculty member teaching an FYS this semester has envisioned a seminar that reflects their own expertise and interests, and they have designed their course to empower you to take an active role in your intellectual development. Beginning with a special class meeting during Orientation Week, you will work closely with your FYS instructor and peers, gaining through this unique course a sense of the expectations and opportunities involved in college-level work in the liberal arts. All of the seminars are terrific. All of them target the same goals: to help you develop your skills in thinking, writing, and speaking and your confidence in working with information and with other people. None of them are a first step towards a particular major; they provide, instead, a grounding in the foundational competencies you will need to succeed across the curriculum. With that in mind, you should explore the list of available seminars with an open mind and with the understanding that they are your gateway to *broad learning in the liberal arts*.

Though it is likely that you would enjoy enrolling in any of these excellent seminars, you will have a chance in early December to indicate which seminars you find *most intellectually intriguing*. That opportunity requires that you look carefully through the whole list of “Spring 2025 Seminar Descriptions,” reading the full introductory summary provided for each seminar. Through that process, you should *identify the four seminars that you find most appealing*. Between December 3 and December 9, you will express your preferences for those four seminars in a simple online survey administered by the Registrar’s Office. Instructions for completing that survey can be found on page 7. [If you know you will not have access to the web during the survey window, please follow the alternate instructions on page 7 for communicating your seminar preferences.] It is not possible to switch seminars after they have been assigned by the College, so taking care in the selection and survey completion process is key. Your four preferences on the survey will indicate to the College which seminars you are most happy to take, and we will work to place you into one of them in the days following the December 9 deadline. It is best not to get your heart set on any one seminar in particular;

instead, I encourage you to be ready to embrace whichever one you have the good fortune to be assigned. You will learn of your seminar assignment by late December, through a welcome email sent by the seminar instructor.

In addition to selecting preferences for a First-Year Seminar, you will also need to complete *in the next month* placement tests and surveys to determine the most appropriate courses for you in some academic areas. The placement-taking process will run from November 25 to December 9; your completed placement exams and surveys will then be evaluated by Middlebury faculty.

With that information distributed to you by late December, you will be able to use Section II of this Booklet to make informed choices about the full range of courses from which you may express preferences for registration in January. [Note: first-semester students should enroll in a total of four courses, one of which is the FYS.] Please read carefully through Section II and keep your eye out for explanatory emails from the Registrar in December and then again in early January, when the course preference window opens (January 7 – January 13). By the end of January, you will be registered in four courses in which you have expressed an interest. Once you arrive on campus for Orientation Week, you will meet with your FYS instructor/Pre-Major Advisor, who will discuss with you your courses and your academic hopes and plans as well as any uncertainties you have about them. There will still be opportunities to alter your course plan during the two-week Add/Drop period at the start of the semester.

Here, in a nutshell, is the timeline for preparing your course choices:

Between November 25 and December 9, complete placement exams and surveys as needed/required. [If you miss a placement exam in this window, your next opportunity to take it may be Orientation Week in February, and the likelihood of your securing a seat in a course based upon placement results is much lower at that point.]

Between December 3 and December 9, express your FYS course preferences.

Between January 7 and January 13, express several preferences for three other courses. [There will be an opportunity to consult with a special team of academic advisors via Zoom in early January. More details to follow about that opportunity.]

By late January, you should learn the outcome of your course registration requests.

You may already have strong feelings and well-conceived ideas about what you plan to study in college and what career you want to pursue after you graduate. That is perfectly fine, but in choosing Middlebury, you are also committing to a learning experience that involves broad exposure to the liberal arts. The liberal arts experience includes taking courses – especially early on – that are far afield from your favorite subject areas or the professional paths you will eventually take. As you imagine the courses you would like to take, remember that *there is no specific course, except for your First-Year Seminar, that you absolutely must take in your first semester. That is, rather than focus on a particular area of study in your first semester, we encourage you to approach your first two semesters at Middlebury (Spring 2025 and Fall 2025) as a time for curricular exploration and discovery across the liberal arts.* Your FYS instructor will

help guide you through the curriculum with an understanding of the particular major or minor area of study you want to pursue, but beyond an introductory course or two that can serve your intended major/minor, you should be open to a variety of curricular areas in your first year, some of which you will actively choose and others which may be determined for you based on scheduling constraints and course enrollment maxima. Please keep this booklet close by and take advantage of all that it holds for you. You should also share it with trusted family members so that they can help you prepare for your first semester of study at a liberal arts college.

Your life as a Middlebury student begins now, and getting important things accomplished for your college life requires that you pay regular attention to your Middlebury email account. No office on campus will use a text or social media message to relay official information to you about your status as a student, so, whether you use email regularly or not, *from now until you graduate, you should develop the habit of regularly checking and then reading and responding to the emails that arrive in your Middlebury email account.*

Feel free to contact me (fysd@middlebury.edu) if you have questions that this booklet did not answer or that cannot wait until the advising consult opportunities in early January or until you meet with your FYS instructor/Pre-Major Advisor in February. I look forward to meeting you in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Amy Morsman
Director, FYS Program
Professor of History

Spring 2025 Seminar Descriptions

The First-Year Seminar is the first course for which you register at Middlebury College. Please consult the preceding letter and the enclosed instructions for details about selecting courses.

In case you're interested, you may find meeting days and times for the seminars listed below by clicking on this link: [First-Year Seminar](#).

You may also click on the many links at the top of that webpage to understand when all Spring '25 courses meet. Remember that you will be expressing preferences for a range of courses, with no absolute control on whether you secure a seat in any one particular course. Knowing the meeting time may be beneficial as you imagine potential course schedule conflicts, but please do not count on gaining a seat in any specific course at any specific time.

FYS Labs: This Spring, we will continue a new initiative to enhance students' preparation for living and learning at Middlebury. All seven Spring '25 First-Year Seminars will have an additional component to their weekly schedules – a learning lab – that will meet every Friday afternoon for 50 minutes. These lab meetings will involve students in discussions and workshops with campus professionals on topics related to their transition to college. Lab topics may include some of the following: what is college for?, time management, creating connections, teamwork, navigating difficult conversations, etc. There will be ten Friday lab meetings across the semester.

FYSE 1067 The Information State: from the Library of Alexandria to the Snowden Files

With varying degrees of success, officials have long sought to rule rationally by collecting and mobilizing data. What technologies, institutions, and strategies make knowledge into power? What tools do states use to see, know, and read the world? In this course we will examine recent examples like the bureaucracy of modern surveillance or the 1960s chatbot ELIZA alongside such historical phenomena as the Incan knotted-string record-keeping system outlawed by imperial Spain and attempts to build libraries of all human knowledge. Whether or not we are dominated by the 'information state,' or live under 'surveillance capitalism,' understanding how institutions have used information as a means of control in the past can help us understand very modern controversies: redaction, authentication, metadata, indices, and searchability all have deep histories. **CMP, CW, HIS**

FYSE 1094 Ralph Ellison and His Influence(s)

Ralph Ellison is a pivotal figure in American letters. His fiction—most notably his 1952 novel *Invisible Man*—draws inspiration from an encyclopedic list of sources, from Benjamin Franklin's 1791 autobiography to Norbert Weiner's 1950 treatise on cybernetics. His oeuvre, in turn, continues to influence creatives like Percival Everett, Spike Lee, Jesmyn Ward, and Colson Whitehead, whose imagined worlds contain distinctly Ellisonian elements. In this course, we will explore Ellison's fiction, criticism, and photography in this expanded context and learn why Ellison is, in the words of Timothy Parrish, "arguably the most important black intellectual after [W. E. B.] Du Bois," and "the essential figure of twentieth-century American letters." **CW, LIT**

FYSE 1095 Catastrophic Memories: Past and Present Perspectives on the American Civil War and Second World War

How do people remember traumatic events? How do those memories impact our American politics and priorities in the present? How might they guide goals for the future? And what roles can History play in that process? In this course we will examine how two great catastrophes—the American Civil War and the Second World War—have been remembered over time and space. We will consider what roles historical memories play in American society, how collective memories are formed, and what makes them change. To do so, we will consider a broad range of sources—major films, historical fiction, popular non-fiction, and historical scholarship. Students end by examining one facet or feature of these historical memories of their choosing. **AMR, CW, HIS**

FYSE 1096 Economics and Racism: Economic Drivers and Consequences of Anti-Black Racism in the United States

While racism is relevant for many groups in many places, this course will focus on the economic drivers and consequences of anti-Black racism in the United States. A primary text for the course will be *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How our Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein. The course will also incorporate materials from The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis' seminar series entitled: *Racism and the Economy: Understanding the implications of structural racism in America's economy and advancing actions to improve economic outcomes for all*. We will learn how to use data analysis and visualization to understand the economic past and present of racism in the US (no previous data experience required). **AMR, CW**

FYSE 1222 Playing the Part: Text Analysis and the Revelation of Character

In this seminar we will apply the actor's techniques of text analysis and character development to the study of dramatic literature in the hopes that these tools can illuminate the texts in ways conventional approaches might not. This is not a performance class nor is acting experience a prerequisite. We will read six plays, and, using the technical tenets of Stanislavsky-based method acting, chart the characters' progress through the script. We will watch plays on film, and travel to see a professional production. **ART, CW, LIT**

FYSE 1446 Acoustic Ecology

Acoustic ecology is the study of sounds in relationship to life and society. An interdisciplinary field, it explores the social, cultural, scientific, and ecological aspects of the sonic environment. In this seminar we will gain auditory literacy by experiencing the world through sound (e.g., noise, speech, music). Topics will include the impact of noise on society; the urban experience through sound (especially Berlin and New York); aural architecture; production and reception of speech; representations of sound in literature and the visual arts; and even emotional responses to certain songs. Sources include music, films, and texts by neuroscientists, literary scholars, linguists, anthropologists, musicologists, and others. **CW, SOC**

FYSE 1471 Metaphors, Models, and Measurement of Light

We perceive, imagine, explain, produce, use, measure, absorb, and even slow down light. It is pervasive in our human experience and our scientific understanding of the universe.

Represented in all kinds of ways, from discrete measurements to evocative metaphors, light appears in literature, in science, and in our daily lives, and we will use each of these contexts as a lens for critical thinking. We will employ methods from the humanities and from the sciences to explore concepts of light in fiction, poetry, essays, and scientific writing, and we will incorporate our own observations and experimental activities into our consideration of this material. **CW**

First-Year Seminar Preference Selection

Tuesday, December 3 at 12:00pm — Monday, December 9 at 5:00pm (EST)

All new students must register for a First-Year Seminar (FYSE) in the spring semester. The process begins by selecting four seminars from the list available. Descriptions of each seminar are included in this booklet.

At noon on December 3, you will receive an email in your Middlebury email account from the Office of the Registrar with an individualized link to a brief questionnaire asking you to choose four First-Year Seminars that interest you. You must select four choices and you cannot repeat a choice. Since you will not be able to retake the survey, please proofread your choices carefully before you submit. Once you have submitted your choices, we cannot change the seminars you selected.

Select four seminars from the list below:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FYSE 1067 Information State Across Ages
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FYSE 1094 Ralph Ellison Influences
<input type="checkbox"/> FYSE 1095 Catastrophic Memories
<input type="checkbox"/> FYSE 1096 Economics & Racism
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FYSE 1222 Playing the Part
<input type="checkbox"/> FYSE 1446 Acoustic Ecology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FYSE 1471 Light: Metaphors & Models

You can submit your First-Year Seminar choices anytime between December 3 – 9. Submitting your seminars is *not* a first-come, first-served process. Students will be assigned to a seminar based on the availability of their choices after the submission window ends. Notification of your First-Year Seminar placement will be emailed to you prior to orientation.

If you do not have online access during the selection period, you may email your First-Year Seminar choices to Claire Wilkinson, Associate Registrar at cwilkinson@middlebury.edu

If you have questions, please contact:

Amy Morsman (amorsman@middlebury.edu), Director of the First-Year Seminar Program, with seminar-related questions

Claire Wilkinson (cwilkinson@middlebury.edu), Associate Registrar, with survey questions: 802.443.5354

Advanced placement credits may be used to anticipate course work at Middlebury. AP credits applied toward graduation will be counted toward the 16-course limit in the department granting the credit unless the department specifically states that the credits do not count toward the major. AP credits do not fulfill distribution requirements. Only two pre-college testing credits may count towards the 36 credits required for graduation. Official AP Score Reports must be reported to Middlebury no later than the end of the student's second semester.

2024 – 2025 ADVANCED PLACEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

Subject/Exam	AP Score	Credit	Equivalent Courses*	Additional Information
Biology	5	1 unit	n/a	Advanced placement credit does not exempt a student from any of the published requirements for the Biology major, minor, or joint majors.
Chemistry	4 or 5	1 unit	CHEM 0103	Placement in CHEM 0104 or 0107 recommended.
Chinese	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	CHNS 0301 or higher must be the first Chinese course taken at Middlebury. Must complete CHNS 301 or higher with a B or better to receive credit.
Computer Science A	4 or 5	1 unit	CSCI 0145	
Economics: Macro	4	1 unit	ECON 0150	Must complete ECON 0250 with B- or better to receive credit.
Economics: Macro	5	1 unit	ECON 0150	
Economics: Micro	4	1 unit	ECON 0155	Must complete ECON 0255 with B- or better to receive credit.
Economics: Micro	5	1 unit	ECON 0155	
English (<i>Lang. or Lit.</i>)	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	Only one English exam will receive credit; this cannot be used toward the English major.
French (<i>Lang. or Lit.</i>)	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	FREN 0209 or above must be the first French course taken. Must complete FREN 0209 or above with a B- or better to receive credit. Only one French exam will receive credit.
Geography: Human Geography	5	1 unit	n/a	The AP score of 5 substitutes as a 0200-level elective course for students who declare as Geography majors.
German	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	Must take the departmental placement test, place into a 300+ course and complete that class with at least a B to receive credit.
History: European	4 or 5	1 unit	HIST 103 or 104	Up to two AP History credits can count toward the major but cannot be used to fulfill any specific requirements.
History: U.S.	4 or 5	1 unit	HIST 203 or 204	
History: World	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	
History of Art	4 or 5	1 unit	HARC 0100	
Italian	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	Must complete Italian course at 0300 level to receive credit.
Latin (<i>Classics Dept.</i>)	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	Must complete Latin course (LATN 0201 level or above) with grade of B or better to receive credit towards graduation (not the major). Note: No more than one course credit will be granted, whether the student presents one or two AP exams.
Mathematics: Calculus AB	4 or 5	1 unit	MATH 0121	
Mathematics: Calculus BC	4 or 5	2 units	MATH 0121 and MATH 0122	
Mathematics: Calculus BC	3 or AB sub-score of 4 or 5	1 unit	MATH 0121	
Music Theory	4 or 5	1 unit	MUSC 0160	Must complete the music department's advanced placement exam with a C or better to receive credit.
Political Science: Gov't & Politics: U.S.	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	This exam cannot be used toward the Political Science or International Politics & Economics majors or minors.
Political Science: Gov't & Politics: Comparative	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	This exam cannot be used toward the Political Science or International Politics & Economics majors or minors.
Physics C (Mechanics)	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	AP credit does not count toward any major requirements, but generally leads to placement in PHYS 0109 rather than PHYS 0108
Psychology	4 or 5	1 unit	PSYC 0105	
Spanish (<i>Lang. or Lit.</i>)	4 or 5	1 unit	n/a	Must complete Spanish course at the 0300 level or above to receive credit. Only one Spanish exam will receive credit.
Statistics	4	1 unit	ECON 0111	Must complete ECON 0211 with B- or better to receive credit.
	5	1 unit	ECON 0111	

***Students who choose to take a course equivalent to the AP exam noted on the Policy will forfeit the related AP credit.**

A max of two credits gained from French Baccalaureate, Swiss Maturite, Artium Examination, British A-levels, and German Arbitur, may be used towards graduation and may also count as distribution requirements. Please contact the Registrar's Office for more information about these non-AP pre-college testing credit.

2024 – 2025 INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE CREDIT

HL Subject	HL score	Academic Dist.	Cultures/Civ	Equivalent Course(s)
Biology	6 or 7	DED, SCI	*****	*****
Chemistry	6 or 7	DED, SCI	*****	CHEM 0103, CHEM 0104
Economics	6 or 7	SOC	*****	ECON 0150, ECON 0155
English	6 or 7	LIT	*****	*****
Dance	6 or 7	ART	*****	DANC 0160
Film	6 or 7	*****	*****	*****
French	6 or 7	LNG	*****	FREN 0205
Geography	6 or 7	*****	*****	*****
History: Africa & Mid East	6 or 7	HIS	MDE	*****
History: Americas	6 or 7	HIS	AMR	*****
History: Asia & Oceania	6 or 7	HIS	SOA	*****
History: Europe	6 or 7	HIS	EUR	*****
Japanese	6 or 7	LNG	*****	JAPN 0101, JAPN 0202
Mathematics Applications and Interpretation	6 or 7	DED	*****	MATH 0121
Mathematics Analysis and Approaches	6 or 7	DED	*****	MATH 0121, MATH 0122
Music	6 or 7	*****	*****	*****
Philosophy	6 or 7	*****	*****	*****
Physics	6 or 7	*****	*****	*****
Psychology	6 or 7	SOC	*****	PSYC 0105
Soc.Cul.Anth	6 or 7	*****	*****	*****
Spanish	6 or 7	*****	*****	*****
Theatre	6 or 7	ART	*****	*****
Visual Arts	6 or 7	ART	*****	*****

International Baccalaureate (IB) credits may be used to fulfill distribution requirements as outlined above. A maximum of two pre-college testing credits may count toward the 36 credits required for graduation. Furthermore, IB credits count as non-standard grading courses, a total of only five of which may count towards the credits required for graduation. The category of “non-standard grading” includes courses elected under the alternate grade mode option; AP, IB, A-Level, and other pre-college testing credits; and credit-bearing internships.

Only IB higher level subject (HL) scores of 6 or 7 are considered for students who complete the full IB diploma. Standard level subjects and HL subjects not listed above will not be accepted. Students who complete the full diploma with at least one qualifying HL score of 6 or 7 and total points of 36 or more are awarded 2 units of credit. Students who complete the full diploma with less than 36 total points, but with an HL score of 6 or 7 may earn 1 unit of credit per qualifying HL subject score.

Official IB transcripts and/or diplomas must be reported to Middlebury College no later than the end of the student’s second semester. To inquire about credit for other major European examination certificates, please contact the Office of the Registrar.

Placement Examination Information: Spring 2025

Incoming students planning to enroll in courses in the departments listed below may need to take placement exams or follow special instructions for determining placement prior to registration. Please read carefully the information about placement exam formats, instructions, locations, and availability on Middlebury's [Placement Exam website](#). **(When accessing the Placement Exam website, please be sure to be logged into your Middlebury Google account. Otherwise, you will not get access to this info. Even new students have a Middlebury Google account).**

Most placement exams will be offered between **November 25 – December 9**. The [Placement Exam website](#) provides details about specific steps to take to access exams for every department that offers them via the 'Departments' drop-down menu at the top of the site. Not all academic areas require them, so please look at the site (remembering to use your Middlebury credentials to log in!) to determine what you need to do for different departments in that window of time.

If you do not have internet access needed to complete online exams or if placement for a particular department involves a conversation with a member of the faculty, please contact the department chair or coordinator to make arrangements for placement. Their contact information is available on the Placement Exam website.

Completing placement exams in that **November 25 – December 9** window will allow departments to determine your appropriate placement before January, when you will be able to submit course preferences for registration. Your course preference list may well be influenced by the results of placement exams or placement consultations with Middlebury faculty. Please review the Placement Website carefully, as each department has their own approach, to help you find the appropriate level for engagement. (Note: a placement decision does not mean that you will get a seat in a particular course. It only provides a sense of what level course you should look to in certain departments).

Departments offering Placement Examinations or Placement Information:

Arabic	Latin	Chemistry/Biochemistry
Chinese	Russian	Computer Science
French	Spanish / Portuguese	Economics
German		Mathematics
Italian		Music
Japanese Studies		Physics

Course Preference Selection Information: Spring 2025

After completing any relevant placement exams/interviews this fall and selecting your preferences for First-Year Seminars, you will have the opportunity in the beginning of January to choose options for your three remaining academic courses for the Spring 2025 semester.

Selecting your three remaining academic courses:

On January 7, you will receive an email with a link to the list of courses available to you and instructions for selecting 10-15 preferred courses, taking into account the results of any course placements you completed earlier in the fall. The course selection window will remain open from January 7 through January 13 at 5:00 pm (Eastern time). You have a week to explore course options, learn from helpful videos and conversations with Middlebury staff/faculty, and make changes to your list of 10-15 preferred courses.

After the course selection window closes, you will be placed in three courses for which there is available space and you meet any prerequisites or placement criteria. You will hear from the Registrar's Office by January 20 about your spring courses. You will be able to continue to explore course options during Orientation Week, and you may be able to make changes to your course plan during the Add/Drop period in the first two weeks of the semester.

More details and instructions will follow from the Office of the Registrar. Please check your Middlebury email account in mid-December. In the meantime, study carefully the descriptions of courses appropriate for first-year students in each academic department and program in the next several pages of this booklet. The range of options may surprise you!

Courses Appropriate for First-Year Students

Between January 7 and January 13, you will select preferences for three more academic courses. The information below provides an overview of the kinds of courses that are most appropriate for new students to consider taking. **Your goal in Spring 2025 and Fall 2025 is to take courses from across the curriculum in order to gain wide exposure to different academic disciplines and to begin fulfilling the College's distribution requirements.** Please consult the information below when you go browsing for available courses.

TIP: When it comes to courses for first-year students, not all departments work the same way.

Each academic department and program has its own curricular structure. Some are arranged hierarchically, with 100-level courses required as the first step for new students. Other departments have courses that are accessible for first-year students even at the 300 level. The information here offers a general sense of how each department engages with first-year students. Please read on but then consult department websites if you would like further information about particular courses.

AMERICAN STUDIES

The Program of American Studies offers 100-and 200-level courses that are especially intended for students earlier in their academic path, but unless a course catalog description says that prior knowledge is needed through a prerequisite course, first-year students can flourish even in 300-level courses without having prior disciplinary or content knowledge. First-year students are welcome to enroll in any course within this program outside of AMST 400 and the 700 courses. Students can expect higher-numbered courses to involve more complex approaches to topics.

ANTHROPOLOGY

First-year students often take Anthropology courses at the 100 and 200 levels. 100 level courses offer broad introductions to sociocultural anthropology, linguistic anthropology, and archaeology. Some 200 and 300 level courses are designed as introductions to specific topical sub-fields, such as environmental anthropology, medical anthropology, migration studies, political anthropology, and design and visual anthropology. Other 200 and 300 level courses provide regional surveys of sub-Saharan Africa, Native North America, contemporary Latin America, ancient Maya, Aztec, and Incan civilizations, the Middle East, South Asia, and East Asia. Most 100 or 200 courses have no prerequisites, many of them reserve spaces for incoming students, and all serve as introductions to the Anthropology community.

ARABIC

The Department of Arabic offers language courses and courses in English on a variety of cultural, linguistic, and socio-environmental topics. All courses are open to first-year students. Most students who wish to learn the Arabic language start with ARBC 0101 during their first fall semester since ARBC 0101 assumes no prior knowledge of Arabic.

First-year students who have a background studying Arabic must take a placement exam to determine if they meet the equivalency requirement for any course in the Arabic language sequence beyond ARBC 0101. Students entering in February are strongly encouraged to start their Arabic study during their first fall term.

First-year students, who are native Arabic speakers with advanced proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic, may wish to take one of the 400-level courses taught in Arabic; students wishing to do so should contact the course instructor at the start of the semester.

BIOLOGY

The Department of Biology offers BIOL 0140 Ecology & Evolution and BIOL 0145 Cells & Genetics for first-year students, space permitting. These courses can be taken in either order. AP or IB Biology do not allow students to place out of the introductory courses. The Department does not have a placement exam.

BLACK STUDIES

The Program of Black Studies offers courses for first-year students (space permitting) that focus on the intellectual, cultural, and political aspects of Black life and Black people in a global framework. These courses enable students to learn to analyze Blackness as a dynamic formation across time and within local, global, and historical contexts. The courses draw from a wide range of disciplines. Please examine the program's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites. Most courses are open to first-year students and with no prerequisites, including 200-level courses. In other words, students can take a 200-level course without having taken 101 or other prerequisites, though there are exceptions.

CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry offers CHEM 103, 104, 107 for FY students, space permitting. Students with AP Chemistry scores of 4 or 5 or received Middlebury credit for IB Chemistry should begin in CHEM 104 or 107. All other students interested in taking Chemistry should take the Placement Exam to decide whether to start in CHEM 103, 104, or 107. Students intending to major in Chemistry, Biochemistry, or Environmental Studies-Chemistry are strongly encouraged to complete CHEM 104 or 107 by the end of their first year (when possible). Likewise, students with interests in the Health Professions (medical, dental, or vet school), particularly if study abroad is contemplated, have more options and scheduling flexibility if they complete CHEM 104 or 107 by the end of their first year.

CHINESE

The Greenberg-Starr Department of Chinese offers courses in Mandarin Chinese language from the 100- to the 400-level as well as courses taught in English at the 200- and 300-level on Chinese literature, film, documentary film, and sociolinguistics. Our fall course in beginning Mandarin Chinese (CHNS 0101) is open to all first-year students. First-year students may enroll in higher-level Chinese language classes (0102 through 0475) by permission after taking the placement exam. First-year students enrolling in February who

wish to take the spring continuation of beginning Chinese (CHNS 0103) or any other spring Mandarin Chinese language class may do so by permission after taking the placement exam before the start of spring semester. Please note, students enrolling in the fall must take the placement exam before the start of the fall semester. All of our 200-level courses that are taught in English (on literature in translation, film, and sociolinguistics) are open to first-year students, but some carry the College Writing tag and therefore may not be taken at the same time as the First-Year Seminar. Some of our 300-level courses that are taught in English are open to first-year students, including our courses on documentary film and Sinophone literature; other 300-level courses in English have prerequisites but may be taken by first-year students with the approval of the instructor.

CLASSICS

The Eve Adler Department of Classics is offering courses at the 100 level for first-year students, space permitting. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting whether courses have prerequisites.

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

The Comparative Literature Program offers courses for first-year students at the 100, 200, and 300 level, space permitting. Please examine the program's course offerings/descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites. CMLT 0101 is a gateway course for all students interested in literature and to Comp Lit majors, in particular. That course is open to students who have completed their FYS.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

The Department of Computer Science is offering courses at the 100 level and a couple courses at the 200 level for first-year students, space permitting. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites.

None of the 100-level courses have any prerequisites. CSCI 0105 and CSCI 0110 do not count towards the computer science major and are appropriate for students with no prior experience with any sort of programming. Most students who begin with CSCI 0145 or CSCI 0150 are comfortable with deductive reasoning skills or have had some prior experience with a programming language. The computer science major begins with CSCI 0145 or CSCI 0150. However, students with the appropriate background may be able to start at the 200 level; please contact the department chair.

DANCE

The Department of Dance offers courses for first-year students at the 100 and 200 level, and offers a minor, joint major, or full major, or the opportunity to take courses in dance for academic credit. Students also have the opportunity to dance in guest artists' master classes and in faculty- and student-choreographed concerts. Core curriculum is built to create artistic and scholarly inquiry, covering contemporary and world dance techniques, improvisation and choreography, history, theory, and cultural studies, experiential anatomy and kinesiology, and performance.

Spring 2025 Dance courses for First-Year Students:

Dance 0160 Intro to Dance (for beginners)

ARDV 0116 Creative Process (intro course, Dance major & minor requirement)

DANC 0260 Technique and Composition (for students with dance experience, Dance major & minor requirement)

DANC 0261 Improvisational Practices (for beginners and experienced dancers, Dance major & minor requirement)

DANC 0370 Production Workshop

EARTH AND CLIMATE SCIENCES

The Earth and Climate Sciences Department (ECSC) offers courses for first-year students at the 100 level, space permitting. In some cases a course at the 200- or 300-level might be suitable, so feel welcome to read through course descriptions carefully, noting prerequisites for courses above the 100-level.

Students with an interest in majoring in Earth and Climate Sciences, or pursuing an ECSC joint major with Environmental Studies or Biology, are encouraged to take an introductory course in their first year.

ECONOMICS

The Department of Economics offers courses at the 100 and 200 level for first-year students, space permitting. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites. Entering students who have done college- level work (including AP, IB and A-Levels) in microeconomics, macroeconomics, or statistics may take more advanced courses in economics if their transfer credits meet the transfer criteria, or if given approval by the chair of economics. See details on the Economics page of the placement exam website.

EDUCATION STUDIES

The Program in Education Studies offers EDST 0115, Education in the USA, space permitting, for first-year students. The Education Studies Program requires EDST 0115 as a prerequisite for most education studies courses. Students interested in becoming a licensed K-12 teacher should meet with an EDST faculty member as soon as possible after they arrive to plan their course of study.

ENGLISH/CREATIVE WRITING

100- and 200-level English courses are recommended for first-year students. However, ENGL 0205, the literary theory course, is generally not recommended until students have completed one college-level literature course. Also, please note that ENGL 103, as a College-Writing course, cannot be taken at the same time as the First-Year Seminar. 300-level courses are usually open to first-year students, but if first-year students are considering 300-level courses in English, they should check carefully for prerequisites and other restrictions.

Creative Writing courses are offered at the 100 and 200 level, space permitting.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The Environmental Studies Program has multiple options for beginning your study of human-environment relations. There are three introductory courses offered by the program, one of which always has seats reserved for first year students.

ENVS 112, Natural Science and the Environment (limited seats for First Year Students)

ENVS 211, Conservation and Environmental Policy

ENVS 215, Contested Grounds: U.S. Cultures and Environments (limited seats for First Year Students)

You may also take introductory courses in a wide range of disciplines related to the environment that can be starting points toward any of our 17 foci within Environmental Studies. These include:

BIOL 140, Ecology and Evolution (for Conservation Biology)

ECSC 112, Environmental Geology (for Earth and Climate Sciences joint major)

ECON 155, Intro to Microeconomics (for Environmental Economics and Environmental Policy)

GEOG 100, Place and Society (for Geography joint major)

HARC 130, Intro to Architectural Design (for Architecture joint major)

ENAM 103, Reading Literature (for Environmental Literature or Environmental Writing)

FILM AND MEDIA CULTURE

The Department of Film and Media Culture offers courses at the 100-level that are especially intended for students earlier in their academic path, but unless a course catalog description says that prior knowledge is needed through a prerequisite course, first-year students can flourish even in 200-level courses without having prior disciplinary or content knowledge.

FOOD STUDIES

Several Food Studies courses do not have prerequisites, and some seats are reserved in introductory courses FOOD 0280 and FOOD 0281 for first-year students. A full list of courses relevant to this interdisciplinary minor is at <https://www.middlebury.edu/academics/food-studies/courses/complete-course-listing>.

FRENCH

The Department of French and Francophone Studies offers courses at the 100 and 200 level for first-year students. Students with no prior French instruction are recommended to start with FREN 101(fall), 102(winter) and 201(spring) in their first year (especially if you are considering a French speaking country abroad in your junior year). **Continuing Students of French** are required to take the placement exam to determine optimum placement and in most cases will be placed into FREN 101, 201, 205 or 209, space permitting. Please review the department's course offerings and descriptions noting the prerequisites to move through the sequence. Waivers will be entered to override prerequisites for first-year, continuing students of French. **True beginners of French** may register for FREN 101 (and FREN 105 when offered) without a waiver.

GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND FEMINIST STUDIES

Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies offers courses at the 100, 200, and 300 level for first-year students, space permitting. Please examine the program's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites.

GEOGRAPHY

The Department of Geography offers courses for first-year students at the 100 and 200 level, space permitting. 100 level courses offer broader introductions to physical geography and human geography, and 200 level courses focus on thematic sub themes ranging from urban landscapes to environmental change as well as introductory geographic methods. Both 100 and 200 level courses are appropriate ways to first explore Geography, and none of these courses have prerequisites. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding descriptions carefully to determine which courses are offered in any given semester and identify those that have an additional scheduled lab.

GERMAN

Practically all courses in the Department of German are open to first-year students, space permitting. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have any prerequisites. GRMN 0101 is only offered in the fall. Our first-year sequence runs from fall (0101) through J-term (0102) into spring (0103). Our intensive GRMN 0111, Accelerated Beginning German, is offered in spring only and covers the entire first year of German in one semester. GRMN 0101 and GRMN 0111 assume no previous knowledge of German, and there are no prerequisites. Registration for a course other than GRMN 0101 and GRMN 0111 requires a departmental placement exam. All courses in the German curriculum, be they language classes or upper-level culture and literature courses, use an interactive, communicative approach for quick and early proficiency in comprehension and free expression. All courses, unless otherwise noted in the catalog, are taught in German.

GLOBAL HEALTH

Most Global Health courses do not have prerequisites, and some seats are reserved for first-years. Students interested in minoring in Global Health are encouraged to take the core course, GLTH 0257 (Global Health) in their first or second year. The program draws upon courses from numerous departments, so students should check the Global Health program website for more information about the wide array of courses that count towards the minor:

<https://www.middlebury.edu/college/academics/global-health/courses>

GREEK

Courses in Greek focus on the study of the Ancient Greek language for reading comprehension; they should be taken in sequence unless you have prior experience. Students looking to start their study of Ancient Greek can take GREK 0101 "Beginning Greek" during winter term of even years. Students with prior experience should contact the department chair.

HEBREW (see Studies in Modern Hebrew and Israeli Society)

HISTORY

The History Department offers courses for first-year students at the 100, 200, or 300 level, all without any prerequisites. These courses are arranged thematically and chronologically, with the 100-level courses being the broadest and the 300-level courses being the most specific in subject matter. 400-level seminars are generally intended for students in their second year and above.

HISTORY OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE

The Department of History of Art and Architecture is composed of two tracks—Architectural Studies and History of Art and Museum Studies—that each offer courses for first-year students at the 100, 200, and 300 level, space permitting. Our 100-level courses are general introductions, 200-level courses are more focused, either in time or geography/culture, and 300-level courses are the most specific and usually run as discussion-based seminars. The Architectural Studies Studio sequence is arranged hierarchically, with HARC 130 being a prerequisite for other studio-based architecture courses. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL

Interdepartmental offerings include a variety of interesting courses. Some examples include 3D Computer Animation, Accounting for the Liberal Arts, Business Ethics, Oratory in Action, and Community-Connected Learning. Please examine the available course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites.

INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL STUDIES

Students interested in International and Global Studies are encouraged to complete the core course, **IGST 0101** (Introduction to International and Global Studies), in their first year unless it conflicts with either their First-Year Seminar or introductory language course. Please see the [IGS program website](#) for more information about this potential major area of study.

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND ECONOMICS

First-year students interested in exploring the possibility of an eventual International Politics and Economics major should *try* to take one introductory Economics course (150 or 155) and/or one introductory Political Science course (0103 or 0109) in their first year. They should also be sure to have a plan for studying a language taught at Middlebury to enable study abroad, a requirement of the major.

ITALIAN

Students who are interested in studying in Italy (Florence) in their junior year are encouraged to begin Italian in the fall of their first year (Italian 101). Most students will take 3 Italian courses in the first academic year (101 in the fall, 102 in Winter Term, and 103 in the spring). Students with advanced proficiency in a Romance language (AP or higher) can enroll in Accelerated Beginning Italian (Italian 123). Students who have previous experience with Italian should contact the chair of the Italian Department to schedule a placement exam.

JAPANESE STUDIES

Courses in the Japanese Studies department are open to all students, space permitting, whether or not they plan to major. Language courses emphasize speaking, listening, reading (kanji,) and writing. Media and literature courses **offered in English** explore the sensibilities of Japan from ancient times to the popular culture of today. Advanced Placement and Placement Tests: First-year students may take higher-level language courses if the placement test so indicates. Students who have previously studied Japanese should take a placement exam before they arrive. If the placement test indicates mastery equivalent to a full-year course at Middlebury, the student will be placed in the next highest level.

JEWISH STUDIES

Any course in Jewish Studies (JWST) at the 100 or 200-level is a suitable gateway into the field for first-year students, including 100 and 200-level courses cross-listed with other departments such as History, Religion, or Sociology (e.g. JWST/RELI). Students may also pursue a Minor in Jewish Studies. (The JWST Minor may also include courses in Hebrew and on contemporary Israel. See the course offerings of the Program in Modern Hebrew and Israeli Society on that program's website.)

LATIN

These courses focus on the study of Latin for reading comprehension; they should be taken in sequence unless you have prior experience. Students looking to start their study of Latin can take LATN 0101 "Beginning Latin" during winter term of odd years. Students wishing to place out of the introductory sequence should complete the online placement exam.

LINGUISTICS PROGRAM

First-year students may begin at the 100, 200, or 300 level (space permitting). There are no prerequisites for classes whose primary prefix is LNGT. Classes offered by other departments and cross-listed under the linguistics program may have prerequisites (for example, a certain level of language proficiency), so make sure to check whether there are prerequisites in the course descriptions of these classes.

LITERARY STUDIES

The Program in Literary Studies is intended for students who over the course of four years wish to secure a comprehensive background in a full range of the major achievements of world literature, and also to develop the ability to read and appreciate significant literary works in at least one language other than English. Co-directors of the program Pavlos Sfyroeras and Maria Hatjigeorgiou are eager to offer further guidance about appropriate courses and discuss perspectives on reading and exploring literature more broadly.

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

We offer a range of introductory courses in calculus, statistics and data science for students at all levels. Placement information can be found at:

<https://www.middlebury.edu/academics/math/placement-information>.

The Calculus sequence MATH 121/122 is required in quantitative sciences such as Physics and Chemistry. Moreover, Calculus and Linear Algebra (MATH 200) are increasingly useful in Computer Science, Economics, Architecture, and quantitative social sciences. Completing 121/122/200 is also a requirement for a major or minor in Mathematics. The tools and techniques learned in statistics and data science are widely applicable across many disciplines offered at the College. STAT 116 and 118 are introductory courses in statistical inference and data science, respectively. STAT 201 is the recommended starting point in statistics for students who have satisfactorily completed a course in calculus.

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

Students interested in exploring a major in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry should plan to take as soon as possible one of the introductory Chemistry or Biology sequence courses (CHEM 0103/0104/0107 or BIOL 0140 or 0145).

MUSIC

The Department of Music offers courses to first-year students at the 100 and 200 level, space permitting. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites or require a placement test. Music Department ensembles include Afropop Band, Orchestra, Choir, The Sound Investment Jazz Ensemble, Community Chorus, Community Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Workshop. All first-year students are invited to participate in these ensembles (non-credit).

NEUROSCIENCE PROGRAM

This interdisciplinary program may be of interest to students also considering Biology, Psychology, Philosophy, or related areas involving the study of animal and human behavior and the brain and nervous system. Students considering a major in neuroscience should take PSYC 0105, CHEM 0103 and BIOL 0145 as early as possible since they are prerequisites for courses in their sophomore year.

PHILOSOPHY

All Philosophy courses numbered at the 100 level, and almost all at the 200 level, are open to first-year students, space permitting. While 100 level courses tend to offer general introductions or surveys, 200 level courses tend to focus on particular areas of philosophy, but still do not assume any previous philosophy background. Both levels are very appropriate for first-years. Students interested in majoring in Philosophy should take PHIL 0180 (Introduction to Modern Logic) in their first or second year.

PHYSICS

Students majoring in the sciences for premedical, pre-engineering, and other professional programs, and others who desire a more analytical approach to physics, have several choices. Students with little prior exposure to physics may prefer to begin with PHYS 0108 (Physics of Motion), followed by PHYS 0111 (Waves, Optics, and Thermodynamics) or PHYS 0114 (Electricity and Magnetism). Those who are placed into MATH 0105 can consider PHYS 0155. Students who have successfully completed high school physics and calculus courses should instead opt for PHYS 0109 (Introductory Mechanics), a more accelerated version of introductory Newtonian mechanics than PHYS 0108. (Source and additional information: <https://www.middlebury.edu/college/academics/physics/requirements>).

If you are planning to register for a 100-level physics course, especially either mechanics course, please review: Physics placement information online (go.middlebury.edu/physicsplacement) and the MATH placement information online (go.middlebury.edu/mathplacement). Complete both placement surveys (for MATH and for Physics) referenced on those pages. With questions, contact pdcmiddlebury.edu.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Political Science offers courses at the 100 level and some courses at the 200 level for first-year students, space permitting. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites.

PORTUGUESE

Students interested in taking Portuguese above the introductory level (PGSE 0115) should contact the Department Chair to arrange a placement interview. Courses open to first-year students, space permitting and w/relevant waivers, are PGSE 0210, 0215, 0340.

PSYCHOLOGY

The Department of Psychology offers PSYC 0105, the introductory survey course for first-year students, as well as some 200-level courses for students who have placed out of PSYC 105. PSYC 0105 is a prerequisite for most psychology courses, so students who wish to take psychology courses at Middlebury should try to take PSYC 0105 in the fall or spring of their first year if they have not placed out of it. Students who have placed out of PSYC 0105 with an IB exam score of a 6 or 7 or who have earned credit for PSYC 105 with an AP exam score of 4 or 5 may begin with 0200-level courses. Students should check the catalog on the web for specific information about course requirements.

RELIGION

The Department of Religion offers several courses at the 100 level and the 200 level, all of which are open to first-year students, space permitting. None of the courses at these levels have pre-requisites. In other words, they don't assume prior knowledge of any kind. The only difference is that 200-level courses are usually narrower in focus.

RUSSIAN

The Russian Department offers multiple levels of language courses taught in Russian, as well as a wide range of courses taught in English on various topics in Russian literature and culture. **For language courses, students with no previous knowledge of Russian should enroll in RUSS0101**, which starts from scratch, but first-year students may enroll in higher levels depending on the results of our placement test. All of our language courses are taught using a communicative, interactive and fun approach that is designed to get you speaking the language quickly. **All literature and culture courses taught in English are open to first-year students.** We regularly offer courses at the 100-level that are designed for incoming students, such as RUSS0122 (“Russian Mind”) or RUSS0151 (“Golden Age of Russian Literature”), but our 200- or 300-level courses are open to first-years as well, and they can easily be taken by those who have no prior knowledge of Russian literature or culture. If you plan to study abroad during your undergraduate career—or if you simply would like to maximize your returns with your study of Russian during your time at Middlebury—we highly recommend that you sign up for language instruction during your first semester on campus, though students entering in February may of course also start during the following fall term. **Note that RUSS0101 is only offered in the fall!**

SOCIOLOGY

First year students often take sociology courses at the 100 and 200 levels. 100 level courses offer broad introductions to the foundations of the discipline. 200 level courses are designed as introductions to specific sub-fields of sociology: labor, sexuality, crime, social movements, race, mobility, family, various social institutions, etc. No 100 or 200 courses have prerequisites, many of them reserve spaces for incoming students, and all can be considered introductions to our department and major.

SPANISH

ALL students planning to enroll in Spanish must take the placement exam in order to determine which level is most appropriate for them. Please see instructions for taking online placement exams in this booklet. All courses from SPAN 0101 through SPAN 0399 are open to first-year students, according to their performance on the placement test and space permitting. Students who have had three to five years of high school Spanish most often placed in SPAN 0201 or SPAN 0220. Students who hope to study abroad should plan their course selection so that they take a minimum of one 0300-level course before their departure.

STATISTICS (see MATH & STATISTICS)

STUDIES IN MODERN HEBREW AND ISRAELI SOCIETY

This Program offers courses for first-year students at the 100 and 200 level (language courses as well as content courses in English). Please examine the Program’s course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites.

STUDIO ART

Many ask if “talent” is needed to study studio art at Middlebury. The answer is a clear “no.” We believe the brightest future belongs to liberal arts students who are able to create visual art through a critical lens. Our classes teach essential skills that serve students in all disciplines. Many of our students are nonmajors, and those who do major in art are as likely to become writers, entrepreneurs, or teachers as artists. The Program in Studio Art offers courses at the 100 and 200 level for all first-year students with reserved registration spaces. These 100 and 200 level classes do not require pre-requisites. Please examine the department’s course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully. You will note some 300 level courses do carry a specific prerequisite. However, in some cases registration to 300 level classes may be approved following a portfolio review and faculty approval. Students interested in taking art classes should not wait until their senior year. We prioritize first- and second-year students in many intro level courses, and space for seniors is limited.

THEATRE

The Department of Theatre offers courses at the 100 level and some courses at the 200 level for first-year students, space permitting. Please examine the department’s course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites.

WRITING AND RHETORIC PROGRAM

The Writing and Rhetoric Program offers small, interdisciplinary courses that invite students of all levels to write for a variety of audiences in a range of modalities. For first semester students we offer WRPR 101, *Writing and Power*, and WRPR 102, *English Language in a Global Context*, which are designed to build students’ confidence, awareness of rhetorical conventions, and skills in writing. We also offer a range of upper-level courses that fulfill the second-level college-writing (CW) requirement, such as *Narratives in News Media; Race, Rhetoric and Protest; The Rhetorics of Sports; Writing to Heal; and Documentary Rhetorics*. These courses may be taken any time after completing the First-Year Seminar.

Middlebury College Degree Requirements

I. Distribution Requirements

All students must complete two sets of distribution requirements: (A) academic categories, and (B) cultures and civilizations. Courses that count toward the major and the minor may be used to satisfy distribution requirements. Winter Term courses, first-year seminars, and College writing courses may also be used to satisfy distribution requirements. Students must take at least one course in seven of the eight academic categories described below. Single courses can be listed with two distribution categories. A student may count a single course in no more than one academic category requirement.

A. Academic Categories

- 1. Literature:** Literature has been a central form of expression for many societies. Analysis and appreciation of literary texts give students insight into the minds and lives of other human beings, both their own cultural predecessors and people of different traditions, and into the process whereby human experience is imaginatively transformed into art. By studying literature in English and in other languages, students also sharpen their ability to express their own ideas with grace and precision. Courses that fulfill this requirement are designated **LIT**.
- 2. The Arts:** The understanding of the history, theory, and practice of the arts is an integral part of a liberal arts education. Courses in this category emphasize either the creative process through the making and performing of works of art (ranging from paintings and sculpture to plays, dances, creative writing, film/video, and musical compositions) or the place of such works of art within a particular historical, cultural, or aesthetic context. Courses that fulfill this requirement are designated **ART**.
- 3. Philosophical and Religious Studies:** Courses in this category examine philosophical systems and religious traditions from a variety of viewpoints, including analytical, systematic, historical, sociological, anthropological, and phenomenological perspectives. Some courses deal with specific philosophical problems or theological issues; others trace the history of philosophy or of religious traditions; still others examine philosophical schools of thought or religious traditions during specific periods of history. Courses that fulfill this requirement are designated **PHL**.
- 4. Historical Studies:** History is that branch of knowledge that seeks to account for the diverse ways in which human beings in different cultures and societies have all responded to temporal change. Courses in this category study the development of societies and cultures over time. Courses that fulfill this requirement are designated **HIS**.
- 5. Physical and Life Sciences:** Courses in this category study inductive and deductive

processes of science. Emphasis is on the methods used to gather, interpret, and evaluate data critically, and the placement of this information into a larger context. Fundamental principles of each discipline are discussed in a manner that illustrates the evolving relationship of science, technology, and society. Courses that fulfill this requirement are designated **SCI**.

6. Deductive Reasoning and Analytical Processes: Courses in this category deal with one or more of the following: (a) basic principles of reasoning and the axiomatic method; (b) statistical methods for analyzing and interpreting data; (c) key mathematical concepts; and (d) abstract symbolic manipulation or reasoning. Courses that fulfill this requirement are designated **DED**.

7. Social Analysis: This category deals with the analysis of the individual in society. Courses involve the systematic study of human behavior and the processes and results of human interaction through organizations and institutions, both formal and informal. Social analysis can be undertaken from a variety of perspectives: inductive (using data to make generalizations about human behavior), deductive (using principles to search for and develop new theories), and normative (using values to recognize important questions and evaluate alternative answers). Courses that fulfill this requirement are designated **SOC**.

8. Foreign Language: Speaking, listening, reading, and writing in a language other than one's own exercise and expand the mind. Because of the close interdependence of language and culture, study of a foreign language helps one gain insights into other societies and ultimately one's own. Courses in this category include those taught in a foreign language or focused on texts in a foreign language. Courses that fulfill this requirement are designated **LNG**.

B. Cultures and Civilizations

Middlebury College believes that students should 1) have educational exposure to the variety of the world's cultures and civilizations, where these terms are broadly understood to intersect with geography, history, ethnicity, gender and other factors, and 2) engage critically with sameness, difference, culture, and perspective. These goals are integral to most of the academic disciplines represented in the curriculum.

Accordingly, each Middlebury student is required to complete successfully four courses to fulfill the cultures and civilizations requirement. Specifically, every student takes at least one course in each of at least three of the following regions, focusing on some aspect of the cultures and civilizations of that region.

a. **SOA:** South and Southeast Asia, including the Pacific

b. **NOA:** North Asia including China, Korea, Japan and the Asian steppes

c. **MDE**: Middle East and North Africa

d. **SAF**: Sub-Saharan Africa

e. **EUR**: Europe

f. **AMR**: the Americas

Plus one Comparative (**CMP**) course, focused on the process of comparison between and among cultures and civilizations, or on the identity and experience of separable groups within cultures and civilizations.

A single course may be listed as fulfilling one of the regional categories (SOA, NOA, MDE, SAF, EUR, AMR; as recommended by the course instructor and determined by the Curriculum Committee). Courses that satisfy CMP may also carry one of the regional area designations, however a student may not count one of these courses toward both the CMP and regional requirements. A student may count the same course toward both an academic category requirement, and one of the cultures and civilizations requirements. Courses that count toward the major and the minor, winter term courses, summer study courses, and first-year student seminars may be used to satisfy the cultures and civilizations requirement.

College Board Advanced Placement credits may not be used to satisfy distribution or cultures and civilizations requirements.

II. Other Degree Requirements

- A.** A first-year seminar (a writing-intensive course taken in the first semester)
- B.** A second writing-intensive course
- C.** A major of 10 to 16 courses
- D.** A physical education requirement of two noncredit courses
- E.** At least two (but not more than four) Winter Term course credits awarded by Middlebury College.

III. The Minor

A voluntary minor (four to six courses) may be completed by students choosing to do so.

Study Abroad

Each year more than 50% of the junior class studies abroad in more than 40 countries at more than 90 different programs and universities. Many of these students take courses in their discipline in the language of the host country and/or engage in advanced language study abroad. Students who plan to study abroad, whether as part of a language major, international and global studies major, or any major, **are strongly encouraged to begin or continue language study** in their first semester at Middlebury. Students should plan their academic program during their first two years at Middlebury in preparation for study abroad in their third year.

Middlebury has Schools Abroad in Argentina, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Morocco, Puerto Rico, Russia, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Uruguay. Also in England, Middlebury has exchange agreements with the University of East Anglia and the University of Nottingham and has an arrangement with Lincoln College at Oxford University. Middlebury is also a member of the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies (ICCS) in Italy. In addition, each year a significant number of Middlebury students study abroad on externally sponsored programs (programs other than Middlebury Schools Abroad) in countries such as Australia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Greece, Ireland, Kenya, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, Tanzania, Vietnam, the United Kingdom, and more.

For more information, check the catalog entries for individual language departments and visit [International Programs and Off-Campus Study](#) (Sunderland Language Center 129). In addition, please see the [Study Abroad Guidelines](#) for details on study abroad policies and procedures and [Study Abroad FAQs for First-Year Students](#).

Health Professions: Advising & Recommended Coursework for All Health Professions

The Health Professions team of [Mary Lothrop](#) and [Hannah Benz](#) welcome you to Middlebury College and are excited to support your interest in health professions. Our role is to help you make informed pre-health decisions, to provide timely and accurate guidelines around pre-health admission requirements, and support your clinical, service and research engagement.

So that we can be sure to get you in our system and send you information about jobs, internships, panels, guest speakers and information sessions, please [sign up](#) for our monthly newsletter, and complete our onboarding [form](#).

Your orientation to the health professions program at Middlebury begins by [watching a short video](#) where you'll learn about what makes for a successful pre-health student. While watching the video, some students have found it helpful to take notes on the [Pre-Health Circle](#) graphic. After you've watched the video, take some time to familiarize yourself with our [website](#) and the pre-health slate of [suggested courses](#).

We are looking forward to setting up a meeting so that we can get to know you once you arrive on campus. Our advising meetings take place during business hours on weekdays. Please include your availability in the initial communication.

Welcome to Middlebury and we look forward to working with you!

~Hannah & Mary

**Welcome to the Middlebury Online Bookstore:
Your bookstore. Your way. Open 24/7.**

Preview Information – you won't need this until AFTER you register for courses!

Dear FYS Students,

Greetings from the College Online Bookstore! We welcome you to the Middlebury College community and look forward to working with you and serving your needs.

Please note that textbooks required for all classes need to be ordered online. The campus store does not stock textbooks. We have partnered with eCampus to create a convenient and easy-to-use process using our Middlebury College personalized site, where you can select from new, used, rental or digital books. Simply navigate to the online bookstore, select the current term, enter your course ID, and browse the list of required and optional texts for that course.

For a step-by-step tutorial on using the online bookstore, please use this link:

[How to Order Guide on Ecampus.](#)

To access the online bookstore please use this link: <http://middlebury.ecampus.com/>

Here are some helpful hints for stress-free ordering:

The Online Bookstore for Spring Semester opens Monday, January 6. **Please do not purchase books until your course selections are confirmed.** For you, that means a) potentially purchasing books for your First-Year Seminar in late January, if your FYS Professor suggests a book purchase right away, and b) purchasing books for the rest of your courses during Orientation Week, once you are on campus.

Once your course schedule is confirmed, order books promptly so you will be prepared for class as soon as possible. Shipping times have been lengthened, and some textbook quantities are limited due to global shortages. [Materials needed for the first few days of class are often available electronically or from your professor or the Library. Please ask your professor about accessing readings in the first week or so, while you wait for your books to arrive on campus.]

There is free shipping on all orders over \$79 for the entire term if you use the default shipping address of Campus Store. There is free expedited shipping on ALL orders shipping to the Campus store between February 3rd and February 16th. To qualify for these deals, you must **use the campus default address at checkout.** When your books arrive at the bookstore, you will receive an email and will then be able to come pick them up.

If you are using Financial Aid for book purchases, **make sure to select "Use a voucher"** on the first online ordering page (see tutorial for more information).

Don't be concerned about ordering books and then dropping/changing classes. Just bring your unused books to the bookstore (within two weeks of dropping a class, together with your original invoice), and we will return them for you.

Any questions or concerns? We are here to help and would love to talk with you! Please email textbookrequest@middlebury.edu, call 802 443-2158, or stop by the campus bookstore and ask for Liz for help with any ordering questions or guidance through the online ordering process.

Congratulations, you have made it through every page in the FYS Booklet. It is here for you to review and fully digest as you head into winter and then into your first semester. Keep it close by, for it holds a great deal of important information for you!

One final word:

Know that many members of the Middlebury community are here to help you. As FYS Program Director, I will be available to support you over email or by phone all during the academic year. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me. (fysd@middlebury.edu)

In February (Orientation Week), you will meet with your Pre-Major Advisor, who is your FYS Instructor. You will also benefit from the assistance of a support team, including:

your [Orientation Leaders](#): Older Middlebury students remember what it was like to be new here. Those hired to serve as Orientation leaders have been trained to help you navigate much of the uncertainty that comes with beginning life in college. You will meet with your Orientation leaders every day during Orientation Week, and they will continue to be a resource for you once the semester officially begins.

your [First-Year Dean](#): Sabrina Duran, your Dean provides guidance on the whole first-year experience and will be your main point of contact and support for questions around college processes and policies.

These good folks will be connected to your First-Year Seminar. As a result, you will have a chance to meet with them early on as well as have regular opportunities to stay engaged with them, so that you will be able to take best advantage of all the sources of support they provide throughout the academic year.