

**FIRST-YEAR
REGISTRATION BOOKLET**
Fall 2023



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



Middlebury

June 5, 2023

Dear Members of the Class of 2027,

Welcome to Middlebury! The information in this booklet will assist you in signing up for a First-Year Seminar in June (Section I) and in preparing to register for the rest of your first-semester courses during Orientation in early September (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 this month to indicate which seminars you find *most intellectually intriguing*. That opportunity requires that you look carefully through the whole list of “Fall 2023 Seminar Descriptions,” reading the full introductory summary provided for each seminar. Through that process, you should *identify the six seminars that you find most appealing*. Between June 20 and June 26, you will express your preferences for those six seminars in a simple online survey administered by the Registrar’s Office. Instructions for completing that survey can be found on page 13. [If you know you will not have access to the web during the survey window, please follow the alternate instructions on page 13 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 six preferences on the survey will indicate to the College which seminars you are most happy to take, and so we will work to place you into one of them in the weeks following the June 26 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 in mid-August, through a welcome email sent by the seminar instructor.

Once you have arrived on campus for Orientation, you will be prompted to think deeply about your other possible course choices for the fall semester. Orientation Week affords you the opportunity to discuss at greater length with your FYS instructor/ Pre-Major advisor your ideas for course selection. [Note: first-semester students should enroll in a total of four courses, one of which is the FYS.] To help you prepare for that conversation, Section II of this booklet features information about degree requirements, placement examinations, and most importantly, the kinds of courses across the entire curriculum that first-year students should be considering. Another good place to look is Middlebury's First-Year Seminar webpage on "[Resources for Students,](#)" which gives advice on what questions to consider as you explore the full range of courses you could take in your first semester and beyond.

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 this fall, 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 (Fall 2023 and Spring 2024) 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. You will hear from your FYS instructor as September approaches, but in the meantime, 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 you meet with your FYS instructor/Pre-Major Advisor in September. I look forward to meeting you in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Amy Morsman
Director, FYS Program
Professor of History

Fall 2023 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](#).

We are launching a new initiative to enhance students' preparation for living and learning at Middlebury. A select number of First-Year Seminars will have an additional component to their weekly schedules – a Scholars' Development Lab – that will meet every Friday afternoon for 50 minutes during the Fall semester. The Scholars' Development Lab [SDL] will involve students in discussions and workshops with campus professionals on topics related to their transition to college. Some examples of lab topics include building a foundation for academic success, relationship-building and networking, holistic wellness, effective communication, and financial literacy.

There will be twelve Friday lab meetings across the semester, which are mandatory for the students enrolled in the seminars that are participating in this initiative. Please remember to keep this lab component in mind when you are making choices about the six seminars you will designate as your preferred courses. To find participating seminars in the list below, look for a red “LAB” tag at the end of course descriptions in this Booklet.

FYSE 1038 Mindfulness in Education: Radical, Holistic Models of Learning

What is mindfulness? And how is it useful in reframing approaches to education for engaged, critical learning? In this course we will explore the impact of contemplative practices in education, considering such questions as: what is learning and how does divergent or mindful thinking influence /how/ we learn? For example, is there a connection between mindfulness and creativity, attention, memory? We will engage in contemplative practices to consider mindful learning from a personal perspective and review research in the fields of education and psychology that suggests a positive correlation between contemplative practices and the intellectual, emotional, and psychological growth of students.

CW, PHL, LAB

FYSE 1042 First Contact: Language in Science Fiction

In this course we explore how humans conceptualize communication with extraterrestrial beings and artificial intelligence. Through fiction and film works in the “first contact” subgenre of science fiction, we will reflect on how language functions as a device in these narratives to reveal our own limited perspective, sense of in-group and out-group, and anxieties about the “other” and our own future. Students will learn critical analysis skills by dissecting the works of writers such as Ursula K. Le Guin and Ted Chiang; additionally, students will engage in thematic gameplay and creative writing in the genre. **CW, LIT**

FYSE 1043 Deserts: Myths, Mystery, Magic

From the Mojave to the Atacama to the Kalahari, Earth's deserts are as fascinating as they are mysterious. In this course we will explore the unique biology of deserts, how humans interact (and have interacted in the past) with these ecosystems, and examine how deserts are portrayed in media and popular culture. Critically, we will evaluate the many myths that surround deserts (e.g. they are all lifeless, hot, best as solar farms) and dispel them with evidence from primary and secondary scientific sources. **CW**

FYSE 1044 Ethics in the MCU

The movies of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) are fun entertainment, but they also deal with a range of important ethical issues. Using Marvel films and streaming series as springboards, we will

discuss topics like artificial intelligence, bodily enhancement, racial justice, gender equality in the workplace, the obligations of power, and the relationship between intention and culpability. In the process of analyzing the MCU, we will learn the fundamentals of ethical theory and develop skills necessary to make and respond constructively to moral arguments, contributing to our maturation as moviegoers and ethical citizens. **CW, PHL, LAB**

FYSE 1045 History, Representation, and the Graphic Novel

In this course we will read several graphic novels dealing with historical atrocities in the non-Western and Western context during the early modern and modern periods. In particular, we will examine many of the ongoing central issues in atrocity and genocide studies as well as in the historical field more generally regarding inclusivity, representation, accessibility, and accuracy. The growing concern over the gap between academic history and the “real world” will also be examined. Students will gain increased knowledge about historical injustices as well as their integral connection to and impact upon the present. **CMP, CW, EUR, HIS**

FYSE 1046 Exercise Biochemistry and the Limits of Human Endurance

In this course we will investigate the biochemical, biological, genetic, and psychological factors associated with athletic performance. We will begin by discussing the origins of exercise physiology in the early 1900’s, introducing topics such as metabolic fuels and their utilization, oxygen and water, metabolism, and physiological adaptations to training. Special attention will be paid to muscle (power) and pulmonary organization and function (VO₂ max), and how psychology and the brain (the master regulator) contribute to achieve maximum performance. We will bring these topics to the present by reading and discussing papers from the popular and primary literature. Films and guest lectures by experts will provide a personal perspective. The seminar will conclude by considering controversies such as performance enhancing drugs and sex determination. **CW, SCI, LAB**

FYSE 1047 Nature and Society This seminar is sociology for nature lovers. We often behave as if nature is independent of social life, but the two are profoundly interconnected. In this course we will explore this paradox through short excursions in the natural world—hikes, walks, field trips, outdoor meetings—and classroom-based learning. Drawing on practices of naturalism, social science, ecology, and philosophy, we will investigate the social construction of the natural world under capitalism. Course material will focus on studying Vermont’s ecological communities, the environmental movement, cultural geography, and natural literacy. Students will learn to “read the landscape” through the critical lens of sociology, and to challenge concepts of “natural” and “wild,” as well as “race” and “gender.” The course emphasizes an approach to writing based on observation, reflection, and evidence. **CW, SOC**

FYSE 1048 The Lives of the Buddha

What is a buddha? How does a person become one? The life of the Buddha is one of the most influential stories ever, but it was not the focus of the earliest Buddhist literature. When narratives of his life (and previous lives) first appear in word and image, which concerns dominate them? How and why do later groups of Buddhists tell, interpret, and ritually enact his life story differently? We will focus on the telling and retelling of these lives over the long span and wide spread of the Buddhist tradition - and what they reveal about doctrine and practice as well as issues of gender, authority, and religious aspiration. **CW, PHL, SOA**

FYSE 1051 The Russian Idea

In 1866, poet Fedor Tiutchev claimed “Russia cannot be understood by the mind [...] Russia can only be believed in.” This mystical interpretation of Russian history and culture is a common trope employed by scholars, artists, and political actors. But why did this conception emerge, how has it evolved, and why

does it hold such appeal? We will explore various iterations of the “Russian Idea” in literature, art, philosophy, and politics. In addition to reading excerpts from influential interpreters (Dostoevsky, Tolstoi, Solovev, Berdiaev), we will explore contemporary official and unofficial Russian discourse. Questions we will consider include: What different iterations of the “Russian Idea” have been offered and how have they been connected to state policy (historical and contemporary)? What relationship exists between cultural/artistic production, philosophical ideas, and politics? **CW, EUR, HIS**

FYSE 1053 K-pop & Transcultural Fandom

K-pop fandom is multilingual and spans cultures and nationalities. Fans gather online and in person all over the world, commenting on live streams, making videos, buying merchandise, voting in competition shows, and participating in online communities. In vastly different contexts, fans find meaning through music, fashion, dance, identification with favorite artists, and parasocial engagement with group members and fellow fans. What draws fans from different contexts to k-pop? How can we understand the cultural work of k-pop fandom across national and cultural boundaries? If you’re a fan yourself, how has k-pop fandom informed your sense of self, identity, and community? **CMP, CW, SOC**

FYSE 1054 Understanding Johnny Cash

From his first appearances as a performing artist to his present lionization, Johnny Cash has always had a tremendous impact on American culture. While his significance has been persistent, his nature has rarely, if ever, been consistent. Creatively, spiritually, politically, and personally, Cash lived a life marked by contradictions—making him a figure that fans and scholars alike have struggled to understand. This course will enter into that process, working to develop a rounded, comprehensive assessment of the man and his music by setting his life, his work, and creative and critical responses to him in their historical contexts. **AMR, CW**

FYSE 1055 Transforming Traditions

How do traditions transform when they expand beyond the time and place of their origin? In considering this question, we will interrogate the value of authenticity and preservation, and we will examine the impacts of bringing new perspectives to existing practices. Course material (readings, videos, and recordings) will focus on artistic practices that originated in Korea, and in particular, we will study and learn to play a percussion genre, samulnori. However, students will also draw on their own traditions, interests, and experiences for discussions and assignments. No prior musical experience is needed; a willingness to bang vigorously on drums in a group is helpful. **CW**

FYSE 1057 Shaping Earth: Past & Future

This course will explore the fundamental processes that have shaped Earth and its atmosphere over time, including plate tectonics, glaciation, rivers, and soil-forming processes. Most scientific content will be presented in a series of place-based field trips to experience examples of these processes and better understand how scientists study them. Research, writing, and speaking skills will be developed through interactive exercises and a series of assignments, each one including multiple revision cycles. **CW, SCI**

FYSE 1058 Documentaries & Social Justice

In this course, students will explore how contemporary documentaries perform social justice via different rhetorical filmmaking styles—including direct cinema, vérité, and investigations—and specific social justice tactics—including explicit and implicit calls for change, social pressure, and activism. After watching documentaries and reading reviews, interviews, and theories of filmmaking, students will write various analyses and codes of ethics for documentary films. The final project has students either produce or storyboard their own short social justice-oriented films. **AMR, ART, CW, SOC**

FYSE 1059 The Politics of Hope

We are frequently told we must “never give up hope,” but what is at stake in hoping? In this seminar we will interrogate this ubiquitous demand to hope. We will explore contemporary debates about the possibility of hope in the face of uncertain planetary futures to consider the politics of how, in what ways, toward what ends, and why we hope. At what point does hope become misplaced, turning into a “cruel optimism”? How is hope mobilized politically? How are different futures—optimistic and pessimistic, utopian and dystopian, redemptive and apocalyptic—distributed among different groups? And what might happen if we let go of commonly held yet narrowly conceived hopes and tried imagining something different? **CW, SOC**

FYSE 1060: Photography of the Middle East

In this course, we will work closely with Special Collections and the Middlebury College Museum of Art to survey 19th and 20th century photography of the Middle East. We will consider indigenous studios as well as foreign photographers who traveled to the region and circulated their photographs as visual knowledge of distant cultures, peoples, monuments, landscapes, and experiences. Looking at a range of materials, including travel photography, studio portraits, and government- and commercially commissioned photographic albums, we will examine how photographs visually construct notions of race, gender, class, religion, and cultural otherness. We will then turn to the ways in which contemporary artists are archiving historical photographs and appropriating them in contemporary practices. **ART, CW, MDE**

FYSE 1064 The Artistry of the Maya Scribe

The Maya produced what was arguably the most beautiful script of the ancient Americas—a true combination of art and writing. This course explores Maya history and the fundamentals of their writing system, but with a twist: instead of just focusing on reading comprehension, we explore how scribes learned to write. Using ancient painting techniques and natural pigments, students will discover how to combine words and images in playful ways and, in so doing, understand why this system evolved as it did. They will explore the stylistic choices made in the first millennium CE—and perhaps make those same choices again.

ART, CW, SOC

FYSE 1065 Sexual Dissidence in the Francosphere

What is the relationship between sex, power, and subjectivity? Why are certain forms of sexuality worthy of protection while others are subject to political regulation? In this seminar, we will examine non-normative representations of sexuality in contemporary French and Francophone cultures. Through the study of primary sources ranging from fiction and film to social media and graphic novels, students will learn about the ways in which sexuality intersects with gender, race, social class, and citizenship. In addition, we will seek to develop comparative perspectives on sexual politics between the United States and the French-speaking world. The course is taught in English and requires no knowledge of French.

CMP, CW, LIT

FYSE 1067 Information State Across Ages from the Library of Alexandria to the Snowden Files

Our sources will shuttle back-and-forth between recent examples like the United States’ surveillance apparatus, and historical phenomena like the Inka khipu record-keeping system of knotted strings. We will see that administrators have long dreamt of ruling rationally through the collection and mobilization of data. Whether we are dominated by the ‘information state’ or live under ‘surveillance capitalism’ – some deeper context on the ways various institutions have used information as a means of control in the past can help us understand controversial phenomena today: from authentication and

metadata to surveillance, searchability, and planned obsolescence. **CMP, CW, HIS**

FYSE 1068 Segregation in America: Baseball and Race

In this course, we learn essentially about life in baseball's Negro Leagues, and the great Black players and teams, and consider how this institution reflected American values and history. We address important questions about sports and their cultural significance. What do sports tell us about ourselves and our past? Can we understand our cultural heritage by looking through the lens of sports, baseball in this case, and Black baseball specifically? We examine the relationship between art and sports by reading works of fiction and poetry, and also consider the visual arts. **AMR, CW, HIS, LIT**

FYSE 1069 Digital Platforms & Social Change

Google, Airbnb, Etsy, Meta, and Netflix: what do they all have in common? They are digital platforms, aka business applications that run services, which theoretically make our lives easier. In this course, we will examine the social, political, and historical aspects of digital platforms. We will gain good practice in reading, writing, and speaking at the college level by using news articles, book chapters, and scholarly research on digital platforms. We will examine the organizational features of digital platforms where often hidden decisions shape content and services. We will also explore affordances and constraints of these applications in our lives. Finally, we will pause to consider the ways that digital platforms might transform our thoughts and actions and how they might give rise to social change.

CW, SOC

FYSE 1070 Soccer and Society

Whether it goes by soccer, football or futbol, the beautiful game is not only the world's most popular sport but it is also intertwined with social, economic, political and cultural forces. In this course, we will use soccer as our lens to examine important sociological questions. We will study soccer's relationship to nationalism and collective identity, globalization and migration, commercialization and labor rights, issues of race, class, gender and sexuality, and the role of soccer in social change and movements for social justice. Reading academic studies about soccer's players, fans, leagues, mega events and governing bodies, students will develop skills to think critically about the role of sports in contemporary society, and they will conduct their own research project about one aspect of the beautiful game. **CW, SOC**

FYSE 1105 The Poet's I: Poetry and Autobiography

In this seminar we will work to discover the sometimes subtle connections between the "objective" events of a poets' lives and the poems that they produced. Emily Dickinson and Gerard Manley Hopkins are known as reticent, self-concealing poets; nonetheless their poems tell their life stories. John Berryman is a "confessional" poet; yet questions about the relationship between his poems and his life are similar. Lyn Hejinian is a postmodern poet who complicates all of those questions. We will read a great many poems, as well as letters, diaries, drafts, published biographies, and autobiographical prose by each poet.

FYSE 1181 American President Biography AMR, CW, HIS

In this course we will examine biographies, both written and filmed, of several American presidents, including those who are well known – Madison, Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt – and those who are less well known – Cleveland, Polk, Van Buren, John Quincy Adams, and McKinley. What, if anything, prepared these men for the nation's highest office? What explains their successes? Their failures? Why do we consider some great, and others not so great? What do these biographies reveal about how Americans evaluate their leaders? **AMR, CW, HIS**

FYSE 1203 The Beast in the Jungle

In this course we will explore some literary texts in which the practice of exploration itself yields a complex confrontation with, and often breakdown of, identity and will. Westerners' longing to separate themselves from home and make contact with a foreign "other" arises from the high purposes that set imperial adventures in motion in the first place. Readings will include Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, Forster's *Passage to India*, Waugh's *Handful of Dust*, Bowles' *Sheltering Sky*, Stone's *Dog Soldiers*, Duras' *The Lover*, Greene's *A Burnt-Out Case*. **CW, LIT**

FYSE 1344 Time Around a Table: A Culinary History of Italy

Food is a window into the culture and values of any society. In this seminar we will explore the history of Italian culture by investigating the ever-changing issues relating to food, through books, articles, films, recipes, and cooking. How did production and consumption change over time? What did the Ancient Romans eat? What was Italian cuisine like before pasta and tomatoes? What triggered the Italian appetite to change? Such questions allow us to examine what culinary choices reveal about today's Italy. **CW, EUR, HIS, LAB**

FYSE 1347 Singing Communities

Humans have used their voices in expressive communication for thousands of years, singing for work, comfort, love, praise, and many other purposes. In this course we will explore the role of singing in human communities to address questions about human need. Why do people sing together? Can singing enhance quality of life and build community? We will sing, research singing traditions, and lead singing engagement activities in the Middlebury community. We will discuss our work with each other and write about our experience. Interest in group vocal music is encouraged. No prior vocal experience required. **ART, CW**

FYSE 1376 Postwar Japan in Film and Literature

In this seminar we will study the history of postwar Japan (1945 to the present), focusing on how literature and film have engaged the defining historical and political questions of this period. The seminar is organized around specific themes, including: trauma and war memory, the Allied occupation, the cold war in East Asia, high economic growth in the 1960s, political protest, post-coloniality, and a resurgent nationalism. Students will learn postwar Japanese history while also considering the possibilities of pursuing historical analysis through translated literature and narrative film. **AAL, CW, HIS, NOA**

FYSE 1378 American Environmentalisms After 1960

In this course we will examine the emergence of multiple threads of environmentalism in the United States since 1960. We will examine popular media portrayals of the environment in crisis through critical analysis of photographs, advertisements, and popular magazines, and environmentalism on college campuses. We will pay particular attention to emerging criticisms of environmentalism for both its failures to address issues of social inequality, particularly those of class and race, and its threat to conventional ideas of economic growth and prosperity. Student work will include essays, independent and group research projects, and collaborative digital projects. **CW, HIS, NOR**

FYSE 1419 Civil War and Civil Rights

In a time of national emergency, the rules governing everyday life often get suspended to meet a more pressing need. What rights of citizens remain protected in these circumstances, and what liberties are vulnerable to erosion? Where are the boundaries of reasonable sacrifice? While these questions are applicable to every era, we will focus on the years of the American Civil War (the 1860s) to explore them most fully. We will use the thoughts of 19th-century Americans and Confederates and the arguments of

historians as our guide towards deep thinking and discussion about rights, liberties, individual responsibility, and community cohesion. **AMR, CW, HIS**

FYSE 1424 Science and Democracy: Philosophical Perspectives

The scientific method has been heralded as inherently democratic, based as it is on observation rather than authority. Yet the relationship between science and democracy is much more complex: what happens to our own relationship to democracy when we find ourselves needing to rely on expert scientific knowledge to make informed decisions? In this course we will explore the work of philosophers and science studies scholars to help us understand the many challenges of integrating science and democracy. We will consider what might be required for scientific and technological research to be objective, trustworthy, just, and able to serve the needs of a diverse society well, and we will examine challenges such as the commercialization and politicization of science. Topics such as climate change, health policy, medical research, AI, and food safety will help frame our considerations of the appropriate role of science in developing sound public policy. **CW, PHL**

FYSE 1489 Memory Matters: The Holocaust

In this course, we look at Holocaust memory cultures that have evolved in the US and Germany and at the processes that have shaped our collective imaginations of the Shoah across time, space and genres. Students will develop critical awareness of the power of stories and the importance of memory work in all of our lives. They will also reflect on their own roles in the transmission of memory and the formation of collective and national memory cultures. We will examine documentary and feature films, read survivors' testimonies and fictional accounts, comics, poetry, theoretical and historical reflections, and examine monuments, counter-monuments and commemorative sites. **CMP, CW, LIT**

FYSE 1511 Folk Fairy Tales of the World

Tell me a story! We will examine the complex, inter-connected folk fairy tale traditions found in every society. Comparing fairy tale variants from around the world, we will explore their convoluted and fertile relationships as observed in the rise of fairytale collections in 15th Century Europe, reaching a culmination in the Brothers Grimm collection, often synonymous with the fairy tale itself. To attain a more dispassionate critical stance we will explore theoretical approaches to the fairy tales by such authors as Jack Zipes, Ruth Bottigheimer, Maria Tatar, and Kay Stone, and conclude by examining modern variants in prose, poetry, and film. **CMP, CW, LIT**

FYSE 1514 Refugee Stories

“Stories are just things we fabricate,” says a character in Viet Nguyen’s *The Refugees*. “We search for them in a world besides our own, then leave them here to be found, garments shed by ghosts.” In this course students will find stories by and about a paradigmatic modern figure: the displaced refugee seeking asylum in unfamiliar lands. Highlighting literary and visual representations, we will also draw from history, sociology, anthropology, environmental studies, and feminist critique. Beginning with the Syrian refugee crisis, we will circle back to the Vietnam War and the lingering questions it poses to today’s social justice movement. 3 hrs. sem. **CW, LIT**

FYSE 1524 Natural History of Addison County

In this course a strong sense of place will be forged by attention- and connection- learning to see the relationships within a region's ecological communities, and by cultivating relationships within its human communities. To this end, students will engage in a series of field trips in Middlebury and surrounding places in Addison County. We will use Natural History as a structuring principle, to build an understanding of the layers of the landscape from bedrock geology to plant and animal communities, including the influence of human history in shaping the current landscapes of Middlebury and Addison

County. The main goal over the course of the semester is to help each other find our own places within the landscape, and by doing so, to help make Middlebury feel more like home. Be ready to venture outside. **CW, PHL, SCI**

FYSE 1549 From Godzilla to Totoro: Monsters in Japanese Culture

In this course we will examine a series of Japanese monsters (foxes, badgers, demons, vengeful spirits, and others), which populate Japanese myths, tales, folklore, art, and popular culture, in order to understand how the fear of the Other leads to marginalization and demonization and how monsters are created to contain undesirable figures. We will also explore the literary expressions of cultural anxieties generated by lack of understanding or misunderstanding of phenomena, such as the powers of nature and the afterlife, as well as the existential terrors resulting from trauma and war. **CW, LIT, NOA**

FYSE 1566 American Revolutions: Reacting to the Past

In this course we will be examining three moments of intellectual and cultural conflict in the United States, which will likely include 1) The Revolution in NYC, 1775-76, 2) Greenwich Village, 1913 (Suffrage, Labor and the New Woman) and, 3) Chicago, 1968. We will dive deep into these revolutionary moments via Reacting to the Past games, in which you'll present the perspectives of historical characters—sometimes with values quite different than your own--in lively debate. These games do not have a fixed script: you'll find yourself researching historic documents, collaborating, making public speeches, plotting—and in the end, perhaps even rewriting history. **AMR, CW, HIS, LAB**

FYSE 1585 How Money Makes the World Go Round

Our society is structured around money – how to get it, how to spend it, how to amass it. Power comes easily to those with more than their fair share of it, and powerlessness plagues those without it. In this seminar we will study key aspects of the financial system, while examining the inherent biases, inequity, and unfairness within the institutions we rely on. We will explore ideas about how to address those impediments through readings devoted to current events, personal memoirs, and essays. Our discussions will illuminate the problematic way that money makes the world go round, while we also learn to navigate our own personal financial journey. **CW, SOC, LAB**

First-Year Seminar Preference Selection

Tuesday, June 20 at 12:00 p.m. – Monday, June 26 at 5:00 p.m.

(Eastern time)

All new students must register for a First-Year Seminar (FYSE) in the fall semester. The process begins by selecting 6 seminars from the list available. Descriptions of each seminar are included in this booklet.

At noon on June 20, 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 6 First-Year Seminars that interest you. You must select 6 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 six seminars from the list below.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1038 Mindfulness in Education |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1042 Language in Science Fiction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1043 Deserts: Myths, Mystery, Magic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1044 Ethics in the MCU |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1045 History & Graphic Novel |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1046 Exercise Biochemistry |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1047 Nature & Society |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1048 Lives of the Buddha |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1051 Russian Idea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FYSE 1053 K-Pop & Transcultural Fandom |

You can submit your First-Year Seminar choices anytime between June 20 - 26. 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.

2023 - 2024 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 | Must complete FREN 0209 or above with a B- or better to receive credit. FREN 0209 or above must be the first French course taken. 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 credits

2023-24 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: Fall 2023

Incoming students planning to enroll in courses in the following departments may need to take placement exams or follow special instructions 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.)**

Many placement exams must be completed between August 1 - August 25.

Some exams will be offered beginning **August 1, 2023**. Other exams will be offered a little later in August; a few exams work via interviews with department chairs, and those will be offered during Orientation. The Placement Exam website specifies which type of exam is available for each department.

For the *online* placement exams, you are expected to complete and submit them by August 25, using a computer with internet access. If you do not have internet access, please contact the department chair or coordinator to make other arrangements to complete the exam. Their contact information is available on the Placement Exam website. [Note: *All telephone extensions listed are preceded by the College's general number: 802-443-(4-digit extension).*]

To view websites for Middlebury academic departments, please visit www.middlebury.edu/academics.

Departments offering Placement Examinations or Placement Information:

Arabic
Chemistry/Biochemistry
Chinese
Classics (Latin)
Computer Science
Economics
French and Francophone Studies
German
Italian
Japanese Studies
Luso-Hispanic: Portuguese & Spanish
Mathematics
Music
Physics
Russian

The Placement Exam website link is also available via the [First-Year Seminar](#) website.

Courses Appropriate for First-Year Students

During September Orientation, you will register for three more 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 Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 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.

ARTS

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.

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 or 300-level courses without having prior disciplinary or content knowledge.

MUSIC

The Department of Music offers courses for 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 placement tests. Music Department ensembles include African Music and Dance Ensemble, Afropop Band, Orchestra, Choir, Community Chorus, The Sound Investment Jazz Ensemble, Community Wind, and Jazz Workshop. All first-year students are invited to participate in these ensembles (non-credit). Note that African Music and Dance is both an ensemble and a course that first-year students can take for credit.

STUDIO ART

The Program in Studio Art offers 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 if courses have prerequisites. Approval for 200 & 300 level courses may be approved with a portfolio review and chair approval.

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.

HUMANITIES

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. (Information about Greek and Latin courses is listed separately in the Languages section.)

HISTORY

The History Department offers courses for first-year students at the 100, 200, or 300 level (space permitting), 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 offers 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 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.

PHILOSOPHY

All Philosophy courses numbered at the 0100 level, and almost all at the 0200 level, are open to first-year students, space permitting. Students interested in majoring in Philosophy should take PHIL 0180 in their first or second year.

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 prerequisites. 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.

INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS

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.

BLACK STUDIES

The Program of Black Studies offers courses for first-year students (space permitting) that 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 and 300-level courses. In other words, students can take a 200-level or 300-level course without having taken 101 or other prerequisites, though there are exceptions.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The Environmental Studies Program has multiple options for beginning your study of human-environment relations. These include introductory courses in a wide range of disciplines related to the environment. These can all be starting points toward any of our 17 foci within Environmental Studies.

BIOL 140, Ecology and Evolution

CHEM 103, General Chemistry I

ECON 111, Economic Statistics

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

ECON 155, Intro to Microeconomics

GEOG 100, Place and Society

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

Any introductory course in History, Religion, English, Political Science (for starting ENVS majors with foci in History, Religion & Philosophy, or Environmental Policy.

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>.

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.

GLOBAL HEALTH

Most, but not all, courses offered within the program reserve some seats for incoming students,

including the foundational course required for the minor (GHLT 0257, Global Health). All GHLT courses are open to first-years, space permitting; no courses have prerequisites.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL

Interdepartmental offerings include a variety of interesting courses, from 3D Computer Animation and Accounting to 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.

JEWISH STUDIES

The Program in Jewish Studies offers two courses in Fall 2022 that are open to First Year Students, “Jewish Traditions” and “Jews and Christians: Conflict and Identity (RELI/JWST 0264). (For courses on contemporary Israel, refer to the Program in Modern Hebrew.)

LINGUISTICS PROGRAM

First-year students may begin at the 100, 200, or 300 level (space permitting). There are no prerequisites for classes that are only LNGT. However, please consult with the other departments concerning prerequisites for cross-listed LNGT courses.

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.

WRITING AND RHETORIC PROGRAM

The Writing and Rhetoric Program offers courses from WRPR 0100 through WRPR 0102 for first-year students, space permitting.

LANGUAGES, Cultures & Literatures

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.

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.

FRENCH

The Department of French and Francophone Studies offers courses at the 100 and 200 level for first-year students. Courses are taught in French at increasing levels of difficulty. 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.

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 require any prerequisites. Our beginning German courses GRMN 0101-0103 are offered fall through spring. GRMN 0101 assumes no previous knowledge of German, and there are no prerequisites. Registration for a course above 0101 is guided by a placement test. All courses in the German curriculum 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. Students entering in February with no previous knowledge of German are strongly encouraged to start their German study during their first FALL term.

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.

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.

ITALIAN

Students who are interested in studying in Italy (Florence or Rome) 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 may take a placement exam during Orientation Week. If the placement test indicates mastery equivalent to a full-year course at Middlebury, the student will be placed in the next highest level.

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.

LUSO-HISPANIC STUDIES

Spanish

ALL students planning to enroll in Spanish must take the placement exam (available Aug 1-26) in order to determine which level is most appropriate for them. Please see detailed instructions for taking online placement exams in this booklet. All courses from SPAN 0101 through SPAN 0349 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 place 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.

Portuguese

Students interested in taking Portuguese above the introductory level (PGSE 0101) should contact Professor Luis Castañeda (lcastaneda@middlebury.edu) before the semester to arrange a placement interview. Courses open to first-year students, space permitting and w/relevant waivers, are PGSE 0210, 0215, 0340.

RUSSIAN

All courses taught in English in the Russian Department are open to first-year students, including all courses on Russian literature and culture. Students with no prior Russian experience should enroll in RUSS0101. If you plan to study abroad in Russia during your undergraduate career, you are *strongly* urged to start RUSS0101 in your first semester on campus. (Students entering in February may start during their first fall term.)

LITERATURES

(See also Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, where literature is also taught in translation by specialists of literatures written in languages other than English)

ENGLISH/CREATIVE WRITING

The Department of English offers courses in ENGL at the 100-, 200-, and 300-level and in CRWR (Creative Writing) 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.

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.

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.

NATURAL SCIENCES

BIOLOGY

The Department of Biology offers BIOL 0140 AND 0145 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.

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. Others 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.

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.

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.

MATHEMATICS

We offer a series of introductory courses in calculus as well as statistics/data science for students at all levels. Placement information can be found here: <https://www.middlebury.edu/academics/math/placement-information>.

The Calculus sequence MATH 121/122 is required in the more quantitative sciences such as Physics and Chemistry. Moreover, Calculus and Linear Algebra (MATH 200) are increasingly useful for work throughout the sciences 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, meanwhile, are widely applicable across many disciplines offered at the College. MATH 116 and 118 are introductory courses in Statistical Inference and Data Science, respectively. MATH 201 is an accelerated introduction to both areas, and also the entry point to our newly introduced major in Statistics.

Faculty will be available for advising at the Academic Forum and also during the drop-in Placement Info Session for Mathematics and Statistics.

PHYSICS

The Department of Physics offers 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 if courses have prerequisites.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

ANTHROPOLOGY

The Department of Anthropology offers courses open to first-year students at the 100-, 200-, and 300-level space permitting. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites.

ECONOMICS – Placement information: <https://sites.google.com/middlebury.edu/placementexams/home>

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. Read details in the placement information link.

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.

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 to plan their course of study.

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, human geography, and geographic methods, and 200 level courses focus on thematic sub themes ranging from urban landscapes to environmental change. 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.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

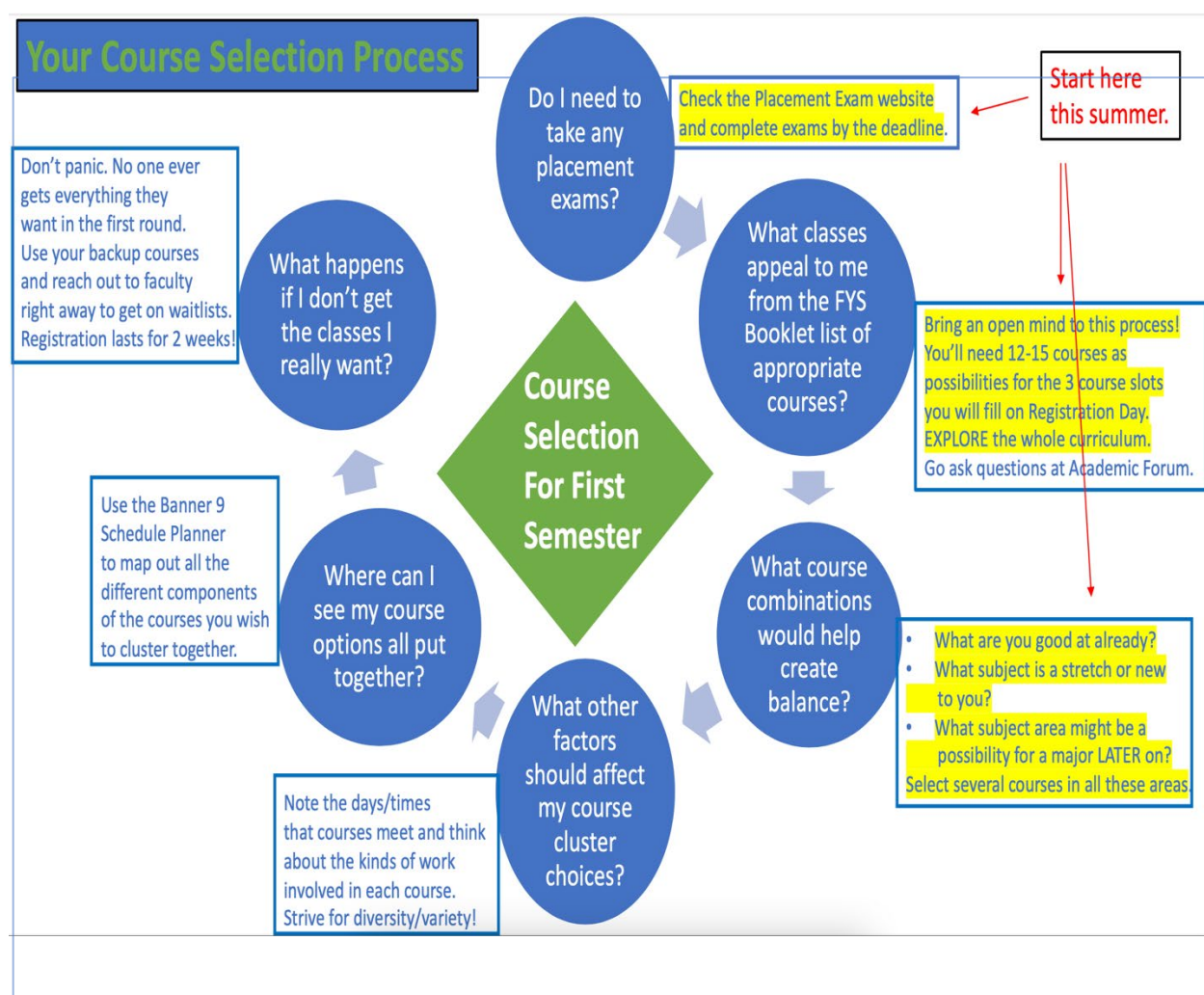
The Department of Political Science offers courses at the 100 level and some courses at the 200 level for first-year students, space permitting. Please examine the department's course offerings and the corresponding course descriptions carefully, noting if courses have prerequisites.

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.

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.



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 (<https://www.middlebury.edu/study-abroad>; Sunderland Language Center 129). In addition, please see the Study Abroad Guidelines for details on study abroad policies and procedures (<http://schoolsabroadhandbooks.middcreate.net/guidelines/>).

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 meeting you at the Academic Forum once you arrive on campus, and then setting up a meeting so that we can get to know you. 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

Dear FYSE 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 2023 classes** need to be ordered online – **the campus store does not stock textbooks**. We have partnered with eCampus.com to create a convenient and easy-to-use process using our Middlebury College personalized site. 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. After payment, use the default address of the campus store and pick up your books when you receive an email that they have arrived.

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

<https://simages.ecampus.com/images/s/email/2022/teamexpress/middlebury-how-to-order-textbooks.pdf>

To access the online bookstore please use this link:

[Middlebury College Online Bookstore \(ecampus.com\)](https://ecampus.com)

Here are some helpful hints for stress- free ordering:

The Online Bookstore for Fall Semester opens on **Monday, August 7th**. **Please do not purchase books until your course selections are confirmed.**

Once your course schedule is confirmed, order books promptly so you will be prepared for class. Shipping times have been lengthened and some textbook quantities are limited due to global supply issues. All orders of \$79 and over are shipped free, anytime. **Orders placed between September 4 - 17 qualify for Free, Expediated Shipping to Store, regardless of order total.**

Use the campus default address at checkout: **books will be delivered to the campus bookstore, where you can pick up, after receiving an email that they are available.**

Using **Financial Aid** for book purchases? Make sure to select “Use a voucher” when selecting a payment method at checkout, then follow the prompts to add the voucher information.

Concerned about ordering books and then dropping/changing classes? No worries – bring your unused books to the bookstore within 2 weeks of dropping a class and we will return them for you (with your original invoice).

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 during the summer and 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)

Starting in mid-August, you will receive communication and guidance from your FYS instructor, who is also your Pre-Major Academic Advisor. In September, you will benefit from the assistance of a student support team, including:

- 1) **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.
- 2) **your [Compass Mentor](#)**: While conversations with your Pre-Major Advisor might revolve mainly around academics, you will have another adult on campus who is also invested in helping you become the person you want to be and who will connect you to the campus resources that will help you get there. Look forward to coffee breaks and long walks with your Compass Mentor.
- 3) **your [First-Year Dean](#)**: Your Dean provides guidance on how to navigate the First-Year at Middlebury 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 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.