**African Studies (AFS)**

African Studies offers two interdisciplinary programs, the minor (AFS) and the Five College African Studies Certificate (AFC). Both offer a systematic introduction to the complex historical, political and social issues of the African continent. Of the six courses required for the minor and for the certificate, one must be taken in literature or the arts, one in history, and one in the social sciences. The certificate also requires competence in a foreign language. The minor does not. Although only a few AFS courses are offered on the introductory level, most 200-level courses are open to first-year students in the spring term.

Many minors spend a semester or more in Africa. Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and Tanzania all currently offer programs of interest to Smith students.

AFS students are strongly encouraged to study certain languages to prepare them for programs overseas and for certain courses at Smith. Students who are planning to study in Africa should give priority to language instruction in their first year at Smith. Swahili, Arabic, French, and Portuguese are all offered at Smith or in the Five Colleges.

The wide array of courses on Africa offered at Smith and at the other Five College campuses ensures that students, whether focusing on literature, art, history, politics, or social and economic issues, have an unusual opportunity to customize their program both topically and geographically.
Africana Studies (AFR)

The Department of Africana Studies investigates the social, historical, cultural, and aesthetic works and practices of populations of African descent throughout the Diaspora. The work in Africana Studies is interdisciplinary as well as multi-disciplinary, and it is intersectional in its focus on identity.

Courses in the department of Africana Studies consider how racial blackness (and the concept of race itself) influences the development of the modern world. A student in our department is first a critical thinker, one who learns to ask questions, seek connections, and unpack what is invisible or ignored. This critical thinking is achieved through an interdisciplinary curriculum where students engage the methods of various disciplines (for example, history, sociology, and literature). Our courses emphasize close-reading, research, and writing; they also encourage students to think about the Caribbean, Africa, and Diaspora communities in Europe and elsewhere.

AFR 111—Introduction to Black Culture is the entry point to the major and offers a broad study of the political, cultural, and social themes that inform African-American culture and history. Four other courses that first-year students might consider are AFR 117—History of Afro-American People to 1960, the foundational history offering in our department; AFR 155—Introduction to Black Women’s Studies, a gateway to courses focused on the study of black women and black feminism; and two literature survey courses, AFR 170—African-American Literature: 1746-1900 and AAS 175—African-American Literature: 1900 to the present. There is also a first-year seminar offering that could serve as an introduction to Africana Studies: FYS 148—African-American Migration Narratives. Additionally, THE 221, Rehearsing the Impossible: Black women playwrights interrupting the Master Narrative, offers an introduction to black women and the performing arts.

During her sophomore and junior years, a student is expected to develop a concentration in one of five disciplines or areas: history, social science, literature/cultural studies, black women’s studies or Diaspora studies. We also strongly encourage majors to study abroad; past students have gone to South Africa, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, Ghana, London, and Paris. Both the concentration and the travel abroad experience are central to preparing students for research work in the senior year (via seminars, special studies or honors theses), as well as for fellowships, graduate and professional school, and employment opportunities after Smith.
Ancient Studies (ANS)

Ancient studies is an interdepartmental minor designed for students who wish to study the ancient civilizations of the Mediterranean and the Near Eastern worlds (to roughly 600 C.E.) from an interdisciplinary perspective. It is an ideal accompaniment to any major for a student who is enthusiastic about exploring the ancient world in some depth during her time at Smith. A prospective minor should consult with one of the ancient studies advisers to plan a program that focuses on her primary area(s) of interest, consisting of six courses in art, classics, government, history, philosophy, religion and archaeology. A list of approved courses can be found in the catalogue, and a student may count others in consultation with her adviser. In order to allow the student to achieve suitable breadth, the six courses counting toward her ancient studies minor will normally come from at least three different departments or programs. No languages are required for this minor.
Anthropology (ANT)

The program in anthropology offers a major but no minor. In addition to our core offerings in cultural anthropology, the department also offers two courses in anthropological archaeology each year. Upper-level courses cover such topics as the comparative study of identity politics, economic and political strategies in non-Western societies, migration, medical anthropology and death studies, religion, media and performance, the culture of gender, development anthropology, museum studies, visual anthropology and urban anthropology. Area courses in Africa, East Asia, Latin America and South Asia are also offered.

Majors are required to have the equivalent of two years of college level work in a foreign language. All majors take ANT 130, a departmental colloquium, a course in anthropological theory and a senior Smith seminar, as well as 4 other anthropology classes. Three additional courses, which may be more anthropology or courses in other departments that relate to a student’s anthropological interests, complete the major. Prospective majors should also note that a geographic area concentration is desirable.

Anthropology majors are encouraged to consider an academic program abroad during their junior year. In the past, majors have spent a semester or year in Chile, China, Ecuador, England, Geneva, India, Kenya, Mexico, Paris, Peru, Scotland, Senegal, Tanzania or South Africa.

ANT 130 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology offers a survey of the basic concerns of anthropology. It explores the similarities and differences in the patterning of human experience and the impact of the modern world on traditional societies.

ANT 135 Introduction to Archaeology focuses on the study of past cultures and societies through their material remains to understand key transitions in human prehistory, including the origins of food production, social inequality, and state-level societies across the globe.
Archaeology (ARC)

Archaeology is a method that helps us understand the human past through the interpretation of the material remains of earlier human societies. The program in archaeology represents a six-course minor that can be most usefully taken to supplement work in a major field such as anthropology, art, religion, classical languages and literatures, history or even a natural science such as geology, biology or chemistry.

The minor involves courses in a number of departments as well as the core introductory course ARC/ANT 135 Introduction to Archaeology, which is offered in the fall and is open to all students. Students intending to minor in Archaeology should select additional courses for the minor in consultation with a program faculty adviser (please see the catalog under Archaeology). Students with an interest in Classical archeology who expect to study aboard in Greece or Rome are also encouraged to elect GRK 100 or LAT 100, or to take the Latin placement test.

Some form of field experience, normally but not exclusively archaeological excavation at approved sites, is a requirement for the minor and is also a wonderful general educational experience. Smith students have in recent years participated in programs in Austria, Belize, China, Cyprus, Greece, Jordan, Israel, Italy, the United Kingdom and the (Southwest) United States. Interested students are encouraged to speak with a program faculty adviser regarding fieldwork prospects. Links to resources that would help in identifying potential archaeological experiences can be found on the program website.
Archives Concentration–ARX

The Archives Concentration offers a way for you to sample the riches of one of the world’s largest archives of women’s history in the Sophia Smith Collection, to learn about Smith’s rich student culture through the College Archives, and to touch first editions of rare books, see the one-of-kind artists books, and to explore the creative process of Sylvia Plath and Virginia Woolf in the Mortimer Rare Book Room. Through two internships, you will learn about how archives are collected, preserved, and made available for use. Students also may complete practical experiences on campus in a variety of jobs in the College Archives, the Sophia Smith Collection, Mortimer Rare Book Room and the Smith College Museum of Art, as well as across the country and even abroad.

Through a one-credit gateway course offered in the fall semester, and choosing 4 electives from departmental courses that use the archives, you’ll learn about what archives are and how they to interpret archival materials to understand history. In a final capstone seminar in spring semester senior year, you will complete an independent research project to create an exhibit or digital narrative.

The place to begin to sample these treasures is through ARX 141 What I Do In the Archives, a “gateway” course to the concentration, offered for one credit on Thursday evenings for the first seven weeks of the fall semester. This course is a behind-the-scenes, hands-on introduction to the roles archives and archivists play in our understanding of the past. Taught in Smith's archives by our own archivists, this course will include topics such as processing and curating, preservation, oral history, archives in the digital age, legal issues, and donor relations.

Another way to explore the archives in the fall semester is to take a First-Year Seminar that includes archival research. In fall of 2015, these archival first year seminars are:

- FYS 179, Rebellious Women (with ARX Director Kelly Anderson)
- FYS 120 Writing Home
- FYS 153 The Bollywood Matinee: Gender, Nation and Globalization through the Lens of Popular Indian Cinema
- FYS 161 Immigration and New Multiethnic Societies

Students may also begin archival work in ENG 118 Consumer Culture and ENG 199 Methods in Literary Study. All of these courses also satisfy the Writing Intensive requirement for first-years.

In January term students can delve into intensive research in the archives through one-week, 1-credit courses held in the Special Collections. In J-term 2015, these include:

- ARX 105j Class Matters: Organizing for Social Justice
- ARX 107j Making Teaching and Learning Tangible: Understanding Childhood Through the Archives

In the spring semester, we recommend AMS 201, Introduction to American Studies, and SWG 150, Introduction to the Study of Women and Gender, which both introduce students to archival research.

First-year students may apply for participation in the Archives Concentration in the spring if they have done some coursework. Up to fifteen students from each graduating class are accepted into the program. For more information about the Archives Concentration, please visit www.smith.edu/archives, or contact the Director of the Archives Concentration, Kelly Anderson at kpanders@smith.edu.
Art (ART)

These are exciting days to be involved in the arts, and Smith is a place where both tradition and innovation are taken seriously—by faculty and by students. In the Art Department, we encourage students to study topics they are passionate about already—whether it be performance art, modern architecture, photography or medieval cathedrals. We also encourage students to explore new media (including digital art and 3D printing), diverse geographies, and original objects in the Smith College Museum of Art.

A concentration in art at Smith has led students to careers as artists, historians, architects, landscape architects, museum curators, gallery owners, teachers, conservators, preservationists and writers. Others have found careers in business and law, in fact, in all professional and life pursuits.

The full range of courses in the history of art and architecture—from Aztec sculpture to modern architecture, and from Chinese scrolls to installation art—is balanced by extensive offerings in studio art, which include painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, sculpture, typography, digital media and architecture. Perhaps unique among Smith College’s rich offerings is an architecture track in the Art Department that combines studio work with courses in architectural history.

The basis for the Art major is “Art and Its Histories” (ARH 110). Within the studio area, students also need an introductory studio class and may begin with: “Introduction to Digital Media” (ARS 162), “Drawing I” (ARS 163), one of the 2-D or 3-D design courses (ARS 161 and 164), or “Cross-Disciplinary Foundations” (ARS 172). “Cross-Disciplinary Foundations” is an excellent choice and strongly recommended for students planning on undertaking a studio art major.

Students are occasionally exempted from the introductory-level studio art requirement upon presentation to the studio faculty of an acceptable portfolio; portfolio reviews are scheduled during orientation week. For first-year students coming to Smith with a strong background in art history, it is possible to take 200-level classes open to first years will appear in the Smith course catalogue (e.g., those without any pre-requisites).
Astronomy (AST)

The cosmos, from our home planet to the farthest reaches of the universe, is a wondrous and mysterious place. In astronomy you study the origin and fate of the universe, the birth and evolution of galaxies, stars, and planets, and the possibilities for extraterrestrial biology. One of the original liberal arts, astronomy provides an unparalleled perspective for appreciating our planet and the life that it supports.

Do you love science and math? The courses for you are AST 111 (Introduction to Astronomy) in the fall and AST 113 (Telescopes and Techniques) in the spring. If taken in your first year along with physics and calculus, these courses provide the basis for majoring in astronomy.

If you are unsure about your math skills, but really want to learn about the wonders of the universe and how telescopes work, the courses for you are AST 100 (Survey of the Universe) and AST 103 (Sky and Telescopes).

Finally, AST 102 (Sky and Time) is for students of all backgrounds. It explores the astronomical roots of timekeeping and the origin of clocks and calendars among all the cultures of the world.

Our classes use the McConnell Rooftop Observatory for sky viewing and celestial photography. Our telescopes range in aperture from 16 to 8 inches and are used both for visual viewing and for scientific imaging with our collection of CCD astronomical cameras.

The Astronomy Major is offered collaboratively through the Five College Astronomy Department that collectively includes 15 faculty and offers a rich undergraduate curriculum and lots of research opportunities, including summer internships. If you are considering a major or minor in astronomy be sure to make an appointment with Suzan Edwards or James Lowenthal at the earliest opportunity.
Biochemistry (BCH)

Biochemistry is an ideal major for students with a broad interest in current science, as it brings together aspects of biology, chemistry, computer science and physics for an interdisciplinary approach to problem solving at the cellular and molecular levels. Areas such as genomics, proteomics, enzymology, pharmacology, metabolism, energetics, bioinformatics and structural biology are all encompassed within the discipline.

Biochemistry is also interdepartmental, sponsored jointly by the biological sciences and chemistry departments. Advisers to the major are drawn from both departments. Because biochemistry builds on the fundamentals of both biology and chemistry, students who major in biochemistry begin by taking courses in both of these fields. The background includes general biology, cell biology, physiology and molecular biology, as well as general, organic and physical chemistry. Biochemistry follows in either the second or third year, along with more specialized courses selected according to the student’s individual interests.

Because this major requires a sequence of courses with various prerequisites, entering students are encouraged to see one of the biochemistry advisers before making initial course selections. Any student considering a Biochemistry major should take CHM 111 or 118 in the fall of her first year followed by CHM 222 in the spring semester. If she does not begin in CHM 111 or 118 in her first semester, she must wait until the fall of her sophomore year for these courses to be offered again, putting herself behind in courses for the major. Typically, a first-year student will also take BIO 150 and 151 during one of the two semesters during her first year.

Placement in the introductory biology and chemistry courses is achieved by departmental consultation at the time of registration.
**Biological Sciences (BIO)**

Recent advances in the life sciences have provided an unprecedented understanding of the mechanism of biological systems. Ranging across size scales from the molecular level to whole ecosystems, these achievements are both providing insights into how biological systems function and enabling new technologies for further investigation. This knowledge is not only important for furthering our understanding of biology, but it also provides a critical foundation for approaching many of the most crucial issues facing humanity this century. Pivotal issues, such as: emerging infectious diseases, genetically modified organisms, species extinctions, climate change, synthetic biology and personalized medicine all require an understanding of basic biology, but will also have far reaching affects that go beyond the life sciences, entering the realms of economics, politics, global health and fundamental aspects of society and culture.

The major in biological sciences at Smith College is designed to provide (1) conceptual breadth across the major disciplines in biology, (2) depth in one or more specialized fields in biology, (3) experience with state-of-the-art tools and techniques of biological research and (4) the opportunity to personally experience the excitement and process of scientific investigation. Within this general framework, students can construct course programs that serve their individual interests and plans after graduation, while ensuring that they acquire a broad background in the biological sciences. Exposure to related fields, such as chemistry, physics, geology, engineering, mathematics and computer science, is also encouraged. Prospective majors should consult with biology faculty in choosing their courses.

Majors are required to complete the three core courses (BIO 150, 152 and 154), CHM 111 or 118, and a course in statistics (preferably MTH 245). In their first semesters, students are encouraged to enroll in 2 core courses and their associated laboratory courses (BIO 150/151, BIO 152/153, and/or Bio 154/155). The core courses can be taken in any sequence, and each is offered in both the fall and spring semesters. Many of the 200- and 300-level biological sciences have these core courses as prerequisites. Students with AP scores of 4 or 5 may elect to skip the core courses, but must then take an advanced course in the associated topic area (Cells, Physiology and Development; Genetics, Genomics and Evolution; or Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation). Please discuss these options with a faculty member in biology if you have any questions.

The major also requires: two or more 300-level courses, at least one of which must have an associated laboratory; at least five laboratory courses, including at least two of the three core course laboratory courses (BIO 151, 153 and 155); and elective courses to bring the course total in the major to 12. Note that the BIO 159Y laboratory course may substitute for both the BIO 151 and BIO 155 laboratory courses, while the BIO 180Y laboratory course may substitute for both the BIO 153 and BIO 155 laboratory courses. Finally, there are five tracks through the major - (1) Integrative Biology, (2) Cells, Physiology and Development, (3) Genetics, Evolution and Molecular Biosciences, (4) Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation and (5) Biology and Education. These tracks are designed to provide guidance for a curriculum that creates both breadth in the biological sciences and depth in one area of biology. For further information and to find a detailed description of the major, please consult the Smith College Catalogue.
Book Studies (BKX)

The concentration in Book Studies is designed for students who have an interest in any aspect of the study of recorded texts and who may be considering future work in libraries, publishing, graphic design and typography, education, book arts, or information technology. Like all concentrations, Book Studies combines classroom study, independent research, and relevant hands-on experience. It will provide you with an introduction to the history, art, and technology of the "book," broadly defined to encompass oral memory and papyrus scrolls to manuscripts, printed books, and digital media. Book Studies will also connect you with the exceptional resources of the Mortimer Rare Book Room, the wealth of book artists and craftspeople of the Pioneer Valley, and the unusual richness of book-related courses and institutions found in the Five-College environment. Another important feature of the Book Studies Concentration is that it is interdisciplinary, allowing you to take classes offered by a wide range of departments.

You will need to complete six courses. In addition to the gateway course (Perspectives on Book Studies) and the senior capstone experience, you will take two required core courses (The Technology of Reading and Writing and The Art and History of the Book), as well as two electives from a long and interesting list, chosen to support your primary area of focus. In particular, the senior capstone experience enables you to explore a wide spectrum of subjects that includes medieval manuscripts, early and fine printing, book illustration, children's picture books, the book trade and publishing, artists' books, censorship, the social history of books and literacy, the history of libraries and book collecting, and the effects of the current digital revolution on the material book.

In addition to the coursework, you also need to complete one or two internships in some field of book studies. With the help of the director you may arrange for these practical experiences in off-campus collections, private or institutional, or complete them on campus in a variety of jobs in the Special Collections department of the Smith College Libraries.

Apply for participation in the Book Studies Concentration in the fall of your sophomore year; up to ten students from each class are accepted into the program.

Learn more about the concentration at our website http://www.smith.edu/bookstudies or by contacting the director, Martin Antonetti, at mantonet@smith.edu.
Buddhist Studies Concentration (BUX)

Smith is a center for Buddhist Studies, with internationally recognized scholars whose research and teaching span a range of Buddhist traditions and disciplinary approaches, and many programs for students interested in the study and practice of Buddhism. Smith is also part of the Five Colleges, which has one of the largest concentrations of scholars of Buddhist Studies in the United States, creating a wonderful opportunity for both faculty and students to collaborate. The area surrounding the college also offers numerous ways to learn about Buddhism, as there are more than 60 Buddhist groups and organizations in the near vicinity.

Buddhist Studies involves virtually every aspect of human culture—from the most public institutions to the most interior neurochemical structures—and our courses allow students to pursue their interest in those areas. A concentration in Buddhist Studies is an excellent adjunct to majors in such fields as religion, philosophy, American studies, anthropology, art history, Asian studies, comparative literature, East Asian languages and literature, East Asian studies, the study of women and gender, psychology, neuroscience, and more. It allows for a deeper focus in Buddhism, offering an interdisciplinary complement to one's major and an important credential for graduate admissions. It also provides a wonderful opportunity for students to integrate their coursework, Praxis learning and international experiences.

The study of Buddhism is by nature interdisciplinary and international. Although a student’s religious perspective is irrelevant to their decision to study Buddhism, it is also not unusual that they are motivated by deep questions and a personal quest for knowledge about the pressing issues of life. The concentration therefore allows and encourages the subjective and contemplative to enter into a student’s objective and scientific study, and requires two practical learning experiences to facilitate this. Our students have discussed the ordination of Buddhist nuns with the Dalai Lama, worked with sacred mask dancers in Mongolia, studied in monasteries throughout the world, helped conserve ancient Tibetan art works, and dined with many of the most respected Buddhist scholars and teachers when they pass through town.

The ideal place to begin your studies of Buddhism is with the introductory gateway course for the concentration, BUX 120 The Study of Buddhism (offered the second half of Fall 2014). This is an “appetizer” one-credit course which introduces students to the many fields and disciplines involved in the study of Buddhism. The other courses offered this fall which are excellent places to begin an exploration of the Buddhist world are REL 266 Buddhism in America and REL 275 Religious History of South Asia: Ancient to Medieval. In the spring semester, beginning students are welcome in REL 266 Introduction to Tibetan Buddhism, REL 270 Sites and Sights: A Pilgrim’s Guide to Pre-Modern Japanese Buddhism, and REL 276 Religious History of South Asia: Medieval and Modern Periods.

For more information, visit www.smith.edu/buddhism.
**Chemistry (CHM)**

By harnessing her understanding of atomic and molecular-level interactions, a chemist builds a better world. Chemists invent new pharmaceutical agents, unveil the workings of life, and discover new materials for use in advanced electronics and other technology. As with other sciences, chemistry is concerned with the principles that explain our world. Unlike most other scientists, chemists use these principles to create entirely new molecules and materials, capable of previously unknown or even unimaginable function. Chemistry's unique reliance upon both rigorous experimentation and unbounded imagination positions its practitioners to devise new solutions to some of humanity's greatest challenges, including the scourge of disease, the need for sustainable energy, and the remediation of our damaged environment.

The chemistry department offers courses for the major, minor and for nonmajors. The foundation for chemistry majors is laid in the three course introductory sequence, CHM 111 (or CHM 118), CHM 222, and CHM 224. First-year students begin with CHM 111, a general chemistry course for students with little or no background in chemistry, which is separated into three smaller sections to provide stronger student/faculty interaction. Alternatively, CHM 118 is an advanced general chemistry course for students with a strong chemistry background and replaces both CHM 111 and 224. Following CHM 111/118, most students take CHM 222: Organic I during their second semester. CHM 224, a second general chemistry course, may be taken after organic chemistry (the 2nd semester of organic chemistry, CHM 223, is recommended but not required for the major) or may be taken directly after CHM 111 instead. A total of 10 courses in chemistry are required to complete the major, and majors should also plan on taking calculus, preferably within their first two years. Advanced courses available during the third and fourth years include a choice of advanced lab courses that emphasize independent projects, more focused upper-level work in a choice of subfields, and a variety of electives offered by both the department and other departments and programs in the sciences.

The chemistry faculty is dedicated to giving each student a quality education, whatever her goals at and beyond Smith. We emphasize experimental design, analytical thinking and problem solving in our courses and research programs. Students are strongly encouraged to take part in independent research, through special studies, summer research and/or Honors thesis work during the senior year. Experimental research and laboratory courses are carried out in Ford Hall with the use of cutting-edge instruments housed in the department. Each semester renowned chemists give seminars on current research to the department, and the weekly chemistry lunchbag talks provide a forum for chemistry students and faculty to informally discuss their own research projects. The chemistry department celebrates the completion of each year with its annual picnic and Ice Cream Freeze-Off.

Because chemistry permeates many disciplines, a chemistry major is well-prepared to enter a variety of professional fields. Past majors have pursued advanced studies and careers in chemistry, biochemistry, medicine, art conservation, pharmacology and environmental science. A chemistry major will join the ranks of the many Smith chemistry alumnae who have enjoyed success as research scientists, teachers, health professionals, lawyers and businesswomen.
**Classical Languages and Literatures (CLS, LAT, GRK)**

Classicists study the languages, literature, and culture of the ancient Greeks and Romans. This study has both intellectual and practical benefits. It introduces you to cultures that are familiar in some ways, radically different in others, and that will give you a fresh perspective on your own modern world. Studying the classics will also sharpen your skills of attentive reading, clear writing and effective speaking—skills transferable to a host of other contexts. Classics majors benefit from a small, intimate department; junior years spent in Italy, Greece, or the United Kingdom; and a variety of career choices: editor, curator, librarian, doctor, lawyer, diplomat, as well as high school and college instructor of Latin and Greek.

If you’ve already studied Latin in high school and wish to continue at Smith, you should take the placement exam administered by the department during orientation. We will use the exam to recommend an appropriate Latin course for you; we also grant advanced placement for an AP score of 4 or 5. If you’re considering a major in classics, you should also begin the study of Greek in your first or, at the latest, second year. Finally, you should consider taking courses in ancient history, philosophy, art and archaeology to complement your study of the languages.

If you’ve never studied Greek or Latin, you can begin at Smith. Latin 100Y and Greek 100Y are yearlong, 10-credit courses that will give you a solid foundation in the ancient languages, enhance your English vocabulary, and sharpen your command of English grammar. Greek is recommended for students interested in religion, philosophy, or Greek literature. Latin is important for the study of medieval and early modern history and literature, and especially useful for pre-law students.

Another way to approach the classical tradition is through the first-year seminars taught by members of our department, or the courses listed in the catalogue under Classics in Translation (CLS). These courses have no prerequisites and all the reading is in English. In fall 2015-16 we’ll be offering a first-year seminar: “Women of the ODYSSEY.”

Suggested courses for first-year students: GRK 100Y, LAT 100Y, LAT 212, FYS 107.
Community Engagement and Social Change Concentration—CCX

The Community Engagement and Social Change (CESC) Concentration allows each participating student to connect an interdisciplinary area of special interest to practical work in communities. Examples of areas of interest for students include immigration and citizenship, public health, education, law and policy, community organizing, community narratives, science and social change, environmental justice, social movements, and arts and activism. By combining carefully selected coursework, practical experiences in off-campus communities, research projects, and guided reflection, students

- expand and deepen their understanding of local, national, and global issues that affect communities, and
- develop the skills, attitudes, and knowledge necessary to collaborate mindfully with these communities as citizens and leaders.

Interested students can begin by taking the gateway course (CCX 120—Community-Based Learning: Ethics and Practice) offered in the spring semester. CCX 120 exposes students to various opportunities available at Smith College for engaging with communities. Students interact with peers, faculty, guest speakers, and off-campus community members who provide first-hand perspectives on community-based learning and issues that affect communities.

In addition to the gateway course, students choose 4 electives from the rich curricular offerings in multiple disciplines at Smith College and in the Five Colleges. Electives enable students to explore their area of interest while deepening their knowledge in relevant core content, including social systems analyses, social justice, diversity, community development, and community-based learning. In the capstone seminar (CCX 320), taken in spring semester of their junior or senior year, concentrators complete team projects that synthesize their prior academic work and practical experiences.

The CESC concentration is open to all students. First-year students may apply for participation in the CESC Concentration in the spring semester if they have enrolled in CCX 120. Up to fifteen students from each class year are accepted into the program. For more information about the CESC Concentration, please visit [www.smith.edu/ccc/concentration.php](http://www.smith.edu/ccc/concentration.php).

Lucy Mule, Director (lmule@smith.edu).
Comparative Literature (CLT)

Comparative literature is about crossing borders: exploring ways different languages shape thought, ways writers read other authors distant in time or place, ways cultural movements connect artists from different countries, and ways diverse peoples celebrate traditions as well as redefine their cultures.

As a basis for the major, students select any 2 from 4 options:

1) Any first-year seminar with a comparative literature focus (fall 2015)
   - FYS 120: Writing Home
   - FYS 165: Childhood in African Literature
   - FYS 168: Damaged Gods: Myth and Religion of the Vikings
   - FYS 175: Love Stories

2) CLT 100: Introduction to Comparative Literature (every spring). Topic for 2016: "Love, Death and Art: Orpheus and Eurydice"

3) CLT 202: Western Classics in Translation, from Homer to Dante (every fall), modern approaches to texts from Greece, Rome, and the Middle Ages.

4) CLT 203: Western Classics in Translation, from Chrétien de Troyes to Tolstoy (every spring), on the roots of the novel, perhaps the pre-eminent modern literary form.

*** Except for CLT 100, these basis courses are writing intensive (WI) and taught as small classes to encourage student engagement.

First-year students are also particularly welcome in the following courses:

- CLT 150 The Art of Translation: Poetics, Politics, Practice (spring 2016)
- CLT 177 Journeys in World Literature, Topic: Eric Worlds (spring 2016)
- CLT 204 Writings and Rewritings, Topic: Queering Don Quixote (fall 2015)
- CLT 205 20th Century Literatures of Africa (fall 2015)
- CLT 214 Literary Anti-Semitism (fall 2015)
- CLT 220 Colloquium: Imagining Language (fall 2015)
- CLT 230 “Unnatural Women”: Mothers Who Kill their Children (spring 2016)
- CLT 231 American Jewish Literature (fall 2015)
- CLT 242 What and Where is Main Street? (spring 2016)
- CLT 264 Dostoevsky (fall 2015)
- CLT 266 Studies in South African Literature and Film, Topic: Adapting Violence to the Screen (spring 2016)
- CLT 271 Writing in Translation: Bilingualism in the Postcolonial Novel (spring 2016)
**Computer Science (CSC)**

Computers play a crucial role in modern society, and their influence continues to grow at an increasing pace. Yet few understand what computers actually do or what practitioners are able to achieve with them. Many specialists are drawn to the field of artificial intelligence with its cross-disciplines of robotics and philosophy. Computer theorists blend the formal elegance of pure mathematics with the question "What can be computed?" Computer systems specialists work directly with central processors to design supercomputers that render the latest state-of-the-art animated film or with tiny embedded processors that are essential components of microsurgery.

Smith computer science graduates are employed by companies such as Google, Facebook, Amazon, IBM, Microsoft, AmeriCorps, Nintendo, Dell, Motion Computing, Booz Allen Hamilton, Morgan-Chase and the Federal Reserve. Others have become high school teachers in math, computer science or multimedia. And many have gone on to graduate school in computer science, math, law, economics, or digital art, at universities such as Harvard, Carnegie Mellon, San Francisco Academy of Art, MIT, Stanford, the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Oxford, Brown, Yale and Princeton.

The computer science major is designed to be flexible, enabling students to pursue junior year abroad, to double major, and so on. The major includes four core courses plus a 300-level research topic seminar, and courses from three primary areas: programming, systems, and theory. We have a variety of introductory courses with no prerequisites that can count toward the major. The first core course is CSC 111 Introduction to Computer Science through Programming; this presumes no prior programming experience. Students write programs that include interactive graphics and direct communications with servers. Those who wish to explore the major a bit before taking 111 have the option to take 4 credits of 10X courses first; possible choices include CSC 102, CSC 103, CSC 105, or CSC 106.

Four different courses can be taken directly after CSC 111. CSC 240 Computer Graphics, CSC 249 Networks and CSC 290 Artificial Intelligence are electives that can be taken right after CSC 111 and can fulfill 200-level requirements over the three primary areas. In addition, CSC 212 Programming with Data Structures is one of the four core courses of the major. It increases the range and complexity of programming with structured manipulation of data.

The other two core courses are CSC 231 and CSC 250. CSC 231 Microprocessors and Assembly Language is essential to comprehending how computer hardware really works and some limitations of computer software. It is also of practical significance to science majors who expect to use microprocessors to control experiments. CSC 250 Foundations of Computer Science introduces the abstract theory of computation, to models of languages and machines.

*Suggested courses for first-year students:* Students interested in computer science should take CSC 111 some time in their first year. If desired, they may first take some combination of CSC 102, 103, 105, or 106. CSC 102 How the Internet Works and CSC 103 How Computers Work reveal what is "under the hood" of these common technologies; CSC 105 pushes further into web technology, and CSC 106 creates art using computers. Students with advanced placement in computer science may be eligible to skip the introductory courses and begin with CSC 212.
Dance (DAN)

The educational and artistic mission of the Smith College dance department is to champion the imaginative, expressive powers of human movement. The curriculum emphasizes in-depth study of a broad spectrum of dance as an art form, including technical, creative, historical, cultural and scientific perspectives. Students are encouraged to balance performance and creative studies with a comprehensive understanding of the historical and cultural contexts of different dance traditions. They may shape their major studies in either traditional or interdisciplinary ways -- reflecting the wide range of career options and new directions of the contemporary field.

The dance department offers theory courses and studio courses. Theory courses are four-credit courses including dance history, cultural studies, choreography, music for dancers, and anatomy and kinesiology for dancers. Studio courses are two-credit courses in ballet, modern, jazz, CONTACT IMPROVISATION and world dance forms. Students interested in a dance major should combine theory and studio courses. The recommended introductory theory courses are DAN 171 Studies in Dance History: European and North American Concert Dance (1900s-Today) and DAN 151 Elementary Dance Composition.

Studio courses are concerned with careful and concentrated training in dance, so regular attendance and participation are required. Advanced-level ballet, jazz and modern classes are by audition only. Students normally take these courses (two credits each) in addition to the regular course program. Questions about enrolling at an appropriate level can be addressed to the department faculty. All studio courses may be taken three times for credit. In addition to choreographing, studying and performing at Smith, first-year students may travel to other campuses for dance courses after the first semester and may participate in performances and special master classes on the other campuses. Current information on classes and activities at the five colleges is available through the dance department each semester.

www.smith.edu/dance
www.fivecolleges.edu/sites/dance/
**East Asian Languages and Literatures (EAL)**

**Imagine yourself...**
in Kyoto listening to a calligrapher discuss her art in Japanese. Or conversing with Chinese students about college life in contemporary Beijing. Maybe you would prefer to read your favorite *manhwa* (comics) in the original Korean. For your literal and figurative journeys to East Asia, knowledge of the language and culture will enhance your experience and enrich your global awareness. The Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures offers the exciting opportunity to deepen your understanding of East Asia through language, literature, linguistics and culture.

**For best results in language learning ...**
start right away! Students interested in studying Chinese, Japanese or Korean should begin in the fall semester of their first year. Introductory language courses assume no prior knowledge, but students with language experience may qualify for advanced placement. The Department offers four years of Chinese and Japanese, and three years of Korean. We also encourage students to study abroad in China, Japan and Korea to accelerate their language learning and enrich their understanding of contemporary and traditional cultures of Asia by actually living in country.

**Learning literature and culture...**
In addition to language study, students may choose from a rich selection of courses on East Asian literature and culture, all of which are offered in English. Many of these courses are open to first-year students. For an introduction to Asian culture through its vast literary traditions, consider our fall courses: EAL 131 Writing and Power in China, EAL 231 Culture of the Lyric in Traditional China, EAL 242 Modern Japanese Literature, and EAL 271 Crafting the Self in Japan. Additional courses open to first-year students will be offered in Spring 2016: EAL 234 Self and Society in Chinese Fiction and Drama, EAL 235 Class, Gender and Material Culture in Late Imperial China, EAL 240 Japanese Language and Culture, and EAL 244 Japanese Women’s Writing. Department courses in subsequent years will offer additional thematic and cross-cultural inquiries into the literature and cultures of China and Japan.

**Majors, minors, and study abroad...**
Students who want to focus on developing both their linguistic and cultural fluency may choose between a major and a minor. The major allows students to concentrate in either Chinese or Japanese by taking a combination of language, literature and culture classes. The minor allows for concentrations in Chinese, Japanese or Korean. We also encourage students to take advantage of our outstanding study-abroad programs, where you will accelerate your language studies and learn firsthand about contemporary Chinese, Japanese or Korean society and culture. For more details on our courses, the major and minor, and study abroad, please refer to the department website ([http://www.smith.edu/eall/](http://www.smith.edu/eall/)). Information sessions on study abroad will be offered in the fall semester. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Professor Sujane Wu, Chair of the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, at swu@smith.edu.
**East Asian Studies (EAS)**

East Asian Studies offers students the opportunity to develop a coherent and comprehensive understanding of the Asia Pacific region, past and present. In an era of multicultural education, the study of East Asia should not be considered an exotic or peripheral field of study but rather a mainstream and integral component of a liberal arts education. Through the comparative study of these diverse cultures, students also come to a better understanding of their own societies and cultures.

The EAS program reflects the emergence of East Asia politically, economically and culturally onto the world scene, especially during the past century, and anticipates its continued importance in this century. Our offerings have prepared recent graduates for careers in such areas as academia, the mass media, securities and banking, law, international organizations, and the Foreign Service.

The East Asian studies major allows students to combine the study of one or more of the regional languages (Chinese, Japanese, Korean) with an interdisciplinary exploration of both the humanities and the social sciences. The major allows students to concentrate on the society and culture of one East Asian country (in comparative perspective) or to focus on a theme (for example, the Buddhist legacy, colonialism in East Asia, the Confucian tradition, East Asian politics and diplomacy, or East Asian gender issues). Students are encouraged to consider study abroad in China, Japan, or Korea in one of our many associated programs.

First-year students should consider taking EAS 100 and one of the East Asian languages. Many of the 200-level courses in the Program welcome first-years as well.
**Economics (ECO)**

Economics studies the allocation of a society’s resources and explores the many public policy debates around those allocations. Economists believe that markets are generally (but not always) a good way to allocate society’s resources, but how do markets work, why are they useful and when do they fail?

Some students choose to study economics in order to become economists and work in business, academia or government agencies. Other students majoring in economics find that the logical rigor and social relevance of economics prepare them for diverse careers in law, nonprofit and educational organizations, and public service. But economics is also useful for nonmajors. For them, economics can be an important element in their general liberal arts training, helping them to function as informed citizens and enriching their daily lives. There are many opportunities to continue the study of economics during a Junior Year Abroad, both in English-language and foreign-language programs.

Suggested courses for first-semester, first-year students are Introductory Microeconomics, ECO 150, or Introductory Macroeconomics, ECO 153, which may be taken in either order. If the student has placed out of the introductory sequence she may go right on to one of the intermediate courses, ECO 250 or 253. Students who have already taken economics in high school are encouraged to take one or both of our economics placement exams during orientation.

Economics 150 examines such questions as: How does a competitive market work to determine production and prices? Should necessities like food, shelter, health care and education be provided by the market or by the government, and what are the benefits and costs of other forms of government regulation? What solutions are there to environmental degradation? Why do nations trade with each other, and who benefits from international trade? What is the extent of income inequality and poverty in the United States, and what is the impact of government tax, welfare and labor policy on these problems?

Economics 153 looks at questions such as: Why does the economy grow in some years and shrink in others? What were the sources of the financial crisis of 2008 and the Euro crisis of 2012, and can we prevent their reoccurrence? Can we reduce or even eliminate unemployment through fiscal or monetary stimulus? What causes inflation and overall economic growth? Why do budget deficits and trade deficits matter? Will Social Security and Medicare be there for you and your children? Why are Euros sometimes so expensive and sometimes so cheap?
Education and Child Study (EDC)

Education and the study of learning touch every aspect of human activity. At the Smith College Department of Education and Child Study, we believe teaching and the study of how people learn are central to the health and future of our rapidly changing and diverse society. Since 1871, Smith College has been preparing teachers and educational leaders who understand what it takes to create classrooms where students learn to engage their world critically, imaginatively and reflectively. Our alumni, faculty and students work on the most pressing social and human question of our time: How can educators create settings where all children can learn and flourish?

The field of education is truly multidisciplinary, and our quest to understand education includes historical, philosophical, sociological, and psychological perspectives. Effective teaching, curriculum design and the creation of instructional materials are major educational concerns. So too are understanding how people acquire knowledge and skill, how they think, solve problems and become literate. Students may wish to enroll in an education course to learn about any of these topics, to get a perspective on the educational enterprise or, perhaps most importantly, to gain insight about themselves as learners.

The teaching profession is often the aim of students in education. We offer programs leading to teaching certification and careers in elementary and secondary teaching; however, the field is broader than this. Business, industry, museums, hospitals and other institutions are becoming increasingly involved in education. Publishers, television and the computer industry are concerned about educational matters. Educational research and development, evaluation, guidance and counseling, and special education are other education-related fields. We offer a nonteaching major for students who want to concentrate in these areas.

EDC 235: Child and Adolescent Growth and Development and EDC 238: Introduction to the Learning Sciences are good beginning courses. The Smith College Campus School, a K through grade six laboratory school, is the primary site for research, observation and teaching. Many courses use this excellent resource.
**Engineering (EGR and EGN)**

Engineering science provides the foundation that underlies all engineering disciplines. In addition to developing a deep conceptual understanding of fundamental principles and putting this understanding into practice through exciting real world applications, Smith engineering students understand the social, political, economic and environmental impact of their work. An integrated curriculum of liberal arts, science and engineering courses provides the breadth and depth needed to think critically, act reflectively and make informed choices. In the best Smith tradition, we believe that engineers should think deeply and broadly about the effect that their professional actions will have on the well being of those whose trust they hold.

Smith’s engineering program offers students two distinct degree options: a B.S. degree in Engineering Science [EGR], and a B.A. degree in Engineering Arts [EGN]. The degree of Bachelor of Science (B.S.) is an accredited degree designed for those students who intend to practice professionally as engineers or pursue graduate study in engineering or a related field. Our students go on to pursue graduate degrees in a range of engineering disciplines that include electrical, civil and environmental, materials, mechanical, bioengineering, aerospace, and industrial design, among others. Because of their ability to think critically, act ethically, and communicate effectively as they frame and solve complex problems, Smith engineers are also widely sought after for opportunities in industry and not-for-profit agencies.

The degree of Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) is a non-accredited degree that is designed for those students who do not intend to practice as engineers, but who recognize the increasing importance of engineering and technology in today’s world. The possibilities of coupling the B.A. in engineering arts with other disciplines are boundless: wherever your interests and passions may lie, the B.A. enables you to design an educational path that links engineering and the liberal arts in a way that is uniquely suited to you and your goals.

No matter which degree option appeals to you, first-year students considering engineering should take *EGR 100 Engineering for Everyone*, which is a first-year engineering design course. Additionally, students should take *CHM 111 General Chemistry*, as it is offered only in the fall, and *Calculus (Math 111 or 112, as appropriate)*. Most students interested in engineering should wait until the spring semester to take Physics (PHY117). Engineering majors who cannot register for EGR 100 in the fall may consider PHY 117 if they have completed MTH 111 (Calculus I) and B.S. majors can consider CSC 111 for the fall semester. Visit the Picker Engineering Program website for detailed program information, [http://www.smith.edu/engineering](http://www.smith.edu/engineering). The Engineering Office is located in Ford Hall 155.
Getting Started in English - Fall 2015

1. Some good first steps

- Choose a First-Year Seminar taught by a member of the English department, or with a literary focus. This term’s list:
  - FYS 106 Growing up Asian American (Floyd Cheung)
  - FYS 126 Literature of the Fantastic (Gillian Kendall)
  - FYS 131 Opera: the Book and the Music (Saints and Spitfires)
  - FYS 134 Bookmarks: Reading and Writing from Plato to the Digital Age (Nancy Bradbury & Katherine Rowe)
  - FYS 162 Ambition and Adultery: Individualism in the 19th-Century Novel (Michael Gorra)
  - FYS 167 Damaged Gods: Myth and Religion of the Vikings (Craig Davis)
  - FYS 175 Love Stories (Ambreen Hai)

- If you have a score of 710 or above on the Critical Reading part of the SAT, or a score of 4 or 5 on the AP exam and/or your high school preparation is strong (intensive interpretive work, frequent writing of critical essays) and you’re eager to get started on an English major, consider taking ENG 199 or ENG 200. English 199 Methods of Literary Study (which focuses on interpretive skills and strategies) or English 200 The English Literary Tradition I (a survey of indispensable earlier British literary texts). Both courses are required “gateway” courses for the English major and all sections are Writing Intensive.

If you meet the above criteria, you might also consider ENG 202/CLT 202 Western Classics I (a ‘foundational’ course that explores classic ancient and medieval texts, from Homer to Dante), ENG 231 American Literature before 1865, or, in the spring, ENG 201 The English Literary Tradition II. Well-prepared first years might also consider 200-level English courses with numbers below 250—but a conversation about your readiness for the course with the instructor on the first day of class is recommended.

- Look ahead to the spring semester and English 120. These courses are Writing Intensive, work on interpretive skills and argumentative writing in combination, and offer a rich experience of reading for students who love literature. One section of English 120 can count toward the English major.

2. Creative Writing at Smith: Beginning and Intermediate Classes
We know that many students come to Smith eager to do creative writing of their own, and we offer an array of courses designed to make that possible. Please see the department’s website for more information about specific courses and instructors.

Our most advanced courses are often taught by distinguished visiting writers, who typically come to Smith for terms of two or three years. Admission to these advanced courses (in poetry, in fiction, in creative non-fiction) requires the submission of a sample of writing in that genre, so students interested in creative writing will want to work on developing a ‘portfolio’ of writing that will enable them to work at this advanced level.

Beginning and Intermediate Creative Writing courses include:

- **English 120 Reading and Writing Short Poems**  
  Offered in the fall and spring; especially recommended for first years

- **English 120 Reading and Writing Short Stories**  
  Offered in the fall and spring; especially recommended for first years

- **English 135 Introduction to Writing Creative Nonfiction**  
  Offered in the spring; especially recommended for first years

- **English 206 Intermediate Fiction Writing**  
  Offered in the fall; welcomes experienced first-year writers as space permits

- **English 291 The Lakes Writing Workshop**  
  Offered in the spring; Intermediate level; welcomes experienced first-year writers as space permits
**Environmental Concentration: Climate Change –ENX**

The mission of the Center for the Environment, Ecological Design and Sustainability (CEEDS) is to **graduate women who excel at integrating knowledge in support of environmental decisions and actions.** Our Environmental Concentrations deliberately link academic integration with agency and action in order to help us achieve this mission.

The Climate Change Concentration enables students to engage in an interdisciplinary exploration of the many issues related to climate change. Students will explore connections among such themes as:

- Socio-economic and historical factors affecting climate change, including the Industrial Revolution; the environmental movement; global fossil fuel industries; national and global financial institutions; and the military-industrial complex;
- the science of global climate change, including atmospheric physics and radiative transfer; sources of greenhouse gases; biological system responses to climate change; and the pre-historic climate record;
- political and governmental aspects of climate change such as the Kyoto Protocol; the relative balance between developing and developed nations of responsibility for causing and for responding to climate change; the ongoing debate over “cap and trade” and carbon tax systems; and the IPCC;
- psychological factors affecting personal behavior including political affiliation, education, and perceived normative decisions among peer groups; and
- cultural reflections of and influences on global climate change including literature, film, theatre, and visual arts

The place to begin exploring the topic of Climate Change is through one of our gateway courses: ENV 100, Environment and Sustainability: Notes from the Field (fall), or LSS 100, Issues in Landscape Studies (spring), or other climate-related courses appropriate for first years- e.g. EAS 220, Colloquium: Environment and Society in China; GEO 106, Extraordinary Events in the History of Earth, Life and Climate; SOC 232, World Population.

Students are encouraged to apply for participation in the Environmental Concentration in the fall of their sophomore year. ENX 301: Environmental Concentration Capstone: Climate Change will be offered during the fall of 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018. Students wishing to pursue the Concentration must have clear plans to ensure that they can take this capstone course.

For more information about the Environmental Concentration, application information, a list of faculty advisers and more, please visit our website: [http://www.smith.edu/climate](http://www.smith.edu/climate)

Joanne Benkley, Assistant Director, CEEDS, [jbenkley@smith.edu](mailto:jbenkley@smith.edu)

Robert Newton, Director, CEEDS; Professor, Geosciences, [rnewton@smith.edu](mailto:rnewton@smith.edu)
Environmental Concentration: Sustainable Food –ENX

The mission of the Center for the Environment, Ecological Design and Sustainability (CEEDS) is to graduate women who excel at integrating knowledge in support of environmental decisions and actions. Our Environmental Concentration deliberately links academic integration with agency and action in order to help us achieve this mission.

The Sustainable Food Concentration enables students to engage in an interdisciplinary exploration of food and the many issues involved in sustainability. Whether you are interested in global food distribution systems, the economics of agriculture, food cultures around the world, agriculture policy, or the various ways that gender and food intersect, you can explore your interests in a cohesive, directed, and stimulating way.

The place to begin exploring the topic of Sustainable Food is through an approved First-Year Seminar (FYS 159, What’s in a Recipe?) or one of our gateway courses: ENV 100, Environment and Sustainability: Notes from the Field (fall), or LSS 100, Issues in Landscape Studies (spring). The First-Year Seminars also satisfy the Writing Intensive requirement for first-years.

Students are encouraged to apply for participation in the Environmental Concentration in the fall of their sophomore year. ENX 301: Environmental Concentration Capstone: Sustainable Food will be offered during through the fall of 2020. Students wishing to pursue the Environmental Concentration must have clear plans to ensure that they can take this capstone course.

For more information about the Environmental Concentration, application information, a list of faculty advisers and more, please visit our website: http://www.smith.edu/food.

Joanne Benkley, Assistant Director, CEEDS, jbenkley@smith.edu
Robert Newton, Director, CEEDS; Professor, Geosciences, rnewton@smith.edu
Environmental Science and Policy (ENV)

The Environmental Science and Policy Program offers an interdisciplinary major and minor designed for students interested in the environment and sustainability and a commitment to scientifically based problem solving and policy analysis. The major prepares students to transcend disciplinary boundaries; combine analytical and communication skills with a well-rounded understanding of the environment; and translate this knowledge into meaningful action and innovative solutions. Four environmental integration courses form the core of the major. Each course brings together frameworks and knowledge from natural and social sciences to explore important environmental topics at local, regional, national, and global levels. Additional introductory courses provide breadth in the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, and statistics and introduce students to disciplines important to understanding human-environment interactions. Students gain depth of knowledge by choosing a sequence of four elective courses to create a coherent environmental focus for their major.

The minor serves as an excellent complement to many majors. Please note that certain discipline-specific courses that count toward the major do not satisfy requirements for the minor. Students should discuss the major or minor requirements with the program director or coordinator, or with an environmental science and policy adviser, as listed in the course catalog.

Both the major and minor encourage hands-on learning through field and laboratory projects. Environmental internships and study abroad opportunities offer great opportunities for experiential learning. Study away courses include Smith Junior Year Abroad programs and partner programs, such as the School for Field Studies, the School for International Training, and Williams-Mystic Maritime Studies Program. More advanced work within a student’s area of interest can be pursued through Special Studies (ENV 400), Honor’s research (ENV 430d) or discipline-specific, upper-level courses. Please refer to the catalog for a full listing of courses, requirements, and advisers.

First-year students should take ENV 101–Environmental Integration I: Perspectives in the fall and a course in statistics (e.g., ECO 220, PSY 201, MTH 220, MTH 290, GOV 190, or SOC 201) in fall or spring. Other courses appropriate for first-year students include: ANT 130–Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (majors only); BIO 154–Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation; CHM 108–Environmental Chemistry; CHM 111–Chemistry I or CHM 118–Advanced General Chemistry (both, majors only); ECO 150–Introductory Microeconomics (majors only); EGR 100–Engineering for Everyone (sections with an environmental focus); ENG 118–Colloquia in Writing: Water, Science and Politics; GEO 101–Introduction to Earth Processes and History; GEO 102–Exploring the Local Geological Landscape; GEO 105–Natural Disasters; GEO 106–Extraordinary Events in the History of Earth, Life and Climate; GEO 108–Oceanography; GOV 200 American Government (majors only); GOV 241–International Politics (majors only); GOV 242–International Political Economy; PHI 238–Environmental Ethics; PHY 117–Introductory Physics I or PHY 118–Introductory Physics II (both, majors only); PPL 220–Public Policy Analysis (majors only); SOC 101–Introduction to Sociology (majors only); SOC 232–World Population, and SWG–Introduction to the Study of Women and Gender.
Ethics (ETH)

Ethics is an interdisciplinary minor that allows students to explore in depth issues of right and wrong that lie behind many decisions in public and private life. Courses are drawn mainly from the philosophy, religion, and anthropology departments at Smith, though relevant courses from other fields and other colleges are possible. Subjects include metaethics (on the possibility of judgments of right and wrong) and normative and applied ethics (moral judgments in specific fields, such as medicine, law and business).

Completing the minor requires PHI 222 (Ethics) as its basic course, plus four others chosen from among PHI 221 (Ethics and Society); PHI 235 (Morality, Politics, and the Law); PHI 238 (Environmental Ethics); PHI 245 (Medical Ethics); PHI 304 (Colloquium in Applied Ethics: a topical seminar); ANT 255 (Dying and Death). Other courses (including those taken in the past that no longer are offered) may be substituted with permission of a member of the advisory committee, whose names are listed in the catalogue.
**Exercise and Sport Studies (ESS)**

The Department of Exercise and Sport Studies offers performance courses in more than 30 activities, as well as theoretical courses and a minor. The performance courses provide students with a great opportunity to prepare for a lifetime of activity. Learn new activities such as Pilates, tai chi, SCUBA, or fencing or refine your ability in other lifetime sports such as tennis and swimming. Experience the outdoors through our variety of outdoor skill classes.

Students may also choose from a number of physical-conditioning classes. Some courses lead to certification in lifeguard training, water safety, and coaching, which are often helpful in securing summer employment. More than 1,200 students each year add an ESS performance course to their course loads.

Performance (900-level) courses are offered for one or two credits and are normally taken in addition to a regular four-course academic schedule. No more than two ESS performance courses may be taken in any semester; no more than four credits for performance courses may be counted toward the degree.

Smith is unique as a liberal arts college in offering theoretical courses in exercise and sport studies. ESS offers a minor in which students can focus on exercise science, health, and coaching. Classes in nutrition, health behavior, sociology of sport, kinesiology, sport psychology, sports medicine, youth sports, and exercise physiology are offered regularly. Coaching certification is possible in our Intro to Coaching class and students taking the Exercise Design course prepare for certification as a personal trainer.
Film Studies FLS

Film Studies considers a range of moving image work, from cinema to television to online digital media, in a variety of historical, aesthetic and theoretical contexts. Why do moving images matter, to whom, and in what ways? Its core aim is to empower its majors with critical and analytical capacities to understand how moving images work, how they are brought into existence, what their various complex histories are, how they relate to each other and to other aspects of culture, and what each individual’s shifting relationship is to movies, TV, viral video, installation art and the rest of the wide-ranging and ever-expanding field of moving images. We live in a mediatized age, in which the dominant mode of information delivery, entertainment, and even memory and accounts of self, involve the moving image, first and last. Film Studies prepares students to engage with these conditions as more than passive viewers and consumers of culture. It helps hone a powerful toolbox of critical instruments to navigate the way we see the world. Screens are everywhere—most of us have them with us at all times. Consider the number of times each day we engage with the moving image, from the morning news to the video links emailed to us by a friend to our favorite TV show to the movies we see at the multiplex or streamed onto our computers after dinner. Indeed, our familiarity with and personal expertise with the moving image is precisely the reason to study it. Film Studies allows us to see what we see as what we see and allows us to see how we see what we see.

Film Studies is a Five College major, which means A) that the faculty of the entire Five College Consortium works together to coordinate the curriculum for the major, resulting in greater access and resources for its majors, and B) that each student must take a small number of courses on one or more of the other campuses in the Consortium. Students generally begin with Introduction to Film Studies (FLS150), which describes the parameters of the field and develops the basic methods through which we analyze the moving image. Introduction to Film Studies is entirely appropriate for a First Year student. The emphasis of the major is the study of film, not the making of it, but every major completes at least one production course, though taking more is possible. Other major requirements are designed to help the student gain a solid grounding in the history of film, especially globally, and to help each student focus on areas including national cinemas, comparisons between moving image and other kinds of cultural production, and special topics ranging from the telenovelas of Latin America to the connections between avant-garde art and cinema to film and music, and more. Students take a film theory seminar, normally in their senior year.

Study Away opportunities are rich in Film Studies. In the past majors have spent time studying in London, Sydney, Paris, Prague, Edinburgh, New York and elsewhere. Though there is no specific program for Film Studies majors, the course offerings at any university permitted by JYA are typically sufficient to complete to major. A small number of students each year complete an honors thesis, and a significantly larger number do advanced study working closely with faculty through special studies. After graduation many students go on to graduate work in Film Studies or related fields in both MFA and Ph.D. programs, and many more go on to do work in teaching, curating, archives, public relations, television and film development, activism, law, other media, and even the sciences.
French Studies (FRN)

The Department of French Studies offers courses in language, literature and culture, all taught in French. Our curriculum covers French as well as Francophone cultures in Canada, Africa and the Caribbean. If you like the idea of exploring other cultures and/or spending your junior year in Smith Programs Abroad in Paris or Geneva or French-speaking Africa, then you should consider taking French, even if you have never studied the language before. Many successful JYA students, as well as many of our majors, began their study of French at Smith.

FRN 101 and 102 or 103, which form a two-semester sequence, are offered for students who have never taken French. These two courses prepare you for 200-level language, literature or culture courses in the second year.

If you studied French in high school, we will pre-place you in one of our courses according to your achievement and/or AP test scores. We strongly encourage you to take our online French placement test accessible through self-enrollment on Moodle during orientation (see the Registrar’s website for detailed instructions), as it will let us place you more accurately than the standardized tests. You will probably qualify for FRN 120 if you have had two to three years of French in high school, for FRN 220 if you have had three to four years of French, for FRN 230 if you have had four years of French, and for a Concept Course (FRN 251, 252, 272, 300) if you have had AP French. Our placement recommendations are meant to be flexible; if after a week of classes you find you’re not at the right level, you can consult with your instructor and choose another course.

No matter what your plans are for the future, we encourage you to consider spending your junior year abroad. Smith College has two yearlong programs in Paris and two programs in Geneva. All programs are open to a variety of majors in the humanities, social sciences and sciences. All four-credit courses in French Studies taken while on the Paris or Geneva program may count toward the French Studies major; additionally, up to two courses in any discipline, provided they are taught in French, may count toward the major.

Paris: To qualify for the year-long Smith Program Abroad in Paris you will need two years or the equivalent of college-level French, normally four four-credit courses, including one course at the 250 level or above in the spring semester of the year before study in Paris. Students who enter Smith at the FRN 230 level or above are required to take at least three semesters of French prior to study in Paris, including one course at the FRN 250 level or higher in the spring semester of the year before study in Paris. Students beginning with FRN 101 and 102 must take three four-credit French courses in their sophomore year. Students who do not meet these requirements are encouraged to consult with a member of the Department of French Studies. A new yearlong program, Les sciences à Paris is designed explicitly to support students in the sciences, mathematics and engineering. Coursework, research opportunities, and tutoring are combined into a customized curriculum enabling science students to experience the rich scientific traditions of France, acquire competence in French, and experience the practice of science in an international context. Students with at least one year of college-level French or the equivalent are invited to apply.

Geneva: Students on both tracks of the Smith Program Abroad in Geneva will study French language or particular subjects of interest in French while in Switzerland. The Geneva International Internship Semester (Track A) is available fall and spring semesters for students with at least one year of college-level French or equivalent. University Studies in French or English (Track B) is available for the academic year for students with two years of college-level French or equivalent, and spring semester for students with at least one year of college-level French or equivalent.
**Geosciences (GEO)**

Are you concerned about global warming, contaminated water supplies and the problems of hazardous waste disposal, sea-level rise, oceanic pollution, or the increasing frequencies of natural disasters? When you travel, do you ever wonder why the landscape differs from place to place or even how it came to be the way it is? Did you notice that the upper campus is flat with a hill to the east and a valley to the west? Have you ever wondered what causes earthquakes or why volcanoes erupt? Could the causes of the extinction of the dinosaurs offer clues about our own future?

If you are intrigued by any of these questions, consider taking a geoscience course. Geology is the study of the earth and has direct relevance to our everyday lives. Introductory-level courses in geosciences stress this relevance by concentrating on topics of broad interest and importance. Students in many geosciences courses take field trips to observe firsthand the materials and processes discussed in class.

Our introductory-level courses are designed for non-science majors but are appropriate for science majors as well. These courses include: GEO 101 Introduction to Earth Processes and History; GEO 102 Exploring the Local Geologic Landscape; FYS 103 Geology in the Field; GEO 105 Natural Disasters: Confronting and Coping; GEO 106 Extraordinary Events in the History of the Earth, Life, and Climate; GEO 108 Oceanography: An Introduction to the Marine Environment; GEO 112 Archaeological Geology of Rock Art and Stone Artifacts; and GEO 150 Modeling Our World: An Introduction to Geographic Information Systems. If, after completing one of these courses, you are interested in continuing to study geosciences or in majoring in this very special science, you should consult a geoscience faculty member to learn more about the tracks within the major: 1) geoscience track; 2) environmental geoscience track; and 3) educational geoscience track.

If you think geosciences may be your possible major, you should be sure to elect 101 and 102, or FYS 103, or 108, or any 100-level geoscience course and GEO 102. All 100-level courses may be taken without prerequisites, and up to three 100-level courses may be counted toward a minor in geosciences. If you already think that geosciences might be your major, in addition, you should seriously consider electing one of the following during your first year: CHM 111 or 118, MTH 111, 112 or 114, PHY 115 or 117.
German Studies (GER)

When you study German, you study much more than just a language. You investigate figures and events that have shaped modern global culture. You explore literary, philosophical, and artistic traditions that have influenced how the world thinks, does business, conducts diplomacy, and invents things. You develop skills of critical thinking and intercultural appreciation that will serve you in good stead whatever you do and wherever you go in the world.

The German Studies Department has devised an innovative curriculum that brings the richness of the field to you as early as your first year. You don't have to master the language before you start to explore the possibilities, which include courses on film, media, and cultural studies, as well as the language itself.

If you’ve had some German and want to take one of our language courses, you must take the one-hour placement exam during orientation. This is a purely diagnostic test and allows you to choose the course for which you are best prepared. Students with AP scores of 4 or 5 do not need to take the placement exam. They should take GER 300 in the fall semester (The Nation as Brand); in the spring semester, they should take GER 250 (Advanced Intermediate German: Environmental Culture) or GER 300 (Vom Krieg zum Konsens: German Film after 1945).

By taking German, you will qualify to participate in Smith’s own Junior Year in Hamburg program. Our program offers the combination of a large university in a big city with the close attention you are used to from Smith. Students who study in Hamburg have majors from a wide variety of fields, for instance art, biology, chemistry, comparative literature, economics, engineering, environmental studies, government, history, music, philosophy, psychology, religion, and sociology. You can integrate studies in a variety of disciplines with a major or minor in German Studies.

Even if you have no background in German, consider these courses for the fall:

GER 110 Introductory German. If you’re interested in going to Hamburg, you need to start learning German. It’s a year-long course, so start now!

GER 161 The Cultures of German-Speaking Europe
A class in English but that counts towards the German Studies major.

If you have taken German before, be sure to take the placement exam during orientation.
Government (GOV)

The mission of the Department of Government is to educate students about the nature of political power. The inquiry, in one of its forms, is normative, with attention paid to the purposes of power and to the rights and duties of citizens. Attendant questions of justice and law also arise. In another of its forms, the inquiry is empirical. Here the subject is the practice of politics, particularly the structure and behavior of governments and the domestic and international institutions that interact with them. Methodology is a third form of inquiry, with students taught the techniques of quantitative and qualitative research. Finally, in a fourth form, the inquiry is applied, insofar as internships, community service and role-playing function as applications of the discipline. Government majors should emerge from the program with an understanding of the social, cultural and historical factors that shape the exercise of power. They should possess the ability to assess and criticize political actions and have the interest and confidence to engage in politics themselves.

Our main introductory course, GOV 100 Introduction to Political Thinking, exposes students to the classic texts of the Western political tradition. Students soon learn that not every author acknowledges the superiority of democratic government, the desirability of peace and prosperity, the reasonableness of civilization or the beneficence of market competition. The course begins with Plato and ends with one or more authors from the 20th century. First-year students are advised to enroll in GOV 100, taught in independent sections in both fall and springs semesters. The other subfields of the major -- American government, comparative government, and international relations -- have their own introductory courses (GOV 200, GOV 220, GOV 241 respectively), and students are advised to take them, in any order (though depending on background and level of preparation, some students might move directly to the more advanced 200-level courses). The Department also recommends that students take GOV 190 Empirical Methods in Political Science. Seminars (300-level courses) in the subfields are reserved for juniors and seniors.

Ten courses make up the major: GOV 100 (which is required), one 200-level course in each of the four subfields (including the introductory courses), a concentration (a 300-level seminar plus one related course), and three electives (courses from any subfield taken at any level).

The Department of Government sponsors and operates the Picker Program in Washington, D.C. Selected students, in the fall of their junior or senior year, spend a semester in Washington working as interns, taking a seminar and writing a lengthy research paper. The Smith JYA Program in Geneva is recommended for government majors, since the curriculum there focuses on politics and economics, with a particular emphasis on international relations.
History (HST)

As a constantly changing field that continues to be interpreted in many innovative ways, history stands at the core of a liberal arts education. The study of history introduces you to individuals, societies, and cultures in the past, offering insights into the making of our own complex world.

Whether or not you are a prospective history major, the Department of History provides entering students two avenues to the study of history: 100-level colloquia or seminars that introduce historical inquiry and 200-level courses that survey a region over time.

At the 100-level, the department especially recommends small discussion-oriented classes focused on particular themes and sources, and geared toward beginning students. In fall 2015, the section of First Year Seminar 142, Reacting to the Past, taught by Joshua Birk, also counts toward the History major (and satisfies the Writing-Intensive requirement). Students interested in history have the further option of East Asian Studies 100, an introduction to China, Japan, and Korea since 1800, taught by Marnie Anderson. There is no fall 2015 section of Africana Studies 117, History of Afro-American People to 1960, a cross-listed course, examines the broad contours of the history of African Americans in the United States from ca. 1600-1960, but will be offered in fall 2016. HST 101 will not be offered this year either, but there will be one in spring 2017, Soviet History Through Film, taught by Sergey Glebov. This course treats films produced during the Soviet era as cultural artifacts. Studying these films in their proper context introduces basic tools for historians.

Entering students are also welcome in 200-level History classes, all of which are open to first-year students unless specified in the catalogue description. 200-level courses suitable for first-year students in fall 2015 include HST 202 Ancient Greece, HST 208 The Making of the Modern Middle East, HST 211 The Emergence of China, HST 226 Renaissance and Reformation? Europe in the Late Middle Ages: Society, Culture and Politics from 1300 to 1600, HST251 Europe in the 20th Century, HST 252, Women and Gender in Modern Europe 1789-1918, HST 256 Making of Colonial West Africa: Race, Power, and Society, HST 260/LAS 260 Colonial Latin America, 1492-1825, HST 265 Race, Gender and United States Citizenship, 1776-1861, and cross-listed courses, AAS 289 Feminism, Race and Resistance: History of Black Women in America and EAS219 Modern Korean History.

A student who majors in History may count one (but only one) Advanced Placement examination in history with a grade of 4 or 5 as the equivalent of a course toward the major. The Department of History website provides additional information: www.smith.edu/history
**Italian Language and Literature (ITL)**

The Department of Italian Language and Literature offers the possibility of becoming fluent in a language, Italian, and thus gaining unique access to a culture at the very center of Western civilization. From the Middle Ages and Renaissance to the world of modernity and postmodernity, Italy has been a major crossroads, as it is once again for the current fluxes of immigration from Africa and Eastern Europe.

Our students are highly encouraged to spend their junior year in the Smith Junior Year Program in Florence, where they get to know contemporary Italian civilization firsthand through attending courses both in our center and at the University of Florence, under the supervision of a program director. The entry point to the major is ITL 110 Elementary Italian or ITL 111 Intensive Elementary Italian, courses that introduce the study of the language. To apply to the Junior Year Program in Florence, students must have completed three semesters of language courses and an introductory survey course to Italian literature and art.

The program offers two majors [the major in Italian language and literature (ILL) and the major in Italian studies (ITS)] and a minor (in Italian language and literature). ILL majors are required to take a course on Dante, one on Boccaccio and a senior seminar. ITS majors are required to take a course on Dante or Boccaccio and a senior seminar. Majors in Italian language and literature concentrate on the analysis of literary texts while majors in Italian studies explore Italian culture in related fields, such as art history, economics, government, history, music, religion or sociology.
Jewish Studies (JUD)

Jewish Studies offers an interdisciplinary approach to understanding Jewish civilization from the ancient period until today. We offer courses in Bible, Jewish history, religious thought, literature, Israel studies, and contemporary Jewish culture.

Suggested courses for first-year students: in fall 2015, JUD 100y Elementary Modern Hebrew; in spring 2016, JUD 125 Jewish Civilization. Most 200-level courses listed by the program are open to interested first-year students without prerequisites. Several 100-level courses offered by other departments, but cross-listed in Jewish Studies, may also be appropriate.

Potential majors are required to study Hebrew. For students who arrive at Smith with the equivalent of a year of college-level Hebrew, an intermediate level course in Hebrew is offered. Completion of a year of modern Hebrew is required before a semester or year of study abroad in Israel. This rule applies to all Smith students, whether or not they are majors or minors.

The required basis of the major and minor is JUD 125 Jewish Civilization, a course that provides an overview of seminal Jewish texts and ideas in historical context. In spring 2015, JUD 125 will be organized around the topic of “Food”.

Beyond these requirements, all majors and minors distribute their courses among several clusters within Jewish Studies: classical texts; history, politics, and thought; and literature and the arts. Students make their way through the major in close consultation with an adviser. Jewish studies majors and minors frequently participate in academic programs abroad during their junior year or summers. In recent years, students have attended programs at such institutions as the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv University, the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, CET Jewish Studies in Prague, University College London (UCL), to name but a few.

A full listing of our courses, major and minor requirements, study abroad opportunities, and affiliated faculty is available on our website: www.smith.edu/jud
Landscape Studies (LSS)

Smith’s program in landscape studies is the first of its kind in a college in the United States. Landscape studies is a multidisciplinary field that brings together studies in architecture and landscape architecture, landscape history and theory, art, art history and literature to join the sciences and social sciences in thinking about how we understand and interact with our environment. How do we view, define and use the land, whether it is our backyard, a moonscape, a construction site, a neighborhood, a formal garden or a rain forest? How does land become a landscape—that is, a cultural as well as physical construction that is both imagined and engineered? How can we best prepare to be stewards of our environment? Landscape studies courses will complement your work in such majors as anthropology, art, biological sciences, literary and cultural studies, engineering, environmental sciences and government.

Our landscape studies minor requirements include LSS 105, “Introduction to Landscape Studies”, two other LSS courses, and three more courses in LSS or in related programs and departments across the curriculum. You may choose to include studies in landscape studies or architecture as part of the minor. This fall, we recommend that you take LSS 105. In the spring, we hope that you will take our two-credit course “Issues in Landscape Studies” (LSS 100), with weekly lectures by Smith and Five College faculty and other professionals, including practicing and teaching landscape architects, architects, engineers, developers, lawyers, biologists, artists, writers, and social and literary critics from all over the country. After your first year at Smith, faculty in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning at the University of Massachusetts will welcome you in many of their courses, and you will also find related courses at Amherst, Hampshire and Mount Holyoke colleges. Qualified LSS minors who take an appropriate graduate course at UMass in their senior year may then complete the professional degree in Landscape Architecture at UMass in two years instead of three.

LSS minors have internships in the United States and abroad, often while on one of Smith’s Junior Year Abroad programs, and go on to graduate work in such fields as architecture, landscape architecture, biological sciences, engineering, environmental law, urban and regional planning, political science, and literary studies.

Our Landscape Studies advisers will be glad to talk with you: Ann Leone (French Studies; Director of Landscape Studies), Steven Moga (Landscape Studies), and Reid Bertone-Johnson (Landscape Studies; Manager of Smith’s Field Station).
Latin American and Latino/a Studies (LAS)

The requirements for either a major or a minor in Latin American and Latino/a Studies involve intermediate and advanced courses in a number of departments. To get started, we encourage first-year students to take one or more of the following: LAS 260/HST 260 Colonial Latin America (offered in Fall 2015) or LAS 261/HST 261 National Latin America, 1821 to the Present (offered in the Spring). Both are required for the major and are open to first-year students.

A First Year Seminar (FYS) on a Latin American topic is also a good place to begin a study of Latin America.

An introductory (100-level) course is either recommended or required for students interested in courses on Latin America in the following disciplines: economics (required for more advanced courses on Latin American economics); anthropology (recommended); government (recommended); art history (recommended).

Students of Spanish should take the on-line placement exam prior to enrolling in a SPN course. The study of Latin American literature typically begins with SPN 260 (offered in fall 2015) or SPN 261, but students should consult with members of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese to identify the appropriate course for their level. For students interested in studying Portuguese, please consult with members of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. The on-line catalogue has a full list of advisers and requirements for the major and minor. You may contact Michelle Joffroy, Director of the Latin American and Latino/a Studies Program, via email at mjoffroy@smith.edu.
Linguistics

Linguistics is the science of language: it is the systematic study of what is universal, how grammars work, and what variation across languages comprises. Language is considered the crowning achievement of the human mind: how can that be characterized?

The basic course for the minor in linguistics is PHI 236 Linguistic Structures. This course exposes students to the major fields of contemporary linguistics, with an emphasis on generative approaches following Chomsky. It covers the major divisions of phonology (sound systems), syntax (grammar), semantics (meaning) and pragmatics (use), with exercises on the analysis of English but also many other languages.

Linguistics is connected to many disciplines in fruitful ways, so students are attracted to it from a range of backgrounds: psychology, foreign languages, English, computer science, education or philosophy. A first-year student with good background in languages and good analytic skills could take PHI 236. Other possible starting points might be to take a yearlong study of another language, Logic 100 or a relevant English colloquium, then take PHI 236 as a second-year student.

Students may design a linguistics major under the program for self-designed majors. The Five Colleges are exceptionally rich in relevant courses, and there is an active community of linguists to assist interested students. The minor description in the catalog lists many possibilities.
Logic (LOG)

Logic is the study of formal and informal reasoning. It is fundamental to philosophy, law, linguistics, computer science, mathematics, theology, government, economics, cognitive science---and every other field.

Logic is about following strict rules. At the same time, logic is also about creating new rules, sometimes to capture nuances in natural language and sometimes just for fun.

Studying logic enhances a student's reasoning ability, her analytic reading and writing skills, her oral debate skills, her appreciation of language structure, argument structure, and the structure of formal systems.

Most importantly, logic is all we have to deal with the fundamental paradoxes of thought, and of the infinite.

Interested students may begin with LOG 100 or LOG 101. An interdepartmental minor and a Five College certificate are available. Over the years, many students have designed majors in logic.
Marine Sciences and Policy (MS&P)

Are you curious about the world’s oceans and coasts? Would you like to know more about how the ocean system works and about the diverse forms of marine life? Are you concerned about marine pollution and coastal development? If so, the marine sciences and policy interdepartmental minor is for you. The program enables students to pursue interests in coastal and oceanic systems through an integrated sequence of courses in the natural and social sciences. An introduction is obtained by taking GEO 108 Oceanography and BIO 268 Marine Ecology (and its lab). You may then choose to pursue further study in the scientific investigation of the oceans and policy aspects of sustainable use of ocean resources and management.

In addition to taking courses at Smith, students can choose a number of Five College courses within the context of this minor. Hands-on experience at sea and along the coast is encouraged and can be obtained through programs and field trips sponsored by Smith College and by the Five College Coastal and Marine Sciences Program. For further information and advice, first-year students should consult Sara Pruss (Geosciences), Paulette Peckol (Biological Sciences) and/or David Smith (Biological Sciences).

Suggested course for first-year students: GEO 108.
**Mathematics and Statistics (MTH)**

Mathematics and statistics are vibrant, growing disciplines. They provide essential tools for analyzing and understanding problems in science, economics and throughout society. While applications motivate much of mathematics, the underlying principles are also beautiful and profound.

Mathematics majors go on to a variety of professions. Some go to graduate school in such disciplines as mathematics, statistics, engineering, economics, mathematical biology or computer science, law, medicine or dentistry. Others may take jobs in business, finance or teaching. Typically each graduating class has about 20 mathematics and statistics majors.

At Smith College, one can study mathematics both for its abstract beauty and its applications. Studying mathematics at the college level improves analytic and quantitative abilities and is an essential prerequisite for many fields of study. The department offers more than 25 courses each year. There are always courses in calculus, statistics, abstract algebra and discrete mathematics, as well as topics courses in such areas as mathematical sculptures, cryptography, bio-mathematics, and topology. The department also presents regular lectures, mathematics contests and opportunities for independent work and research with faculty.

A student with three or four years of high school algebra, but no calculus, should normally start with Calculus I (MTH 111). A student with a year of calculus should start with Calculus II (MTH 112) or Discrete Mathematics (MTH 153)—or both—during her first year. If a student has a year of BC calculus and obtained a grade of 4 or higher, she may omit MTH 112. We urge entering students to use the calculus placement tool posted on the Moodle site for entering students. A student with two years of high school algebra but no calculus or precalculus can enroll in Elementary Functions (102), Discovering Mathematics (MTH 105) or Statistical Thinking (SDS 107). Students with a four or five on the BC Advanced Placement Examination in calculus might consider Linear Algebra (MTH 211), Calculus III (MTH 212). Students who plan to major in the sciences and have taken calculus in high school may also wish to consider Introduction to Probability and Statistics (MTH 220). Students with a relatively weak high school mathematics background may enroll in Algebra (MTH/QSK 101).

All students are encouraged to attend the mathematics placement meeting during orientation for more information.
Medieval Studies (MED)

The program in medieval studies explores more than a thousand years of dynamic cultural history, from the fall of Rome to the birth of the modern world, from the islands of the North Atlantic to the Mediterranean and Middle East. This interdisciplinary major or minor integrates the study of art and architecture, history, philosophy, religion, music, Latin and the emerging national literatures of Europe and beyond--Anglo-Saxon, Arabic, French, German, Gothic, Hebrew, Italian, Irish, Norse, Portuguese, Spanish and Welsh.

Incoming students may wish to try one of the first-year seminars on the Viking Diaspora or Celtic Worlds, read Virgil, Dante, Boccaccio, Beowulf, Chaucer, or the Mabinogion in the original language, or study the History of Ancient and Medieval Western Philosophy, the Age of Cathedrals, Jewish Women of the Muslim Mediterranean, Mary: Images and Cults, Heresy, Dissent and Doubt in the Age of the Inquisition, Medieval Magic, or the Holy Land. A reading knowledge of Latin is required for the major, so those who have not yet studied this language may wish to enroll in Latin 100.

Many medieval studies majors join one of the Smith junior year programs in Florence, Geneva, Hamburg or Paris; others go to Britain, Ireland or Scandinavia. In recent years, our graduating students have gone on to medical or veterinary school, or to further graduate study at Cornell, Harvard, Princeton, University of Pennsylvania, Toronto, Illinois-Urbana/Champaign, Indiana, Fordham, and elsewhere in North America. Others have gone abroad, some with a Fulbright or other scholarship, to University College Dublin, the University of Iceland, the University of Oslo, St. Andrews in Scotland, Cambridge University, York University, King’s College London and University College London.

Smith has one of the strongest Bachelor of Arts programs in medieval studies in the country, and all interested students are warmly welcomed to discuss their options with the director or other member of the Medieval Studies Council. Both the major and minor are designed flexibly to support and encourage a student’s own developing interests and quite often make possible a double major with another academic discipline.
Museums Concentration

The Museums Concentration gives students a foundation in the history of museums and the critical issues they engage. Through a combination of academic coursework, two internships and independent research, students learn about institutions that shape knowledge and understanding through collection, preservation, interpretation and display of material culture. The Museums Concentration provides a unique opportunity at the undergraduate level for students to consider how their academic studies might connect to their future lives and careers. Students are introduced to issues such as community access, cultural ownership and public accountability—areas of study that will be important whatever they decide to do after Smith.

The Museums Concentration draws on the educational resource of the Smith College Museum of Art’s collection of more than 23,000 original works of art and the other special collections at Smith, on the expertise of SCMA’s professional staff, and on the exceptional academic programs of Smith College and the other Five Colleges that support learning in this area. Students are encouraged to apply for participation in the Museums Concentration in the fall of their sophomore year, and up to fifteen students from each graduating class are accepted into the program. For more information about the Museums Concentration, please visit: http://www.smith.edu/museums/.

Students interested in considering the Museums Concentration may wish to enroll in the fall lecture course: MUX 118, History and Critical Issues of Museums. In this course, which is required for the concentration, Smith faculty and guests examine the historical evolution of museums as well as important contemporary issues within the museum field. Interested students are also encouraged to take introductory courses from such departments as Anthropology & Archaeology, American Studies, Art History, History, and the History of Science, which can count towards the elective requirements for the Museums Concentration. Students can consult a full list of suggested courses here: http://www.smith.edu/museums/courses.php.
Music (MUS)

Because music is appreciated and studied as a source of aesthetic pleasure, a subject of scientific investigation, and a sphere of practical training, the Music Department offers an array of courses in performance, in theory and composition, and in the history and literature of popular, non-Western, and Western music. You may take one or two courses to satisfy your interest in music, you may take six courses to satisfy the requirements of a minor, or you may take ten courses to satisfy the requirements of a major.

If you are new to music or wish to refresh your skills, you may take Fundamentals of Music (MUS 100), which will prepare you for further study. Other introductory courses open to those with little or no previous experience in music include First Nights (MUS 102) and Introduction to World Music (MUS 101). If you are a prospective major or if you have a good deal of musical experience, you should take a placement test during orientation to make sure you are prepared for the typical first-year course, Analysis and Repertory (MUS 110). Prospective majors are advised to take MUS 110 in their first year. If you have sung or played an instrument for some years and know how to read music, you might also consider a 200-level course in music history such as Music from the Pre-Classic to the Post-Modern (MUS 201).

The Music Department offers ample opportunity for the study of performance within the liberal arts curriculum. You may take performance for academic credit during all your years at Smith. The first four semesters of performance courses are taken above the normal four-course load, with two credits per semester. If you wish to continue into third-year performance courses you should plan to take two four-credit music classroom courses in your first two years. (Taking these classroom courses after your second year, concurrently with third or fourth year performance courses, requires departmental approval.)

Admission to all performance courses is determined by a brief audition (described in the catalogue), for which you should sign up at the music office (Sage Hall 102) as soon as possible after arriving on campus. If you are an exceptionally experienced performer, you should discuss your musical aspirations with your prospective teacher in order to devise a course of study that will allow for pre-professional preparation.

Students who receive need-based financial aid will receive $200 per semester toward the cost of lessons. In addition, all students registered for performance lessons can submit an application to the Music Department for scholarship support (for those receiving need-based aid, these funds are in addition to the aforementioned $200 grant).

Courses open to first-semester, first-year students: MUS 100, 101, 102, 105, 106, 110 (requires a placement test), and courses in performance.
**Neuroscience (NSC)**

Neuroscience, the study of nervous systems, touches a diversity of fields including biology, psychology, biochemistry, engineering and computer science. The interests of students who study neuroscience are also diverse. For example, some students explore how consciousness can arise from a biological substrate; others become fascinated with the inner workings of individual nerve cells and how they connect with other nerve cells; and still others are interested in the development of nervous systems. Neuroscience students receive excellent preparation for a variety of careers in such areas as medicine, research, biotechnology, pharmacology, social services, law and government.

Your studies in neuroscience can begin with courses that address brain and behavior as well as courses that will give you a good foundation in biology and chemistry. In your first year, you could take Clinical Neuroscience (PSY 130, fall, an elective) and Introduction to Neuroscience (NSC/PSY 110, spring, required for the major). In addition, you could begin chemistry with CHM 111 or CHM 118 (fall) followed by CHM 222 (spring). Two semesters of chemistry are required in the major. Finally, you could enroll in Cells, Physiology and Development (BIO 150/151) or Genetics, Evolution and Molecular Biosciences (BIO 152/153). You can choose to take these required courses in either the fall or the spring semester. To ensure a good liberal arts education, you would balance courses in your major with courses in disciplines outside the sciences.

If you are considering completing the pre-health course requirements or are planning a junior year abroad, it is helpful to begin with CHM 111 or CHM 118 in the fall semester of your first year. We encourage students to study abroad, and by starting early, you will be able to complete the core courses in the major before your junior year.

Neuroscience majors continue on to take Experimental Methods in Neuroscience (NSC 230, offered both semesters) and Statistics, preferably in their sophomore year. In the junior and senior years majors opt for a range of seminar and/or research opportunities in neuroscience and are positioned to select from upper level offerings in Cell & Molecular Neuroscience (BIO 310/311), Neurophysiology (BIO 300/301), Animal Behavior (BIO 362/363), Developmental Biology (BIO 302/303), Systems Neurobiology (NSC 318) and/or Neuroendocrinology (NSC 314/315). Students also have the opportunity to take further electives offered in biology, psychology, and biochemistry.
Philosophy (PHI)

Philosophy is concerned with the meaning of human life and society; it inquires into the nature of human knowledge and science, of morality and law, of truth and being, of reason and emotion. Ways to be introduced to the study of philosophy at Smith include the following:

- PHI 100, THINKING ABOUT THINKING, offers a survey of some classic philosophical debates -- for example, free will v. determinism, relativism v. absolutism, arguments about the existence of God.
- PHI/REL 108, THE MEANING OF LIFE, explores a broad range of philosophical and religious reflections on one of the central questions regarding human existence.
- PHI 124, HISTORY OF ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL WESTERN PHILOSOPHY, examines philosophical thought from the early Greeks to the close of the Middle Ages, with special attention to Plato and Aristotle.
- PHI 125, HISTORY OF EARLY MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY, considers the thought of influential early modern philosophers such as Descartes and Kant.
- PHI 127, INDIAN PHILOSOPHY, introduces students to the six classical schools of Indian Philosophy.
- LOG 100, VALID AND INVALID REASONING, examines the relevance of formal logic to the evaluation of everyday arguments, employing examples from law, economics, political theory, literary criticism and commercials.
- LOG 101, PLAUSIBLE AND IMPLAUSIBLE REASONING, is geared especially to students uncomfortable with symbolic systems.

There is no placement exam for any of the courses mentioned above, nor do these courses have prerequisites. Not all introductory courses are offered every year, so be sure to consult the current catalog.

(June 2015)
Physics (PHY)

Welcome! Physics teaches you how to take on and take delight in the unknown. You will develop new perspectives on nature, an ability to understand and resolve complex problems in a wide variety of contexts, and an ability to think critically and deeply in all your endeavors. Smith Physics alumnae are in high demand by employers, and are making valuable contributions in many settings: scientific and medical research, education, business, finance, and the arts.

There are two tracks within the physics major. The traditional major prepares students for graduate work in physics, astronomy, medical school, or related areas in chemistry or engineering. Students interested in teaching or outreach can pursue a physics major with an education focus. The education track requires less advanced coursework in physics and includes courses in education as well as practical teaching experience.

The basis of study in physics for either track is our two-semester introductory sequence: Introductory Physics I (PHY117) and Introductory Physics II (PHY118). PHY117 Introductory Physics I covers Newtonian mechanics and conservation principles. PHY118 Introductory Physics II covers fluids, waves, and electricity & magnetism. Unless a student arrives with a unusually strong preparation in physics, she should start with Physics I. This course is offered Fall and Spring. Physics I requires one semester of college-level calculus (MTH111) or the equivalent as a prerequisite; Physics I is a prerequisite for Physics II.

Both Intro Physics I and II courses are taught in our Coordinated Observation, Lecture and Lab (COOL) course format designed to help students make clearer, stronger, and more immediate connections between the theory they are learning and the world the theory describes. The experiment and theoretical aspects of physics formerly taught in separate 3 hour lab plus three lectures/week are now interwoven into each class. Group problem-solving sessions are also included, so that the first time you are trying out the work is when an instructor is there to help! Research shows this format leads to improved understanding and better retention on exams for all students, and is especially beneficial for any student who has ever found that she needs to “try things out” before she really understand them or have ever felt she understood the ideas but still felt lost when it came to do her homework or a lab. The course meets all medical school and engineering requirements.

Students planning on majoring in physics or astronomy are advised to complete a full year of introductory physics and calculus during their first year and a half, and to continue with PHY 215 (Modern Physics I) in the spring semester of their second year. Engineers are advised to begin Physics I no later than spring semester of their first year. Premeds are advised to take calculus in their first year and to take Physics I and II immediately after taking calculus.
Poetry Concentration –PYX

If you love poetry as a reader or a writer, consider the Poetry Concentration. We invite you to delve deeply into poetry, whether your interests lie in reading, writing, translating, teaching, printing, or otherwise presenting poems. Through a combination of academic and practical work and independent projects, students gain a deeper understanding of the craft of writing, the business of publication and the dissemination of poetry to others.

The place to start is ENG 112, Reading Contemporary Poetry, offered Fall 2015. A required “gateway” course for the concentration, ENG 112 (2 credits, pass-fail) offers the exciting opportunity to read contemporary poetry and to meet the poets who write it. Students in ENG 112 attend the Poetry Center reading series and the Q&A sessions with visiting poets, and prepare by reading/discussing their poems in advance.

You may also want to sample ENG courses that focus on poetry, especially those designed for first years, such as ENG 120, Reading and Writing Short Poems.

The Poetry Concentration draws on the educational resources of the Poetry Center and the Mortimer Rare Book Room, which houses the Sylvia Plath Collection of manuscripts, journals and her library, as well on the unique expertise of poets and artists working at the college and in the larger Pioneer Valley.

Want to learn more about us? Visit our website http://www.smith.edu/poetry.

Ellen Doré Watson (ewatson@smith.edu, x3368), Director
Psychology (PSY)

Psychology is a broad field of scholarship that encompasses different approaches to enhance our understanding of human and animal functioning. If you have not taken a full-year high school psychology course (e.g., AP or IB Higher Level or equivalent) or a college-level course in introductory psychology and you are thinking of majoring in it, or if you wish to take only a single survey course, you should enroll in PSY 100, Introduction to Psychology, a survey of all of the major areas in contemporary psychology.

If you are a prospective major and have fulfilled the Introduction to Psychology requirement, you should take either PSY 201 Introduction to Statistics or PSY 202 Introduction to Research Methods, both of which are also part of the required basis of the major. We recommend that majors take Introduction to Statistics before taking Introduction to Research Methods. PSY 100, PSY 201, and PSY 202 are all required for the major and should be taken early in your undergraduate career. They provide a foundation for advanced work.

If you are not planning to major in psychology, the department recommends that you enroll in any of our 100-level course offerings. They will introduce you to specific areas of study such as health and physiology, brain and cognition, culture and development, clinical and abnormal, personality and social psychology.

Because of the close connections between psychology and many other fields of study, majors in psychology are encouraged to take courses in other social and natural sciences that complement their special interests in psychology. These courses of study might include anthropology, the biological sciences, computer science, education and child study, mathematics, neuroscience, philosophy, public policy, sociology, and study of women and gender. If you have any questions about courses in the psychology department, please see any member of the psychology faculty.
Public Policy (PPL)

The program in public policy allows students to explore, from a multidisciplinary perspective, both the processes of making social choices and the content of contemporary policy issues. Most courses in the program serve as complements to departmental offerings. Likewise, the minor in public policy complements majors in both the social and natural sciences, expanding the scope of a student’s major.

The first course in the sequence is PPL 220 Public Policy Analysis or GOV 207 Politics of Public Policy. Contact any of the advisers in the program for more information.
Religion (REL)

Religion courses at Smith are critical, comparative and cross-cultural. They examine the nature and function of religious phenomena in the past and present. They provide opportunities to analyze systems of belief, patterns of religious behavior, the history of religious traditions, the social functions of religion and various forms of religious expression such as myth, ritual, sacred texts, liturgy, theology and philosophical reflection.

In the department’s view, students of any religious affiliation, or none, can benefit from a course of study in religion. Religion is implicated in virtually every aspect of human culture, and is never far from the front page of any newspaper. Therefore our faculty and students often work in interdisciplinary modes to study government, economics, gender, literature, and other fields in their religious contexts. It is not unusual, though, for a student's interest in religious studies to be motivated by existential questions about human existence and the meaning of life. We believe there is no better way for a person to work out her own answers than by studying the distillations of insight found in the world's religious traditions.

For the 2015-2016 year, beginning students are encouraged to start with the broad survey course offered in the fall, REL 105 Introduction to World Religions. First-year students may also enroll in one of the fall first-year seminars, FYS 117 The Bible and the American Public Square or FYS 145 Blasphemy, or the spring colloquia course, REL 110 The Holy Land. Another suitable starting point is REL 162 Introduction to the Bible I (fall) or any of the department’s wide-ranging 200-level courses that explore particular religious traditions. BUX 120 The Study of Buddhism, a one-credit gateway course for the Buddhist Studies concentration offered in the second half of the fall semester, is also appropriate. None of these courses assume prior background in the study of religion. Each course is designed to be useful to students who want to sample the academic study of religion as well as to those who want to engage in more advanced studies.

Religion majors gain experience in several areas of the discipline: interpretation of texts; critical and systematic reflection; and historical study of religious and cultural phenomena of different traditions. Many religion majors benefit from opportunities for study abroad, and several pursue the study of foreign languages. Some advanced religion students engage in upper-level, independent research on subjects of their own choosing through Special Studies or Honors thesis work. Like all liberal arts majors, religion students learn to read, think and write critically. In addition, students of religion develop themselves as global citizens by learning about a crucial aspect of cultural experience and of world history and politics. Religion students are well prepared to pursue graduate or professional school, or careers in a wide variety of fields.
Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (REEES)

Courses in REEES prepare students for a wide range of careers, from academia to the private sector, where knowledge of Russian and Eurasian languages and cultures is needed. Russia is one of the largest and most important countries in the world, a leading energy exporter and a permanent member of the UN Security Council. Its vast region spans eleven time zones and stretches from the Gulf of Finland to the Pacific Ocean and from the Arctic to the Black Sea. Many of the post-Soviet countries, from the Baltics to Azerbaijan to Ukraine, remain vital for U.S. national security. This region has produced world-renowned writers, scientists, composers, artists and ballet masters. Our courses introduce students to the complexities of this part of the world.

Students are invited to focus their studies in one of two tracks—Russian Language and Literature or Area Studies. Both majors are designed to provide a broad background to the history and culture of the vast area. In our courses students learn the critical skills involved in cultural literacy which are applicable well beyond boundaries of Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia.

Students at Smith are fortunate to be a part of a Five-College partnership which matches any research university in terms of variety of faculty in the field of REEES. Students are encouraged to make use of these resources and course offerings. Our students can delve into the Russian and Polish novel, explore Eastern Orthodoxy, familiarize themselves with Russia’s history, learn about the Holocaust, and study law and politics in Russia and Central Asia. They can study abroad in Russia or go on a summer program to Georgia.

For the 2015-2016 year, entering students usually begin or continue their study of Russian, which serves as foundation for both majors. Those interested in beginning their study of Russian should enroll in RUS 100y. Students with some background in the language should consult with the department concerning placement. In the first year, students also begin their exploration of relevant courses in the fields of literature, history, religion, or government, which will help them determine the track of study they wish to pursue. The literature-in-translation courses (e.g. RUS 126) are open to majors and non-majors alike and presume no background in Russian. First-year students should also feel free to take 200-level courses in other departments relevant to the majors. More advanced students typically engage in independent research on subjects of their own choice by means of Special Studies or work on a Senior Honors thesis. To this end, students may take advantage of the extensive archival collection located at the Amherst Center for Russian Studies or the collection of Russian art at Amherst’s Mead Art Gallery.

Graduates of REEES are not only speakers of Russian who are knowledgeable about Russia and Eurasia. They are critical thinkers, who can apply their interpretative and analytical skills in practically any context. They are well positioned to enter graduate school or to pursue a career in a variety of professional fields.
South Asia Concentration (SAX)

The South Asia Concentration focuses on the interdisciplinary study of South Asia and its diaspora. This includes the countries of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, but also Jackson Heights in New York, Little India in Singapore, and many other South Asian micro-communities across the globe. Students are drawn to studying South Asia for many reasons. The region is the birthplace of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism, and home to more than one-third of the world’s Muslim population. It has rich traditions of art, music, and dance, and is renowned for its fiction and film. It is a major contributor to global culture; it is an economic and intellectual powerhouse; and it occupies a unique position for understanding colonialism, post-colonialism, and current geopolitics.

But you can begin your studies without knowing anything about South Asia. An excellent place to start is Introduction to South Asia Studies (SAX 140). This one-credit course is designed to be a kind of “appetizer,” introducing students to the Smith and Five College faculty in the field and the wide variety of topics that the field contains. There have been lectures on art, architecture, and cinema; the politics of India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh; models of economic development; struggles between tradition and modernity in the realms of history, culture, and society; the languages and literatures of the South Asian diaspora; environmental sustainability and activism; distinctive styles of music; and other topics. SAX 140 students are expected to read the assigned materials each week, attend all the lectures, and participate in Moodle discussions, but there are no papers.

Another excellent starting-place for first-year students this fall is The Bollywood Matinee: Gender, Nation, and Globalization through the Lens of Popular Indian Cinema (FYS 153). Beginning students can also enroll in The Empire Writes Back: Postcolonial Literature (ENG 241), Popular Music in the Islamic World (MUS 220), or Religious History of South Asia: Ancient to Medieval (REL 275). None of these courses assume a prior background in South Asia. Each course is designed for students who want to sample the academic study of South Asia as well for those who want to engage in more advanced studies.

For more information, visit www.smith.edu/southasia.
Spanish and Portuguese (SPN and POR)
The department offers a major and minor in Spanish, as well as a major and minor in Portuguese-Brazilian studies. Engagement with other cultures has always been a strong component of a liberal arts education and is now a necessity in a contemporary multicultural and global world. Our bilingual department encourages multidisciplinary study and fosters connections between our two majors, giving students the opportunity to study the languages, cultures and literatures of Spain, Spanish America, Brazil, Portugal, Portuguese-speaking Africa and Latino communities in the United States.

Majors in Spanish are required to complete ten semester courses. Prospective majors should be aware of the early course requirements, which include two core courses from the SPN 250/251/260/261 sequence, SPN 225 Advanced Composition, and one semester of Portuguese, usually POR 125. In addition, Spanish majors will also complete two 300-level courses in their junior or senior years. Portuguese-Brazilian studies majors are required to complete eight semester courses, including the early course requirements of POR 100y or POR 125, POR 200 or 215, and POR 220 or 221. In their junior or senior years, Portuguese-Brazilian studies majors will also complete one 300-level course. All Spanish and Portuguese-Brazilian studies majors are strongly encouraged to consider an academic program abroad in a Spanish and/or Portuguese-speaking country during their junior year. Most programs to Spanish-speaking countries require four college-level semesters of language study or the equivalent. Programs to Portuguese-speaking countries may vary between requiring two to four semesters of college-level language study or the equivalent.

Prospective majors are encouraged to explore departmental offerings at the intermediate level, all of which count as electives toward the majors. Intermediate courses act as gateways to the vast regional and cultural diversity that the majors represent and cover such diverse themes as human rights in Latin American films, sex and the medieval Iberian city, food and the Spanish-speaking world, contemporary cityscapes in Brazil, female visions of Mexico, cultures of Spain, transnational encounters in Portuguese-speaking films, race and rebellion in the Americas, creative writing by Spanish writers, Central American poetry, and the realities and representations of women’s domestic labor.

Because students arrive at Smith with differing language experience and proficiency, there are several entry points to departmental course offerings for first-year students. Students with no previous Spanish or Portuguese language instruction should expect to enroll in SPN 112y Accelerated Elementary Spanish or POR 100y Elementary Portuguese.

All first-year students who have previously studied Spanish will take a placement exam before enrolling in a departmental course and will typically enter at the introductory or intermediate language level (SPN 120-220). Students with some background in Portuguese who wish to continue their study of the language should consult the professors of Portuguese or the chair of the department regarding course placement. Students with knowledge of Spanish who wish to pursue Portuguese language study should take the Spanish placement exam to assess their preparedness for POR 125, Portuguese for Spanish Speakers. Students who have learned Spanish at home, and who have attained speaking proficiency but have never formally studied the language, should take SPN 125 Spanish for Heritage Speakers.
Program for the Study of Women and Gender (SWG)

The goal of the Program for the Study of Women and Gender is to understand how gender operates as a powerful social system that organizes cultures, institutions, and interpersonal relationships. The program enables students to see how the meanings of gender change across cultures and over time and how the meanings of gender are always connected to relations of race, class and sexuality. Historically based in the study of women’s experiences worldwide, the field has expanded to include attention to masculinities, as well as to queer and transgender subjects.

A variety of paths through the rich interdisciplinary major include literary or artistic expression, public policy & social movements, women’s history, scientific inquiry, queer studies, or women, race and culture, with a range of courses focused on many countries and cultures. SWG alumnae have gone on to graduate work and pursued careers in law, medicine, social services, public policy, international development, social justice work, journalism, filmmaking, the performing arts, archival history, teaching and other fields.

Internships are a vital part of a feminist education and PRAXIS funding enables many majors to work in nonprofit and activist organizations. SWG offers a unique opportunity to junior majors: competitive paid research internships with our faculty members as Quigley Fellows. SWG students also participate in a variety of junior year abroad opportunities around the world, including programs in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Oceania, the Americas, and the Caribbean.

SWG 150: Introduction to the Study of Women and Gender, which is a requirement for all other 4-credit courses with a SWG prefix, is offered only in the spring semester, so you should plan your schedule carefully to include it. In the fall, SWG 101: SWG Reads is a one-credit introduction to critical race studies in the field of women and gender studies. In addition, there are several first-year seminars that count toward the major, such as FYS 107 Women of the Odyssey, FYS 131 Opera: The Book and the Music (Saints and Spitfires), and FYS 153 The Bollywood Matinee: Gender, Nation, and Globalization through the Lens of Popular Indian Cinema, FYS 159 What’s in a Recipe, FYS 175 Love Stories, FYS 199 Re-Membering Marie Antoinette. SWG 100: Issues in Queer Studies is a one-credit introduction to queer studies offered in the spring. SWG-prefix courses and cross listed courses (listed in the catalog) count toward the SWG major. Please check our website (www.smith.edu/swg) for more information.
Theatre (THE)

The theatre department offers an array of courses and production opportunities. There are courses in acting, design, directing, playwriting, dramatic literature and theatre history.

We welcome all students into the introductory courses: THE 100 The Art of Theatre Design; THE 141 Acting I; THE 142 Voice for Actors; THE 198 Theatre History and Culture: Ancient Greece to English Restoration; and THE 199 Theatre History and Culture: Eighteenth Century to the Present. Suggested courses for first-semester, first-year students: THE 141, 198, 100, 200, any 200-level dramatic literature or design course.

All 200-level courses in design, literature and history are open to first-year students, unless an enrollment limit has been reached, while 200-level performance courses often require 141 Acting I as a prerequisite. Courses at the 200-level include acting (Advanced Scene Study; Shakespeare; Acting for the Camera); playwriting; lighting, set and costume design; dramatic literature (American Theatre; Magic If; topics in world literature).

Students participate in all levels of production, from stage crew to directing. These positions are open to all, majors and nonmajors, as are lectures, films, demonstrations, special seminars, field trips and workshops sponsored by the department.

Qualified students may apply to present a workshop production or a mainstage production. If you are particularly interested in production work, consider THE 200, a one-credit course based on the preparation and performance of departmental productions.
Translation Studies Concentration

In our interconnected, networked, interdependent, and interlingual world, translation is everywhere, whether we are aware of it or not. Translation works to cross borders and weave connections between languages, cultures, nations, generations, and people. Translation plays a crucial role in communicating solutions in diplomatic agreements and international crises, in relaying information in environmental and health crises, in transmitting the poetry and culture of one language into another, in uncovering similarities otherwise hidden, in drawing attention to differences, bridging them, and creating bonds.

A concentration in translation studies offers an opportunity to delve more deeply into the study of a language and culture. You may pursue this concentration to refine your knowledge of a foreign language through translation; or you may use this concentration to create a bridge between a major in a foreign language and culture, and a major in a different discipline. N.B., concentrators are not acquiring certification as a “simultaneous translator.” That skill may, indeed, be cultivated, but it is not implied by the concentration.

As a concentrator you may be drawn to the literary side of translation, or you may seek to link your practice of a foreign language to your knowledge in the social sciences or sciences. The latter might include translating governmental or legal documents, working with immigrant or refugee communities who need the help of a translator or interpreter, or translating scientific papers.

The requirements for the concentration are deliberately flexible to allow you to pursue the translation practice that most suits your interests or needs—from literary to technical translation to the ethical complexities that arise in interpretation. In addition to coursework, the concentration includes two practical experiences such as an internship and study abroad experience. Most Translation Studies Concentrators study abroad at least one semester, in the language or culture of the language from which they intend to translate. If you are an international students interested in the Concentration you can count the study at Smith as your study abroad experience, though you may also study abroad elsewhere.

If you are interested in exploring the Concentration in Translation Studies, you may begin with any of the following courses:

- Gateway Course CLT 150: The Art of Translation (2 credits, S/U, offered every spring semester);
- Any course in the language/literature/culture of the foreign language you will translate from or into;
- Any course with a focus on translation theory or practice; any course on linguistics or the history of language

You are encouraged to apply for participation in the concentration in the fall of your sophomore year, though you may apply as early as your first year. For more information about the Translation Studies Concentration, please visit [http://www.smith.edu/translation/index.php](http://www.smith.edu/translation/index.php) or contact Janie Vanpée, Concentrator Director.