Your Education
Academics

Connections: The New General Curriculum

Connecticut College’s curriculum, called Connections, will challenge you to think across disciplines, expand your problem-solving skills and develop an appreciation for the complexity of cultural understanding. For more information, see www.conncoll.edu/connections.

Enhanced First-Year Seminars

As part of the online Enrollment Guide you are completing, you will rank your top choices for your first-year seminar. There are many different topics offered each year, so you’re sure to find several of interest. First-year seminars are small classes that offer close interaction with your professor, a lively exchange of views and viewpoints, as well as instruction in writing, critical reading and analysis. It is in your FYS that you will begin thinking openly and creatively about your experiences in and after your time at Conn.

Team Advising

At Conn, you will have a whole advising team to help you formulate and reach your goals. This includes your first-year seminar instructor, a staff adviser, and two or more student advisers. They will work together to provide you with the support and guidance you need to make the most of your college experience. You will be introduced to your advising team by email over the summer, have a chance to ask questions and meet them again during Orientation. There, you will discuss your educational plans and choose the rest of your courses for the semester.

There’s an abundance of academic support at Connecticut College. In addition to your team advisers, you’ll find professors, staff and other students on campus who can mentor and guide you. You will also have an adviser from the Office of Career and Professional Development, and when you declare a major, you’ll get a major adviser. See the Academic and Community Resources on pages 34-38.

Your class dean is always available to answer questions about academics or your first-year experience. Incoming first-year students can contact the Dean of First-Year Students, and sophomores and international students can contact the Dean of Sophomores and International Student Adviser, both at 860-439-2050. The Dean of Juniors, Seniors and Transfers can be reached at 860-439-2053. Or email DOC@conncoll.edu with your questions.

Choosing Courses

You will select your first-year seminar in June and register for the remainder of your courses during Orientation. You’ll discuss your choices with your advisers and work out a schedule for the fall semester. You will need to complete both Connections requirements and the courses for one major in order to graduate. A balance between
courses with reading, writing and daily work assignments is recommended, but one advantage of a liberal arts education is the opportunity to choose a variety of courses across subject areas. Challenge yourself to try subjects that you’ve never studied before!

**ConnCourses**
During your first two years at Conn, you should plan to take at least one ConnCourse, where you will connect areas of the liberal arts and explore different modes of thinking. Working in an intellectually stimulating and exciting environment, students from all backgrounds will make lasting connections across fields of study and to the world beyond the classroom. ConnCourses are available from a wide variety of academic areas. Be sure to discuss these options with your advisers during Orientation.

**World Languages & Cultures**
As a Connecticut College student, you will actively engage in global communities, both domestically and internationally, developing an ability to empathize, communicate and collaborate with others from diverse cultures in their own languages. The study of world languages and cultures, present and past, provides a unique catalyst for fostering a mode of critical thinking that creates true cultural understanding, one that recognizes relationships shaped by power, privilege, identity and social location.

World language and culture offerings at Connecticut College are robust: our faculty teach nine modern languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, Russian and Hebrew) and two ancient languages (Latin and Greek). Interdisciplinary programs in Classics, East Asian Studies, French, German, Global Islamic Studies, Hispanic Studies, Italian Studies, Jewish Studies and Slavic Studies enable students to gain nuanced understanding of the histories, cultures, political economies, and contemporary social issues linked to the language(s) they have chosen to study.

As a foundation for incorporating world languages and cultures into students’ academic programs, each student will complete a minimum of two semesters of study of one language at any level, either at Connecticut College or at a comparable institution. (Advanced Placement credit will not satisfy this requirement.) Normally, language courses will be completed by the end of the sophomore year so that students may incorporate and deepen their knowledge through study away and in culminating work in the junior and senior years.

**Integrative Pathways & Center Certificate Programs**
Integrative Pathways are thematically-linked series of courses that weave through your entire Conn experience. Every Pathway is organized around a central theme.
and exposes students to different modes of intellectual inquiry, including creative expression, critical interpretation and analysis, quantitative and formal reasoning, scientific inquiry and analysis, and social and historical inquiry. Students also may choose to complete courses in all five modes of inquiry instead of enrolling in a Pathway. Your advisers can help you think through these options.

The following Pathways are approved, and more are in development:
- Bodies/Embodiment
- Entrepreneurship, Social Innovation, Value, and Change
- Eye of the Mind: Interrogating the Liberal Arts
- Global Capitalism
- Peace and Conflict
- Public Health
- Social Justice and Sustainability

You can find out more information about each of the Pathways, their faculty and courses at: www.conncoll.edu/connections/integrativepathways

The College’s centers for interdisciplinary scholarship provide challenging opportunities that encourage the exploration of issues across traditional disciplines. Each center has its own selection process, which takes place during sophomore year. Four of these centers offer certificates that can be combined with any major. Earning a center certificate also fulfills your Pathway requirement:

- The Ammerman Center for Arts & Technology
  @AmmermanCenter | fb.com/AmmermanCenterforArtsandTechnology
- The Goodwin-Niering Center for the Environment
  @GNCEconncoll | fb.com/GoodwinNieringCenterForTheEnvironment
- The Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy
  @HCPica | fb.com/pica.holleran
- The Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts
  @ConnColICISLA | fb.com/ConnColICISLA | Insta: cislaconncoll

The Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity doesn't currently offer a certificate, but provides many other opportunities for students to get involved.
The Arts

► Any student can audition for or participate in any theater production. You don’t have to be majoring in theater.

► There are seven a cappella groups and two choirs on campus. Refer to the list of campus organizations on page 20 for more details.

► Music lessons are free but require an audition at the beginning of the year.

► The onStage Guest Artist Series at Connecticut College features nationally and internationally known artists; Connecticut College student tickets are just $7, a deep discount.

860-439-2787 | http://onstage.conncoll.edu | @OnStageConn

► Studio art majors and minors present and discuss their works at end-of-year exhibitions open to the public and the campus community.

► Visiting artist programs enable students to encounter and learn from artists and performers who are not typically accessible in an academic setting, giving them the opportunity to explore a wider variety of artistic approaches and techniques.

► The theater and dance departments and independent student groups offer entertainment throughout the year.

► You can participate in or attend voice and instrumental recitals; Dance Club, Wig & Candle, MOBROC, N2O, Eclipse and RefleXion performances; a cappella concerts; and much more!

► Most events are listed on the College calendar, and many are publicized through social media and ConnQuest.

Hints & Tips

Auditions for theatrical productions and a cappella groups are held during the first few weeks of classes. Be sure to prepare a few monologues and/or songs if you plan to try out.
Varsity Athletics

As a proud member of the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC), we sponsor the following 28 varsity sports programs:

**Women**
- Basketball
- Cross-Country
- Field Hockey
- Ice Hockey
- Indoor Track & Field
- Lacrosse
- Outdoor Track & Field
- Rowing
- Sailing
- Soccer
- Squash
- Swimming & Diving
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Water Polo

**Men**
- Basketball
- Cross-Country
- Ice Hockey
- Indoor Track & Field
- Lacrosse
- Outdoor Track & Field
- Rowing
- Sailing
- Soccer
- Squash
- Swimming & Diving
- Tennis
- Water Polo

Club Sports

- Club sports area organized and run with financial support from SGA. Our club teams travel to compete against clubs and junior varsity teams from other colleges in New England and beyond.

All teams are coed, unless otherwise noted:

**Women**
- Baseball (m)
- Basketball
- Disc
- Equestrian
- Field Hockey
- Figure Skating
- Golf*
- Ice Hockey (m)

**Men**
- Lacrosse (m & w)
- Rugby (m & w)
- Ski/Snowboard Club*
- Ski Team
- Soccer (m & w)
- Tennis*
- Ultimate Frisbee™
- Volleyball*

*Indicates groups that are primarily recreational in purpose.

Intramural Sports

- Intramurals are the most casual way to compete in sports at Connecticut College. Sessions run both semesters with games typically scheduled on nights and weekends. Current sponsored intramural programs include, but are not limited to, basketball, indoor soccer, volleyball, dodgeball and flag football.
Facilities

- **Ann and Lee Higdon Fitness Center (G5)** has a variety of exercise equipment and soaring glass walls that provide abundant natural light and commanding views of the Thames River and sporting events. There’s also space for aerobics, dance, spin classes and other sports programs.

- **Luce Field House (G5)** has three multipurpose rubber-surfaced courts and two wood-surfaced courts for our varsity teams along with club sports, intramurals and general recreation. In addition, Luce Field House hosts two racquetball courts, five squash courts, a climbing wall, a training room, an equipment room, locker rooms, meeting space, the Athletics Hall of Fame, and the offices for the Department of Athletics & Physical Education.

- **Lott Natatorium (G5)** includes the pool and diving area.

- **The Christoffers Rowing Training Room (G5)** provides a year-round training facility for the rowing teams and physical education classes.

- **Dayton Arena (H5)** houses the ice rink for our varsity teams, club teams and open skating for the community.

- **Silfen Track and Field (G6)** is open to varsity, club and recreational use in track, cross-country, soccer, lacrosse and field hockey.

- **The boathouse** is located on the Thames River and serves the sailing and rowing teams.

- **South Courts**, six hard tennis courts in the south end of campus, host team practices and competitions as well as recreational tennis.

- **Tempel Green** in central campus consists of three fields with views of Long Island Sound. **Knowlton Field** is a club sport space. **Harkness** and **Freeman Fields** are the exclusive training and competition sites for our varsity soccer teams. In the spring, lacrosse teams will play games on Freeman Field if the weather permits.