



## Interests and Aspirations

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Connecticut College e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

This worksheet is designed to get you thinking about what you want to learn during your four years at Connecticut College and what courses would best help you accomplish your goals. The following exercises will help you assess your abilities and interests, both academic and non-academic, and translate them into a program of study. They will also help your adviser get to know a little bit about you before you meet in person in August.

Take your time with the questions and answer them as objectively and honestly as possible. Remember, you have already been accepted.

**Please return all six pages of this form, stapled together, in the enclosed envelope by July 1 to Andrea Rossi-Reder, Associate Dean of Studies for Freshmen and Sophomores, Connecticut College, 270 Mohegan Ave., New London, CT 06320-4196.**

### Your Aspirations

**A.** Name three people you admire and analyze their talents, strengths and traits in light of what you would like to acquire. Your choices may be famous people, dead or alive, in the arts, sciences, sports, business, public service or any other field, or they may be local people, like a parent, a high school teacher, coach and so on. Please identify the person's occupation or relationship to you, e.g., John Doe — brother, Wayne Gretzky — hockey player.

Person	Occupation/Relationship	Reasons for selecting this person
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

**B.** Imagine that you could do anything you wanted or be the world's leading expert in an area of study (e.g., economics, anthropology, chemistry), or speak, read and write a language other than your own, or be a respected artist (dancer, actress, musician). What would you choose to do or be?

Choice	Why
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

**C.** Go back and read your answers to A and B. What are the principal skills, interests or characteristics to which you have aspired in each section?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

## Your Interests — Non-Academic

**A.** List the non-academic and extracurricular areas in which you excelled and that gave you satisfaction in high school. Are there any particular skills or special training involved in these areas?

Activity	Skills/Training
1.	
2.	
3.	

**B.** When you have free time, what do you choose to do? Are there any particular skills involved in these activities? Do you have any special training in these areas? Some examples:

- » Reading mysteries = problem-solving
- » Playing basketball = physical skills, adjusting to unpredictable situations, absorbing and executing complicated plays
- » Knitting = ability to follow complicated directions and produce a product, artistic ability, manual dexterity

Activity	Skills/Training
1.	
2.	
3.	

## Your Interests — Academic

**A.** List the academic subjects (e.g., English, history) for which you received good grades in high school:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

*Now go back and rate them (1-6 with 1 being tops) in terms of how much you enjoyed the work or how much you really learned.*

**B.** List the academic subjects in high school that were difficult for you.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

*Now go back and rate each (1-6 with 1 being tops) in terms of how much you enjoyed the work or how much you really learned.*

## Connecting Your Interests

Now reread your answers in the first three sections. Try to see patterns and connections in your academic and non-academic interests and talents. For example, if you really get satisfaction from writing for the school newspaper and enjoyed your English courses, then clearly there is a pattern. But there are also more subtle relationships to look for. The rigorous discipline of ballet with its attention to detail may be reflected in the study of a language, which also requires discipline and attention to detail.

**A.** What connections do you see in your experience?

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**B.** Do you see ways in which you can continue and strengthen these patterns at Connecticut College? What are they?

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**C.** Which areas of study do you wish to continue?

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**D.** What new areas of study would you like to explore?

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### Matching Your Interests with the Course Catalog

Go to [www.conncoll.edu/academics](http://www.conncoll.edu/academics) and click on “Course Catalog” in the right-hand links to view the course catalog for the current academic year. (Contact the Admission Office if you would like a hard copy.) Remember that this is a clarifying exercise. You are not registering for classes, nor are you obligated to take what you list here.

**A.** Read through the list of courses that you made earlier from the catalog. What are the departments in which you have chosen the most courses?

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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4. 

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5. 

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6. 

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7. 

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8. 

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**B.** What specific courses seem the most exciting, the most interesting?

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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4. 

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5. 

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6. 

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7. 

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8. 

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**C.** If any of the courses listed above are 200- or 300-level courses, go back to the catalog and read the prerequisite for the course. Keeping in mind that the prerequisite course will prepare you for the more specialized study, list below the course or courses you would need to take before you could enroll in the courses you listed above.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

**D.** You should now have a list of eight to 10 courses in the 100-level range or, in some cases, 200-level range (language, dance, other areas where you have had special training). Remembering that you need to balance your course load, try to narrow your list down to four courses.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a correlation between these courses and your answers to question C under “Connecting Your Interests” (page 23)? Have you missed any area that is important to you?

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Have you decided to take something new and different? If so, what is it? If not, why not?

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*Remember that the catalog lists all courses offered at the College. Please check the fall course schedule to be sure that your final course selections (and alternates), to be discussed with your adviser, are being offered during the fall semester and that they are offered at different times (no time conflicts), while keeping in mind that you are already registered for a freshman seminar.*

**E.** List below any courses you have not included above that still interest you and that you would like to discuss with your adviser.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

## Looking Ahead

Your dean and faculty adviser want to get to know you in order to advise you more constructively. The questions below will serve as a guide for them before meeting you in person. Answer them as they appeal to you since they are optional.

1. What are you most confident (or least worried) about as you look ahead to Connecticut College?

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2. What are you least confident (or most concerned) about as you look ahead to Connecticut College?

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3. What extracurricular activities do you hope to continue here at the College? Hope to begin?

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4. Is there anything else you would like us to know about (like a particular event or a particular situation you are dealing with)?

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5. Have we missed anything?

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## Placement Tests and Auditions

Placement tests and auditions in the following areas will be offered during orientation. Please check those you wish to take.

- Studio Art     Dance Auditions     Music Theory     Music Auditions (Applied Music):  
 Mathematics     Biology     Chemistry    Circle: A B C D E F L; see page 263 in the catalog

## Language Requirement

I expect to fulfill the language requirement by taking (course name and number):

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I hope to be exempt from the language requirement by (please check):

- a score of 560 on a CEEB Language Achievement Test (requires approval by department).  
 a score of 4 or 5 on a Language Advanced Placement Examination.  
 passing a departmental examination.

The language is:

- Chinese     Greek     Latin     French     Italian  
 Russian     German     Japanese     Spanish

