

The Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts (CISLA) Application - Class of 2029

Welcome to the CISLA application -- we are thrilled you have decided to apply!

We highly recommend drafting your responses in a separate document before copying/pasting them into this application. The Google form will NOT automatically save, and if you close out before clicking submit, all work will be lost.

Please keep in mind that by submitting this application, you are indicating your intent to enroll in CISLA if accepted. You are not allowed to apply to more than one Center, and, if accepted into CISLA, you may not then enroll in a Pathway instead.

The CISLA Selection Committee will review all applications and make admission decisions. Students will be notified of final decisions by Monday, November 2, 2026, ahead of pre-registration advising.

If you have any questions, please email cisla@conncoll.edu.

FINAL Application Deadline: Tuesday, October 13, 2026 by 5pm

APPLICATION ITEMS

1. Completed applicant background information
2. Names of two Connecticut College faculty members recommending you to the program (they must submit their [recommendation forms](#) alongside the application due date on Tuesday, October 13, 2026 by 5pm)
3. 20-minute Zoom interview sign-up (appointment calendar to be provided)
4. Completed short answer questions
5. Completed CISLA proposed program of study questions
6. Resume (uploaded as a separate PDF document)

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

CISLA Applicant Background Information

2. First Name *

3. Last Name *

4. Pronouns

5. Camel ID # *

6. Phone Number *

7. Class Year *

8. GPA *

9. Major(s) (declared or anticipated) *

10. Minor(s) (declared or anticipated)

11. Academic Advisor(s) *

12. Faculty Recommendations

*

List the names of two Connecticut College faculty members who are recommending you to CISLA. Faculty recommendations are due alongside your application. We expect you to have been in touch with the faculty members about your proposed project plans, and to have provided them with the link to the Faculty Recommendation Form (click [here](#)). It is your responsibility to make sure your faculty recommenders are aware of the deadline (**Tuesday, October 13, 2026 by 5pm**) for submitting their recommendation forms.

13. Interview Sign-Up *

All CISLA applicants are required to complete a 20-minute Zoom interview between the dates of Wednesday, October 21 through Friday, October 23. Please utilize our appointment calendar (link to be provided) to sign up for your interview before submitting your application. After you have signed up for an appointment slot, the calendar invitation will be updated with the Zoom link you should utilize for your interview.

Check all that apply.

☐ Please mark here to confirm that you have signed up for your CISLA interview.

14. The CISLA Sophomore Retreat *

All admitted CISLA sophomores will be asked to participate in a mandatory team-building retreat led by CISLA faculty, staff, and students on **Sunday, November 8 from 9am-5pm** at Camp Hazen YMCA in Chester, CT.

Ahead of receiving your CISLA application decision, please use the space below to let us know of any allergies or dietary restrictions you may have so that we can inform Camp Hazen YMCA.

CISLA Short Answer Questions

OVERVIEW

CISLA's mission is to educate students to become interculturally competent, socially engaged, politically informed leaders, and to give them the skills to succeed in a globalized world. The world is increasingly interconnected, and higher education must prepare students to meet the challenges of our rapidly evolving world. Students in all disciplines benefit academically, professionally, and personally from gaining international perspectives, as well as the ability to work effectively across cultures. CISLA offers the support and structure for Connecticut College students to have an intensive and integrative international experience grounded in globally-focused coursework, oral proficiency in a world language, an international internship in a world language, and a culminating senior integrative project.

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

The following prompts ask you to reflect on CISLA's focus and approach to world language and international studies as described in the overview and in our CISLA Information Session.

15. What motivates you to apply to CISLA? (Please answer in approximately 200 words) *

16. A central part of the CISLA program is participating in a diverse cohort of students and faculty with a wide range of linguistic, disciplinary, and geographic interests. What values, interests, and perspectives would you bring to the CISLA community? (Please answer in approximately 200 words) *

17. In CISLA, you are expected to complete an international internship and work in a new cultural context. Please describe an experience you have had working with someone from a different background / engaging across difference. What did you learn about yourself through this encounter? (Please answer in approximately 200 words) *

CISLA Proposed Integrative Program of Study

Students in the CISLA program internationalize their major by integrating language study, study away (optional), and an international internship to bring global perspectives to their chosen discipline. Please answer the questions below to indicate how you would weave these components together into a Senior Integrative Project to be completed during your senior year. We understand that your plans may change as you go through the program; we ask these questions to gauge your initiative in crafting an integrative academic path at this time.

18. In what language(s) do you consider yourself fluent? *

19. What language(s) did you formally study in the past (middle school, high school, formal language courses, etc.) and how many years for each? *

20. Please list all of your world language study at Connecticut College, including course numbers. *

21. Please list any other world language experience you have (summer program, gap year, etc.).

22. What language do you intend to study as your CISLA language? *

23. Why did you choose this language and how will it connect to your CISLA project? *

24. If your proposed CISLA language is **NOT** offered in a four-year program at the college, please outline what steps you will take and resources you will access to learn your language throughout your three years in CISLA.

25. Have you taken the Career Preparation Course (LA 103)? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

26. If you have **NOT** taken LA 103, when will you enroll? (Please note: CISLA students are required to complete this course by the end of the sophomore year.)

27. Do you plan to study away? If so, what are your intended study away plans (location and semester, to the best of your knowledge)? *

28. In what country do you intend to complete the CISLA internship? *

29. THE SENIOR INTEGRATIVE PROJECT (SIP): The SIP is completed in the senior * year as a 400-level independent study or as an honors thesis in the major. This project is the focus of your research that will integrate coursework in your major, supporting coursework, your geographical area of interest, optional study away, and your internship experience.

Please provide a working title for your proposed SIP topic.

30. In greater detail, describe your potential topic or area of interest for your CISLA * SIP, and explain why this topic matters to you. How is your topic situated within a broader global context or related to a transnational global challenge (e.g., migration, sustainability, human rights, inequality, global health, etc.)? What scholarly sources did you consult while researching this proposal? List a minimum of three bibliographic references in your response. (Approximately 500 words or two double-spaced pages)

31. **SUPPORT COURSES:** CISLA scholars each take four support courses to bring additional disciplinary perspectives to their Senior Integrative Project. These courses should be chosen with the goal of broadening knowledge of your CISLA country and developing a strong academic background for the SIP. Please describe the subject areas that you could imagine bringing together to gain a wider perspective for your CISLA project. The support courses should not be in the major, but may be in the minor or a second major. If you have specific courses in mind, feel free to include these here. These can be courses you have already taken here at Conn. (We understand that these may change throughout your time in CISLA.) *

32. **THE INTERNSHIP:** CISLA students complete an international internship, conducted in their language of study, during the summer between the junior and senior year. The purpose of the internship is to provide first-hand insight into the SIP topic and interdisciplinary program of study, bridging theory with practice. Please describe the type of organization or setting you are most interested in (for example, a human rights NGO in Senegal, a museum in Latvia, a marketing firm in Chile, etc.) If you have a specific internship in mind, you may name the organization if you like. How would this internship relate to and support your CISLA area of interest? (Please respond in fewer than 100 words.) *

33. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Optional):** If there is anything else you would like to share about yourself as an applicant, please use the space below to let us know.

Resume

PLEASE UPLOAD YOUR RESUME BELOW. When uploading, please make it a **PDF** and name the file in the following format: **Last Name, First Name Resume**. Do not upload your resume with a generic file name like resume.doc.

34. Upload Resume Here as a PDF (Last Name, First Name Resume) *

Files submitted:

Thank you for completing the CISLA application!

The CISLA Selection Committee will review all applications and make admissions decisions. Your 20-minute Zoom interview will take place with two members of this committee. Please refer to the calendar invitation for the Zoom link you should use for the interview. Students will be notified via e-mail of acceptance into the program on Monday, November 2, 2026 (ahead of pre-registration advising).

Please remember to click 'Submit'.

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