

# First Things First

Your hands-on guide to the Kenyon curriculum, 2023-24



Ready to start your  
next academic adventure?  
Let's go.





Your time at Kenyon will be an awesome journey.  
This book is the starting point.

First Things First prepares you for your first conversation with your faculty advisor during Fall Orientation. It will help you develop a list of courses that you will discuss with your advisor before you register for classes during Orientation. It will also assist you in developing a broad understanding of Kenyon's academic policies and resources.

Before you begin, keep one thought in mind: You are now a member of an ambitious academic community. Much will be expected of you during the months and years ahead, but in return for your hard work and diligence, you will be given guidance and support along the way.

We can't wait to begin this journey with you.

# Before You Begin

The weeks and months before you begin your Kenyon journey will be an exciting, busy time. Here's how you can get ready.

**Read this book.** Don't forget to bring it with you in the fall.

**Complete the assignments.** You will receive assignments related to this book via email during the summer. They should be completed by Aug. 11.

**Read more.** The online course catalog, Orientation schedule and other information sent to you contain information you need to know.

**Ask questions.** The Registrar's Office, the Office of Academic Advising, and the Office of the First-Year Experience are here to help.

## What will this book tell me?

- How to select potential classes to discuss with my faculty advisor during Fall Orientation
- Curricular basics for first-year students
- Course starting points for first-year students
- Important academic resources at the College

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Please note: This book covers the basics. For more information on academic programs, procedures and policies, visit [kenyon.edu/catalog](https://kenyon.edu/catalog).

# First Things First

Before diving into degree requirements and course descriptions, ask yourself what you want out of your Kenyon experience. Knowing yourself — what motivates you, what scares you, what sparks your interest — is critical to getting the most out of your college career.

**As you explore, be sure to take a few moments to reflect.** Use the blank pages in this guide to jot down your thoughts. Throughout summer, you will receive emails from Kenyon with reflective assignments that will help you get ready to meet your advisor and register for class.

**Think about your department and course interest.** What do you hope to get out of Kenyon?







# Your Next Steps

This summer, you will prepare to meet with your faculty advisor during Orientation and begin your first semester. Take this time to think about what department and subjects interest you the most. Use this checklist to keep track of the essentials for planning your academic experience.

## DURING SUMMER

To begin, ensure that you have accomplished the following:

- **Submit any AP/IB results.** Contact the College Board or International Baccalaureate to have your results shared with Kenyon. The college code is 1370. Results should be sent to Kenyon by Aug. 1.
- **Send college course transcripts.** Request transcripts for any college courses you have taken and send them to: [fawcett@kenyon.edu](mailto:fawcett@kenyon.edu) (electronic) or to Registrar's Office, Kenyon College, 103 College Drive, Gambier, Ohio 43022 (paper). To make sure your transcripts have arrived, please call a week later at 740-427-5837. More information is available under Transfer Credits and Special Programs at [kenyon.edu/catalog](http://kenyon.edu/catalog).
- **Request your secondary school transcript.** Your final secondary school transcript is due on your high school's timeline.

## JULY AND AUGUST

Prepare for your meeting with your faculty advisor and fall semester course registration. What you are interested in studying during your first year? Some of the courses you select might focus on your major or current areas of interest, but now's the time to explore new ideas and learn about new opportunities so that you can benefit from a well-rounded liberal arts education.

- **Review all of the sections in this book**, including information about Kenyon's academic divisions, course starting points for first-year students and information about Kenyon's degree requirements.
- **Explore departments and courses that interest you.** Pay particular attention to the following:
  - Recommended starting points for first-year students (page 13)
  - Starting point classes that are offered during the fall semester. You can see courses available during the fall semester at [kenyon.edu/schedule-of-courses](http://kenyon.edu/schedule-of-courses).
  - Academic divisions and related courses (page 16)



- **Complete the course exploration worksheet by August.** You will receive an email in July with more information about this worksheet.
- **Take placement tests for calculus and music theory.** You will receive an email in July with more information about these tests.
- **Build your course options list.** Narrow your course exploration worksheet to a list of 12-14 courses that you will discuss with your faculty advisor during Orientation. You will receive an email with more information in July and build your list by Aug. 11.
- **Attend a virtual presentation** to learn about the Plan Ahead course request form. Plan Ahead is the platform you will use to request and register for classes. You will complete your Plan Ahead course request form during Orientation.

#### **DURING FALL ORIENTATION**

- **Take placement and proficiency exams in modern and classical languages.** Language courses generally should be completed in your first year.
- **Attend the academic fair.** Listen to presentations from departments and programs of interest and meet with faculty, particularly in areas with which you are less familiar. Consider adding courses from these presentations to your Course Options List.
- **Attend a pre-health professions advising presentation.** If you are interested in pursuing a health profession, you will find these presentations to be valuable opportunities to learn about how to prepare for health professional school and how to select appropriate courses at Kenyon.
- **Meet with your faculty advisor during Orientation.** You and your advisor will discuss your academic plan and build your fall schedule. After this meeting, you will then create and submit your final Plan Ahead course request form to begin the course registration process.

# Your Guide to the Kenyon Curriculum

A Kenyon liberal arts education requires students to experience the breadth of knowledge offered across the College. Students must both meet the degree requirements described below and also engage deeply in at least one specific field. All students must select a major course of study — a curriculum established by a department or program that focuses on depth.

## Degree Requirements

Meeting the requirements to complete your degree is ultimately your responsibility, but faculty and staff members are here to counsel you. Here is an overview of the requirements for the degree:

**Credits:** You must earn 16.00 units to complete your degree. A minimum of 8.00 units earned at Kenyon must be earned on a letter-grade basis.

**Grade:** To graduate, you must earn an overall minimum grade point average at Kenyon of 2.00 (“C”).

**Residency:** You must be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student (attempting 1.50 units or more in a semester) for a minimum of eight semesters. At least four semesters, including your senior semesters, must be completed at Kenyon.

**Major:** You must complete a major with a minimum grade point average in the major of 2.00 and satisfactorily pass a senior capstone.

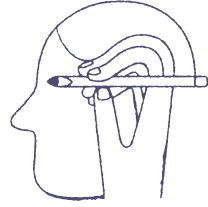
**Diversification:** You must take 1.00 unit in one department in each of the four academic divisions: fine arts, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences.

**Second language proficiency:** You must demonstrate a level of proficiency in a second language equivalent to one full year of college.

**Quantitative reasoning:** You must earn 0.50 unit of credit in a course or courses designated as meeting the quantitative reasoning (QR) requirement.

**Credits outside major:** Students must meet the necessary minimum units outside the major discipline.

For a full list of policies and details on how to complete these requirements, visit [kenyon.edu/catalog](https://kenyon.edu/catalog).



## **Majors, Minors and Concentrations**

### **Majors**

All Kenyon students must complete a major. Each major has its own set of requirements, designed to provide both breadth and depth in that field. One of these requirements is a senior capstone. Depending on the major, a capstone may involve a comprehensive exam, paper, project, presentation or some combination of these.

### **Minors and Concentrations**

Minors and concentrations are optional. A minor offers a way to organize a program of study in a particular discipline, though not every department offers one. The requirements for a minor are less extensive than those for a major. Concentrations are similar to minors, except that they are interdisciplinary, entailing work in multiple departments.

### **Declaring a Major**

The deadline to declare your major is September 30 of your junior year. Students applying to study off campus their junior year must declare as sophomores. Typically, students declare their majors as sophomores, before spring break.

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**A tip on majors:** If you have some thoughts about what your major might be, it's worth carefully reviewing the requirements. You and your faculty advisor now will discuss these requirements and how you might plan ahead, particularly if you are considering focusing in the natural sciences, taking the pre-health track or studying off campus for a semester or year.

# Divisions, Departments and Interdisciplinary Programs

The curriculum is organized within four traditional academic divisions: fine arts, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. Interdisciplinary programs include coursework drawn from two or more academic disciplines.

## **Fine Arts**

Art and Art History  
Dance, Drama and Film  
Music

## **Humanities**

Classics  
English  
Modern Languages and Literatures  
Philosophy  
Religious Studies

## **Natural Sciences**

Biology  
Chemistry  
Mathematics and Statistics  
Physics  
Psychology

## **Social Sciences**

Anthropology  
Economics  
History  
Political Science  
Sociology

## **Interdisciplinary Programs**

African Diaspora Studies  
American Studies  
Asian and Middle East Studies  
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
Computing  
Environmental Studies  
Integrated Program in Humane Studies  
International Studies  
Latino/a Studies  
Law and Society  
Neuroscience  
Public Policy  
Women's and Gender Studies

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**Dig deeper:** Read more about departments and programs on the following pages. Take notes on which courses most interest you and which subjects you would like to explore further as you make a plan to complete your diversification requirements.

# First-Year Starting Points

In each department and program, particular courses are well suited as introductions for first-year students. Descriptions for these courses can be found at [kenyon.edu/catalog](http://kenyon.edu/catalog).

## American Studies

- AMST 108: America and the '60s: An Introduction to American Studies (*fall*)

## Anthropology

- ANTH 111: Introduction to Biological Anthropology (*fall and spring*)
- ANTH 112: Introduction to Archaeology (*fall and spring*)
- ANTH 113: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (*fall and spring*)

## Art History

- ARHS 110: Introduction to Western Art; ARHS 111: Introduction to Western Art: Renaissance to Contemporary (*fall and spring*)
- ARHS 114: Introduction to Asian Art (*fall*)
- ARHS 115: Introduction to Islamic Art and Architecture (*spring*)
- ARHS 116: Introduction to African Art (*fall*)

## Asian and Middle East Studies

- ARBC 111Y: Intensive Introduction Arabic (*fall*)
- ARHS 114: Introduction to Asian Art (*fall*)
- CHNS 111Y: Intensive Introductory Chinese (*fall*)
- JAPN 111Y: Intensive Introductory Modern Japanese (*fall*)
- HIST 100: Making of the Contemporary World (*fall*)
- RLST 101: Encountering Religion in Its Global Context: An Introduction (*fall*)
- Any introductory course dealing with Islamic civilization or its cultures, including:
  - HIST 264: History of Modern Middle East (*spring*)
  - RLST 140: Islam's Diverse Paths: An Introduction to the Islamic Tradition (*spring*)

## Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

The program's starting points are described beginning on page 62.

## Biology

- BIOL 115 (*fall*) or 116 (*fall and spring*) [introductory lectures]
- BIOL 109Y-110Y (*fall*) [lab]

## Chemistry

- CHEM 121 or 122 [introductory lectures] and CHEM 123 [lab] (*fall*)

### **Classics**

- GREK 111-112Y or LATN 101-102Y (*fall*)
- Any 100-level CLAS course (*fall and spring*)

### **Computing**

- COMP 118: Introduction to Programming

### **Dance**

- DANC 105: Introduction to Dance Studies: History, Culture, Performance (*fall*)
- Any 100-level technique class (*fall and spring*)
- For non-beginners, with permission of instructor: DANC 208: Modern/Postmodern Dance Practices: Intermediate Modern or DANC 209: Intermediate Ballet Technique (*fall and spring*)

### **Drama**

- DRAM 111: Introduction to the Theater (*fall and spring*)

### **Economics**

- ECON 101: Principles of Microeconomics (*fall*)

### **English**

- ENGL 103: Introduction to Literature and Language (*fall and spring*)

### **Environmental Studies**

The program's starting points are described beginning on page 65.

### **Film**

- DRAM 111: Introduction to the Theater (*fall and spring*)
- FILM 111: Introduction to Film (*fall*)

### **History**

- HIST 100: Making of the Contemporary World (*fall*)

### **Integrated Program in Humane Studies**

- IPHS 111Y-112Y: Odyssey: Pursuit of Wisdom and Understanding (*fall*)

### **International Studies**

The program's starting points are described beginning on page 67.

### **Latino/a Studies**

The program's starting points are described beginning on page 68.

### **Law and Society**

- LGLS 110: Introduction to Legal Studies (*fall*)



### **Mathematics and Statistics**

The program's starting points are described beginning on page 40.

### **Modern Languages and Literatures**

The program's starting points are described beginning on page 28.

### **Music**

- MUSC 101: Basic Musicianship (*fall*)
- MUSC 102: Introduction to Musical Style (*fall and spring*)
- Ensembles and applied lessons (*fall and spring*)

### **Neuroscience**

- NEUR 212: Neuroscience (*fall and spring*)

### **Philosophy**

- PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy (*fall*)
- PHIL 110: Introduction to Ethics (*fall*)
- PHIL 190: The Anthropocene as a Philosophical Problem (*spring*)

### **Physics**

- PHYS 140: Classical Physics (*fall*)
- PHYS 141: First-Year Seminar in Physics (*fall*)

Contact the department with questions about calculus or AP credit.

### **Political Science**

- PSCI 101Y-102Y: Quest for Justice (*fall*)

### **Psychology**

- PSYC 100: Introduction to Psychology (*fall*)

### **Public Policy**

- ECON 101: Principles of Microeconomics (*fall*)

### **Religious Studies**

- Any 100-level RLST course

### **Sociology**

- Any 100-level SOCY course

### **Studio Art**

- Any 100-level ARTS course (*fall and spring*)

### **Women's and Gender Studies**

- WGS 111: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies (*fall and spring*)
- WGS 121: Introduction to Queer Studies (*fall and spring*)

Fine Arts

Art and Art History  
Dance, Drama and Film  
Music

# Art and Art History

Horvitz Hall | [kenyon.edu/studioart](http://kenyon.edu/studioart)  
Gund Gallery | [kenyon.edu/arthisory](http://kenyon.edu/arthisory)

Explore the visual arts through courses in both studio art and art history.

Guided by a faculty of active artists and art historians, you will experience the visual arts in the context of the liberal arts. Through studio art courses, you will learn to communicate ideas in visual form. In courses in the history of art, you will learn to interpret and contextualize ideas presented in visual form in the present and throughout the past.

## Studio Art

Studio art students take art from inspiration to creation to exhibition in drawing, sculpture, painting, photography, printmaking, illustration and other media.

### For First-Year Students

ARTS 101-108 are courses that provide introductory experiences in studio art by enabling students to manipulate a variety of materials and ideas. In each course, students confront the decisions that go into making personally meaningful artwork, guided by demonstrations, image examples, lectures and critiques. Course content and approach differ among the sections and classes, but in each the goal is to introduce students to the ideas, techniques and vocabularies of producing visual art. No previous art experience is necessary. Small class sizes will limit availability.

### Studio Art Introductory Courses

- ARTS 101: Color and Design
- ARTS 102: Drawing I
- ARTS 103: Sculpture I
- ARTS 106: Photography I
- ARTS 107: Digital Imaging
- ARTS 108: Back to the Drawing Board

Most upper-level studio arts courses have an introductory course as a prerequisite.

### The Major and Minor

A major and a minor are available in studio art.

## Art History

Courses in the history of art consider how objects acquire and transmit meaning. Students explore these questions as they examine the complex relationship between visual representation and culture by analyzing a wide variety of works, from the Paleolithic period to contemporary art. Art history students also discuss exhibitions, engage with visiting experts in the field, and travel to museums and galleries.

### For First-Year Students

ARHS 110, 111, 113, 114, 115, 116 and 191 are introductory courses for students who have had little or no previous art history background. They can be taken in any sequence. Each course introduces students to the concepts and methods of the discipline and prepares students for more advanced study. Most intermediate courses and seminars require at least one introductory course (ARHS 110 – ARHS 191) as prerequisites.

### Art History Introductory Courses

- ARHS 110: Introduction to Western Art: Ancient to Medieval
- ARHS 111: Introduction to Western Art: Renaissance to Contemporary
- ARHS 113: Survey of Architecture
- ARHS 114: Introduction to Asian Art
- ARHS 115: Introduction to Islamic Art and Architecture
- ARHS 116: Introduction to African Art
- ARHS 191: First Year Seminar in Art History (topics vary)

### The Major

A major in art history is available.

# Dance, Drama and Film

Bolton Theater and Wright Center | [kenyon.edu/dancedramaandfilm](http://kenyon.edu/dancedramaandfilm)

**Learn by doing the jobs of artists for stage and screen: the playwright, screenwriter, choreographer, actor, dancer, director, designer and filmmaker.**

Kenyon's theatrical tradition has produced performers and writers who learned their craft on the stages of the Bolton and Hill theaters, on the floor of the Shaffer Dance Studio, and in the state-of-the-art Wright Center film studio. As a student in dance, drama or film, you will learn the historical roots of performance through a challenging and rewarding course of study.

## **The Curriculum**

Students study plays, films, and dance and how they are brought to life for an audience. Almost all courses require, in conjunction with reading and critical writing, the performance of problems and exercises. Students are encouraged to pursue independent work either in historical and critical research or in creative activity. Most courses have the prerequisite of DRAM 111 noted in the course descriptions. Majors are given some preference for admission to upper-level courses.

## **For First-Year Students**

DANC 105 and dance technique courses are the most appropriate courses for first-year students interested in dance. DRAM 111 is the introductory course most appropriate for first-year students interested in drama. Students interested in film should note that FILM 111 and FILM 112 are both required for a major in film and are appropriate for first-year students. As the foundation on which the other coursework in the department is built, these courses are recommended to students considering majors in the department. They are also recommended for other students wishing to diversify their course of study by fulfilling distribution requirements in the fine arts.

## **The Major and Minor**

Students may choose a major in dance, drama or film. A minor in dance is also available.

# Music

Storer Hall | [kenyon.edu/music](http://kenyon.edu/music)

Understand the richness and importance of music in the human experience through courses in performance, music theory and ethnomusicology.

Learning how to listen to and study music can expand and enrich your interior life. Making music individually enhances creativity, and making music together touches the communal aspects of life. Music classes, including ethnomusicology, musicology, music theory and applied study, emphasize the interconnectedness of listening, creativity and critical thinking by which you will become an articulate practitioner of the musical arts.

## For First-Year Students

**Classes.** First-year students are encouraged to register for MUSC 101 (Basic Musicianship) and/or MUSC 102, 105 and 107, as these are the gateway courses for other music classes offered at Kenyon. Students who already have some background in music theory should take the Music Theory Placement Exam, which will place them either in MUSC 101 or in the year-long music theory class, MUSC 121Y-122Y. Students who earned a 4 on the AP exam may enroll in MUSC 121Y-122Y. Students who earned a 5 on the AP exam should consult with the chair of the department.

**Private lessons.** Students are welcome to enroll in private lessons. Lessons are offered in all of the major Western instruments, and instruction is available in a variety of styles (classical, jazz and so forth). These lessons have no prerequisites, but the College charges fees for them. Once music majors reach their sophomore year, these fees are waived. All private lessons are taken for course credit. See the department administration for details.

**Ensembles.** Students are welcome to audition for and/or participate in the department's many ensembles. They include: MUSC 471 (Kenyon Community Choir), MUSC 472 (Knox County Symphony), MUSC 473 (Kenyon Chamber Singers), MUSC 479 (Symphonic Wind Ensemble), MUSC 480 (Instrumental Jazz Ensemble) and MUSC 485 (Asian Music Ensemble). There are also smaller chamber music groups, established based on instructor availability and student interest. Some ensembles (such as Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Singers and Knox County Symphony) are competitive, requiring auditions. Others, such as Community Choir and Symphonic Wind Ensemble, require an audition but solely for purposes of placement within the group. Like private lessons, all ensembles are taken for course credit.

## The Major and Minor

A major and minor in music are available.

Humanities



Classics  
English  
Modern Languages  
and Literatures  
Philosophy  
Religious Studies

# Classics

Ascension Hall | [kenyon.edu/classics](http://kenyon.edu/classics)

**Study the origins of Western thought: the languages, literatures and civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome.**

Classics is an interdisciplinary field dedicated to the study of the primary evidence for all aspects of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds, ranging from myths and texts to temples and coins. A knowledge of the classics also enhances one's understanding of a variety of related disciplines, including art and architecture, history, political science, philosophy, religion, drama, linguistics and modern literatures.

## **The Curriculum**

At the heart of Kenyon's classics curriculum lies the study of ancient Greek and Latin. Every semester, Greek and Latin are offered at the elementary, intermediate and advanced levels. Survey courses in archaeology, civilization, history and mythology are offered every year. The department also regularly offers courses in topics of special interest, covering subjects such as ancient drama, travel in the ancient world, rhetoric and the illicit trade in antiquities. The department encourages its students to study abroad, especially in Greece and Italy, but in many other countries as well, either during the summer or for a semester or year.

## **For First-Year Students**

First-year students are encouraged to take Latin and/or Greek at the appropriate level. Those who have previously studied Latin or Greek should consult with a member of the departmental faculty to determine which course would be appropriate. For many reasons, it is ideal for students to begin studying a language in their first year of college, and Kenyon's elementary courses in both Latin and Greek are specifically designed to meet their needs. No previous linguistic training is required or assumed for these courses, but regular attendance and thorough preparation are crucial.

First-year students are also encouraged to take classical civilization courses. Courses in classical civilization do not require a knowledge of Greek or Latin. Under this heading, students' particular interests may lead them to courses that concern ancient history, mythology, civilization or archaeology. Please note that the distinction between courses at the 100 level and 200 level is not one of difficulty. Courses at the 200 level tend to have a narrower focus than the surveys at the 100 level, and both typically combine lectures and discussions, and the work may involve presentations, papers and tests.

### **Language Requirement**

To satisfy the language requirement through previous study in Latin, a student needs a score of 4 or 5 on a Latin Advanced Placement exam or must pass the department's proficiency test.

The department offers proficiency tests in both Latin and (on demand) Greek during Orientation and in Latin again in the spring semester.

Students who are interested in fulfilling the second language requirement by passing the Latin proficiency can preview a sample test posted at [kenyon.edu/files/resources/latin-proficiency-exam\\_sample.pdf](http://kenyon.edu/files/resources/latin-proficiency-exam_sample.pdf). Students planning to enroll in introductory Latin or Greek do not need to take a proficiency test.

### **The Major and Minor**

Students majoring in classics may choose any one of the four forms of the major: (1) Greek and Latin, (2) Greek, (3) Latin or (4) Classical Civilization. Students may also minor in classics.

# English

Lentz and Keithley Houses | [kenyon.edu/english](http://kenyon.edu/english)

Read with appreciation, write with clarity and grace, and explore the world through the lens of literature.

Under the close guidance of English faculty members who are renowned teachers and critically acclaimed writers and poets, you will experience diverse critical and creative approaches to the study of literature. Courses range from first-year seminars that explore thought-provoking themes from a variety of literary genres and historical periods, to advanced seminars and creative writing workshops.

## For First-Year Students

### First-Year Seminars

The English department has designed an engaging series of small, seminar-style classes, each focused upon a distinctive theme, to introduce students to the study of literature. First-year students will discover that the critical and creative reading and thinking skills and the close instruction in analytic writing they receive in introductory English courses will serve them well in many different disciplines throughout their college careers.

Therefore, we encourage entering students to consider enrolling in an introductory English course during their first year. Since one semester of ENGL 103 or ENGL 104 is a major requirement and a prerequisite for most further study in English, we strongly advise those students considering the English major to enroll in one of these classes in their first year. First-year students who have completed ENGL 103 in the fall may elect to continue their study in English at the 200-level in the spring, as described below. Pre-med students, who will need two semesters of ENGL 103/104, are also strongly encouraged to enroll in ENGL 103 or ENGL 104 in their first or second year; these courses are typically not open to juniors or seniors.

### Sections of ENGL 103 and 104 offered, with instructors:

- Translation, Transition, Transcreation, *Brostoff*
- Science, Fiction and Science Fiction, *Brown*
- The Writer in the Text, *Davidson*
- Assault of Laughter, *Grace*
- Bodily Matters, *Lau*
- Writing the Mind, *Matz*
- Literary Locations, *Murthy*
- Authorship, *Suazo*
- Health and Healing, *Fernando*

- Making a Lie, *Heidt*
- Seductions, *Lobanov-Rostovsky*
- What's Love Got to Do With It?, *O'Neill*
- Waste Lands, *Tierney*
- Practitioners as Authors, *Scanlon*

### **200-level courses**

We advise students exploring English as a possible major to enroll in one of the intermediate-level courses designated ENGL 210-299 as soon as they have completed ENGL 103 or 104. English courses in the 200 level are small, discussion-centered and writing-intensive literature classes that may focus on particular formal or generic studies, on individual historical periods or national traditions, or on specific critical problems. Future English majors are especially advised to consider fulfilling the methods requirement before the end of their sophomore year. Descriptions of all courses are available in the course catalog.

### **A Note About Creative Writing Courses**

Students are eligible to register for 200-level creative writing courses beginning in the spring semester of their first year. A number of seats will be reserved for first-year students.

### **The Major and Minor**

A major and minor in English are available.

# Modern Languages and Literatures

Ascension Hall | [kenyon.edu/ml1](http://kenyon.edu/ml1)

**Deepen your understanding of other languages and cultures through an innovative, immersive approach.**

Studying modern languages and literatures (MLL), you will learn languages and cultures in their uniqueness and diversity, develop the communication and analytical skills that provide a window into those cultures, and reflect on the traditions, cultural production, and societies represented by the department's disciplines.

## **The Curriculum**

The peer-teaching program of the Kenyon Language Program stands as one of the most unique and celebrated features of the department. Through this program, students gain in one year the proficiency normally acquired after one and a half to two years of non-intensive study. All students are strongly encouraged to study abroad, especially majors and minors, and the department works closely with the Center for Global Engagement (CGE) in order to advise students on the most appropriate off-campus study options for their particular interests and academic goals.

Options for majoring or minoring include Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish. Students can satisfy the language requirement with any one of these languages or with American Sign Language (ASL), which are regularly taught as intensive yearlong introductory courses.

In addition, the department regularly contributes courses to several interdisciplinary programs on campus while also providing courses on creative writing in foreign language and for understanding the practice, theories and history of translation. These collaborations and courses reflect the innovative curriculum of MLL.

## **Placement Examinations**

Language placement examinations are available during Orientation. Students who have studied more than one foreign language in secondary school and are considering courses in more than one language should take the placement test in the language in which they feel most competent or which they are most likely to continue studying at Kenyon. Students may also take placement exams in additional languages.

Students who have scored 3, 4 or 5 on the College Board Advanced Placement test in language or literature, or 540 or above on the SAT II test in language, need not take a placement examination in that language and will have

fulfilled the College's second language proficiency requirement. Any student who enters Kenyon having already satisfied the language requirement with prior test scores may still take the placement test and is encouraged to do so. It will not affect fulfillment of the language requirement but may help faculty to better determine the appropriate course(s) for further study.

It is not unusual for students with four to five years of language study in high school to be recommended for a more advanced course, and first-year students can enroll in advanced courses if that is where they place. Faculty advisors will have a list noting Advanced Placement credit and will recommend appropriate courses.

### **For First-Year Students**

Students new to MLL should consider courses appropriate to their level of placement or previous coursework in a language. Beyond the beginning and intermediate levels, students can explore a broad range of offerings on particular content and with focus on more advanced skills, such as writing, discussion and analysis. After the intermediate level, students are prepared for study abroad.

The program of study presents a selection of translation and special topic courses taught in English that, in most cases, may be taken at any stage. These courses can be an excellent point of entry for students with limited or no knowledge of a particular language to discover the richness of one or more of the literary and cultural traditions taught in the department.

### **Beginning and Intermediate Levels**

Courses numbered 111Y–112Y are beginning language classes that also satisfy Kenyon's second language proficiency requirement. These courses stress the acquisition of the four basic language skills (oral comprehension, speaking, writing and reading) while incorporating some cultural and literary materials. All introductory language courses listed as 111Y–112Y are taught through the Kenyon Language Program. Classes typically meet for a minimum of 230 minutes per week to account for the .75-unit designation, and students attend three to four required sessions with a Kenyon undergraduate teaching assistant weekly.

Courses numbered 213Y–214Y are middle-level or intermediate classes. These courses continue to develop skills, usually with increasing emphasis on cultural materials, vocabulary and reading skills. The classes usually meet three days per week, with one or two additional hours per week with a teaching assistant.

### **Early Advanced Level**

These courses, numbered in the low 320s across the eight languages of the department (usually, 321 and/or 322), serve as an introduction to a more advanced study of literature, film and culture, while continuing the development of language skills. Students are recommended for these courses on the basis of their scores on the placement examination, AP credit or previous coursework in the language.

Depending on placement, these courses and those at the advanced level may also be appropriate for incoming students in their first year at Kenyon. Consequently, any first-year student who places at the early advanced level or above may enroll directly in the course(s) corresponding to that placement.

### **Advanced Level**

At the 300 level (above 322), students can select from a number of introduction to literature and more advanced courses, including those on cinema. These courses are seminars that focus on discussion, analytic or creative writing, and close reading.

### **Courses in Translation**

Courses taught in English translation (numbered in the 200s) have no prerequisite and can be taken by students at any time. These courses do not fulfill Kenyon's second language proficiency requirement but may be taken by MLL majors to satisfy certain degree requirements.

### **Special Topics, MLL Courses and Community-Engaged Learning**

Each year, special topics courses are added to the curriculum, reflecting the most recent, ongoing teaching interests of faculty. These courses may be offered only once, or they may eventually be added to the permanent curriculum. Similarly, faculty in the department are often developing new MLL-designated courses that are either team-taught across language disciplines or that do not correspond directly to any single language discipline because they are designed to be broader or more interdisciplinary. Finally, the department also regularly offers community-engaged learning courses, either in a particular language discipline as permanent or special topics courses or as MLL courses. These courses are connected to a community partner and may also have an internship component.

### **The Major and Minor**

The department offers majors and minors in each of the eight languages.



# Philosophy

Oden Hall | [kenyon.edu/philosophy](http://kenyon.edu/philosophy)

**Answer universal questions by studying the works of ancient, modern and contemporary philosophers.**

How is one to live one's life? What are good and bad, right and wrong? How do we acquire obligations? How are we to make moral decisions? Many philosophical questions are inescapable. As a student of philosophy, you will learn to articulate your answers to these great questions and search for better answers.

## **The Curriculum**

Original works of the great classical and contemporary philosophers are used in all courses. Texts are analyzed critically in order to understand what is being said and judge their merit. In class discussion and in written work, students raise questions, develop additional ideas and construct new arguments. Classes in philosophy usually emphasize discussion and dialogue, and students are encouraged to engage in critical thought and to come to their own conclusions.

## **For First-Year Students**

A number of courses are open to first-year students. PHIL 100 (Introduction to Philosophy) is a particularly good class to take as a first introduction. The class offers a broad introduction to the subject through reading of original works by major philosophers. Professors emphasize classroom discussion, focusing on interpretation of texts. Other courses that can be taken without prerequisites are PHIL 200 (Ancient Philosophy), PHIL 201 (Symbolic Logic), PHIL 220 (Classical Pragmatism), PHIL 225 (Existentialism), PHIL 240 (Philosophy of Religion), and PHIL 291 (Birth, Illness, Sex and Death), which are offered in the fall. In the spring, courses open to first-year students include PHIL 105 (Introduction to Logic), PHIL 190 (The Anthropocene as a Philosophical Problem), PHIL 210 (Modern Philosophy), PHIL 275 (Moral Psychology) and PHIL 291 (Philosophy of Love).

# Religious Studies

O'Connor House | [kenyon.edu/religiousstudies](http://kenyon.edu/religiousstudies)

Explore the religious practices and ideas that have shaped human life, from the distant past to the present.

Studying religion at Kenyon, you will be part of a program that is intrinsically global and interdisciplinary. Since the phenomena that we collectively call “religion” are so varied, the department studies religion from an array of theoretical perspectives and with a variety of methods. Faculty expertise ranges widely, from the history of early Christianity to Buddhist philosophy, from Sufi practices to Rastafari, and from ancient Judaism to the intersections of religion with sci-fi and pop music.

## The Curriculum

Students majoring in religious studies have wide interests in areas of inquiry like law, history, politics, philosophy, education and international relations. The department’s courses use diverse disciplinary approaches, including philosophy, sociology, history and anthropology, to think through questions about how different religious traditions have intersected with themes as varied as gender, social and political power, nature, death, communal life, psychology and concepts of the transcendent.

Courses investigate the place of religion in various cultures in light of social, political, economic, philosophical, psychological and artistic questions. Students will recognize and examine the important role of religion in history and the contemporary world, explore the wide variety of religious thought and practice both past and present, develop methods for the academic study of particular religions and religion in comparative perspective, and develop skills to contribute to the ongoing discussion of the nature and role of religion.

Students are encouraged to study relevant languages and to spend at least part of their junior year abroad. Religious studies majors are encouraged to take relevant courses in other departments. Religious studies courses require no commitment to a particular faith. Students of any background can benefit from the personal questions of meaning and purpose that arise in every area of the subject.

The department maintains close relationships with interdisciplinary programs such as Asian and Middle East studies, American studies, African diaspora studies, international studies, and women’s and gender studies.

### **For First-Year Students**

First-year students are advised to begin their study of religion with any 100-level course. These courses assume no particular knowledge about the subject matter and serve as gateways into the field.

The department offers two distinct kinds of 100-level courses. RLST 101, 102, 103 and 104 serve as introductions to the discipline of religious studies. Each of these courses include the study of three to five different religious traditions alongside study of important themes or theoretical approaches to the discipline. All other 100-level courses are introductions to a specific religious tradition or traditions of a given geographical region.

All of these courses are open to first-year students, and some, particularly RLST 102, are specifically intended for first-year students. Two hundred and 300-level courses may be open to first-year students with the approval of the instructor.

### **The Major and Minor**

A major and minor in religious studies are available.

# Natural Sciences

Biology  
Chemistry  
Mathematics and Statistics  
Physics  
Psychology

# Biology

Higley Hall | [kenyon.edu/biology](http://kenyon.edu/biology)

**From the first year, conduct meaningful research and learn to make connections between life processes.**

As a biology student, your work will be rooted in discoveries you make in the laboratory. Beginning in the first year of study, you will be engaged in lab and research projects of consequence that are unparalleled in most undergraduate biology programs.

## **The Curriculum**

Biology students collaborate closely with faculty on research that leads to breakthroughs in fields ranging from health care to the environment to agriculture. The biology curriculum structures learning based on the scientific process of discovery: observation, interpretation, experimentation, analysis and the formation of new hypotheses. Laboratory work and research projects form the backbone of the program, which offers both majors and non-majors a wide range of choices.

## **For First-Year Students**

BIOL 115 and BIOL 116 are foundational courses that prepare students for further coursework in the discipline. BIOL 115 considers energy flow as a unifying principle across a range of living systems, from cells to ecosystems. It includes topics such as respiration and photosynthesis, physiology and homeostasis, and population and community interactions. BIOL 116 considers the flow of biological information and explores the mechanisms of heredity, the replication and expression of genetic information, the function of genes and the process of evolution.

BIOL 109Y-110Y introduces students to the processes of investigative biology and scientific writing through active student involvement in experimental design, data collection, statistical analysis, integration of results with information reported in the literature, and writing in a format appropriate for publication. Laboratories introduce a variety of techniques and topics. The year culminates in several weeks of student-designed investigations that reinforce the research skills. This course is not designed to accompany any particular core lecture course, although BIOL 115 serves as either a prerequisite or co-requisite.

**Advanced Placement:** Students who scored either 4 or 5 on the AP biology test or with IB scores of 6 or 7 on the biology exam (HL) should begin with BIOL 116. Students with IB high-level scores of 5 should consult with the instructor or chair if they wish to begin in BIOL 116. For more information, consult with the department chair.

### Courses for non-majors

The department offers courses for non-majors. They are designed for students with minimal backgrounds in biology and are highly recommended for first-year students. Students wanting to complete the College requirements for 1 unit in the natural sciences diversification can take any two of these, or they can take ENVS 112 (Introduction to Environmental Studies) and any one of these.

### The Major and Minor

The department offers a major and a minor. First-year students who intend to major in biology, or who think that biology is a possible major or minor, should plan to start coursework in biology, and possibly chemistry, during their first year. Biology majors must complete the two-semester introductory lecture series (BIOL 115 and BIOL 116) as well as the lab course BIOL 109Y–110Y during their first two years. Biology majors also should complete at least one year of chemistry during their first two years. For advice on course selection, see the department chair or a member of the biology faculty.

First-year students who wish to major in biology should consider these schedules for the full first year:

1. For those with a strong background in science:
  - Introductory biology lecture series: BIOL 115–116.
  - Introduction to experimental biology: BIOL 109Y–110Y.
  - Introductory chemistry lecture: CHEM 121 (or 122) and 124 or 125
  - Introductory chemistry lab: CHEM 123, 126
  - Two additional courses
2. For a more relaxed schedule, postponing chemistry until sophomore year:
  - Introductory biology lecture series: BIOL 115–116.
  - Introduction to experimental biology: BIOL 109Y–110Y.
  - Five additional courses
3. To keep biology possible as a major or a minor:
  - Introductory biology lecture series: BIOL 115–116.

### For students considering medicine and other health fields

For students considering medical, dental, nursing or veterinary postgraduate programs, a minimum of two semesters of biology with the corresponding laboratory work is usually required. BIOL 115 and 116 plus the laboratory sequence BIOL 109Y–110Y satisfy this requirement. For more information and suggested first-year course schedules, see the pre-health advising website at [kenyon.edu/premed](http://kenyon.edu/premed).

# Chemistry

Tomsich Hall | [kenyon.edu/chemistry](http://kenyon.edu/chemistry)

Discover the “central science” through hands-on laboratory research, guided by expert faculty.

You will learn chemistry by doing chemistry. This grounding in student-faculty collaborative research is the centerpiece of the curriculum. Close working relationships begin during the first year and extend from coursework into independent research projects that often take place over multiple years.

The study of chemistry overlaps significantly with biology, physics, psychology, mathematics, geology and engineering. All studies of matter at the molecular level (for example, biochemistry, molecular biology, pharmacology, neuroscience, nanoscience, computational chemistry, solid-state physics, geochemistry, the environmental sciences, and material science and engineering) depend on the theories and methodologies of chemistry.

## For First-Year Students

Students enroll in chemistry courses for many reasons. Some are interested in majoring in chemistry, biochemistry or molecular biology. Some intend to major in biology or neuroscience, both of which require chemistry courses. For other sciences (such as physics), chemistry is often recommended, or it may be required for graduate work. Some students take chemistry to fulfill a pre-health requirement. Others take it to meet Kenyon’s diversification requirement in the Natural Sciences Division.

## Where should you start?

Students who anticipate studying chemistry beyond the introductory level are encouraged to begin the study of chemistry in the first year. To take any advanced chemistry course (including organic chemistry), you must complete one of the introductory chemistry sequences. This sequence fulfills requirements for the chemistry and biochemistry majors (as well as some other majors).



### Introductory Chemistry (two choices)

CHEM 121/124 (Introductory Chemistry II) is a two-semester sequence designed for students who desire a thorough coverage of the chemistry fundamentals. Most, but not all, students have taken high-school chemistry.

Students planning to continue chemistry courses beyond CHEM 121/124 must enroll in the corresponding labs: CHEM 123 (Introductory Chemistry Lab I), offered in the fall semester, and CHEM 126 (Introductory Chemistry Lab II), offered in the spring semester.

CHEM 122 (Chemical Principles) is a one-semester course designed for students who have a particularly strong background in chemistry. It provides a faster-paced approach to the introductory material and coverage of more special topics.

Students planning to continue chemistry courses beyond CHEM 122 must enroll in the corresponding lab, CHEM 123. If CHEM 122 and the corresponding lab (CHEM 123) have been completed in the fall semester, students may elect to continue into organic chemistry in the spring semester.

### Introductory Chemistry Placement

If you have an AP chemistry score of 4 or 5, or an IB chemistry score of 5, 6, or 7 at the HL level, you will be placed out of CHEM 121 and may directly enroll into CHEM 122. Alternatively, you may qualify for CHEM 122 by taking the online placement exam any time after August 7. The placement exam is the first assignment for both introductory courses.

If CHEM 122 and the corresponding lab (CHEM 123) have been completed in the fall semester, students may elect to continue into organic chemistry in the spring semester.

# Mathematics and Statistics

Hayes Hall | [kenyon.edu/mathandstats](http://kenyon.edu/mathandstats)

Be part of a 4,000-year-long quest for human understanding, learning from faculty experts in probability and statistics, number theory and coding theory.

Mathematical discoveries have come both from the attempt to describe the natural world and from the desire to arrive at a form of inescapable truth through careful reasoning that begins with a small set of assumptions.

## The Curriculum

Mathematics as a mode of thought and expression is now more valuable than ever. Learning to think in mathematical terms is an essential part of becoming a liberally educated person. Kenyon's program in mathematics blends interrelated but distinguishable facets of mathematics: theoretical ideas and methods, the modeling of real-world situations, and the statistical analysis of data and scientific computing. The curriculum develops competence in each of these aspects of mathematics in a way that responds to the interests and needs of individual students.

## For First-Year Students

For those students who want only an introduction, or perhaps want to satisfy a distribution requirement, a selection from MATH 111, MATH 128, STAT 106 or COMP 118 is appropriate. MATH 111 is an introductory course in calculus. Students who have taken a college-level course in calculus may qualify for one of the successor courses: MATH 112 or 213 (see placement information on the next page). STAT 106 is an introduction to statistics, which focuses on quantitative reasoning skills and the analysis of data. COMP 118 introduces students to computer programming.

Students who think they might want to continue the study of mathematics beyond one year, either by pursuing a major or minor in mathematics or as a foundation for courses in other disciplines, usually begin with the calculus sequence (MATH 111, 112 and 213). We encourage potential majors (who have completed at least Calculus I) to sign up for the 0.25-unit MATH 100 First-Year Seminar in Mathematics. This course supplements another MATH, STAT or COMP course. The first-year seminar introduces students to the rich and diverse nature of mathematics and also to faculty and students in the department. Students who have already had calculus or who want to take more than one course may choose to begin with STAT 106 (Elements of Statistics) and STAT 206 (Data Analysis) or COMP 118 (Introduction to

Programming). A few especially well-prepared students take MATH 224 (Linear Algebra) or MATH 222 (Foundations) in their first year. Please see the department chair for further information.

Almost all introductory math courses (and many mid- and upper-level math courses) incorporate appropriate computer software for computation and exploration. (We do not expect students to have prior experience with mathematical or statistical software or any programming knowledge.) Though many students bring their calculators with them to Kenyon, the department does not require students to have calculators and does not recommend one calculator over another. A personal laptop is useful for most introductory courses, and students will have the opportunity to download course software to their computers under Kenyon's site license.

### Placement Information

For students who have taken a college-level course in calculus, computer science or statistics, the department's recommendation for placement is in the chart below. For those students who do not meet the criteria in the chart, the department also offers placement exams. Any student who has questions about course selection or placement is encouraged to contact the chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Exam Taken	Score	Course Placement	Credit	Equivalent
Calculus AB or BC-subscore	4 or 5 3	MATH 112 MATH 111	0.50	MATH 111
Calculus BC	4 or 5 3	MATH 213 Use AB subscore or contact department chair	0.50	MATH 112
Calculus A-levels		Contact department chair		
AP Statistics	4 or 5 3	STAT 206 STAT 106	0.50	STAT 106
Computer Science A	4 or 5 3	COMP 218 COMP 118	0.50	COMP 118
Computer Science Principles	4 or 5	Contact Prof. Skon (skonj@kenyon.edu) Contact Prof. Skon (skonj@kenyon.edu)		

### The Major and Minor

The department offers a major and a minor in both mathematics and statistics.

# Physics

Hayes Hall | [kenyon.edu/physics](http://kenyon.edu/physics)

Study the principles of nature that describe the world around us, from subatomic particles to the motion of everyday objects to the galaxies and beyond.

When you study physics, you develop the analytical, computational and experimental techniques necessary to apply the principles of nature to a broad range of theoretical and experimental problems. A physics degree is excellent preparation for a wide range of careers and graduate school programs in physics and engineering, health sciences, law and teaching.

## For First-Year Students

Students interested in exploring physics as a potential major or minor should begin by taking PHYS 140 (Classical Physics), PHYS 141 (First-Year Seminar in Physics) and PHYS 145 (Modern Physics)-PHYS 146 (Modern Physics Lab) in their first year. These courses form a calculus-based introduction to physics particularly suitable for students who plan to take upper-level courses in physics, chemistry and/or mathematics. PHYS 140–141 and 145–146 require concurrent enrollment in or credit for Calculus I and II, respectively. PHYS 141 is a weekly seminar open only to first-year students enrolled in PHYS 140 or holding credit for an equivalent course. It introduces students to laboratory work in physics in the context of one of the subdisciplines of physics pursued by faculty members in the department. Recent seminar topics have included nanoscience, gravitational waves, cold atom physics, particle physics and astrophysics. PHYS 146 is a weekly laboratory, closely tied to lecture material in PHYS 145. It makes extensive use of computers for data acquisition and analysis.

First-year students who have unusually strong physics preparation from high school — including a high score on the Advanced Placement C-level physics examination or KAP physics, experience with quantitative laboratory measurement, significant use of calculus in their high school physics course, and placement into Calculus III — may want to consider beginning their study of physics with PHYS 240 (Fields and Spacetime) and PHYS 141 in the first semester, followed by PHYS 145–146 in the second semester. Placement into PHYS 240 is determined in consultation with the instructor and chair of the department.

## The Major and Minor

The department offers a major and minor in physics.

# Psychology

Samuel Mather Hall | [kenyon.edu/psychology](http://kenyon.edu/psychology)

**Examine the foundations of human and animal behavior through research with faculty experts.**

At Kenyon, psychology is taught as the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. You will examine diverse theoretical views and findings in such areas as cognitive neuroscience, human development, emotions, biopsychology, cross-cultural psychology, social psychology and clinical psychology. As you advance through the major, you will have the opportunity to pursue research with a faculty member. In some courses, you can become involved in the work of local educational agencies.

## **For First-Year Students**

In the introductory course, PSYC 100 (Introduction to Psychology), which is a prerequisite for all of the other psychology courses, students explore a variety of areas in which psychologists conduct research. For example, students will study the biological foundations of behavior; sensory and perceptual processes; cognition, learning and memory; developmental psychology; personality and social psychology; psychological disorders; and variability in behavior related to culture.

After completion of PSYC 100, or with a score of 5 on the AP psychology exam, students wishing to fulfill their natural science diversification requirement may take any 200-level course, except for PSYC 200 (Statistical Analysis in Psychology) and PSYC 250 (Research Methods in Psychology), which are reserved for declared majors only.

Students who declare a psychology major will take the statistics and research methods courses, as well as an additional six courses spread across the following areas of psychology: mind and brain, clinical issues and health, and person and society. All majors enroll in a two-semester course, PSYC 475 (Psychology Senior Seminar) and PSYC 476 (Psychology Senior Practicum). During fall semester, students, working in collaboration with their peers and professor, develop expertise on a topic of interest and develop a research proposal. During the spring semester, students execute their proposal or write a literature review paper and then share those completed projects with the community as part of their senior capstone.

# Social Sciences

Anthropology  
Economics  
History  
Political Science  
Sociology

# Anthropology

Palme House | [kenyon.edu/anthropology](http://kenyon.edu/anthropology)

Discover the origins of humanity and the varied ways of being human, past and present — and what links us all, despite our differences.

Anthropology is often referred to as the science of humanity, embracing biological, historical and cultural studies as distinct but interrelated pursuits. You will study with professors who are accomplished researchers and who have conducted field work throughout the world, providing groundbreaking insights into the origins of humanity, from Maya societies in Central America to Neanderthal ingenuity in Europe.

## The Curriculum

Kenyon's anthropology department provides unusual breadth for an undergraduate program, with a curriculum covering three distinct but interrelated areas. All anthropology courses deal with diversity, helping us to appreciate the varied ways of being human in the past and present and what links all of us despite those differences.

- **Biological anthropology** courses study the complex connections between our biological and cultural existence, investigating how humans have evolved in the past and how we are continuing to evolve in the present. More advanced courses focus on such topics as human skeletal anatomy, human paleontology, the anthropology of food, and human adaptation to changing environmental conditions.
- **Archaeology** courses allow students to learn about prehistoric peoples of the New World (Aztecs, Maya, Inkas, Moundbuilders and Puebloans) as well as the Old World (Egypt, Mesopotamia and European megalith builders). Methods of investigation are also covered.
- **Cultural anthropology** courses involve the study of native North Americans, the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America, as well as topics as media, popular culture, ethics of representation, race, sexuality, and gender, ethnomusicology, and development.



### For First-Year Students

A first course in anthropology should be any of the three one-semester introductory courses listed below. Each course combines lecture and discussion.

- **ANTH 111: Introduction to Biological Anthropology.** This is the first course in biological anthropology, required for upper-level work in biological anthropology courses.
- **ANTH 112: Introduction to Archaeology.** This is the first course in archaeology, required for upper-level work in archaeology.
- **ANTH 113: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology.** This is the first course in cultural anthropology, required for upper-level work in cultural anthropology.

Having completed an introductory course, students may enroll in any upper-level course in that area of the anthropology program. Alternatively, students may enroll in another introductory course to gain a broader understanding of anthropology. Diversification credit is earned either by taking an introductory course and an upper-level course in the same area of anthropology or by taking two introductory courses.

### The Major and Minor

The anthropology department offers both a major and a minor.

# Economics

Ascension Hall | [kenyon.edu/economics](http://kenyon.edu/economics)

Consider tough questions in such areas as unemployment, pollution, race and gender discrimination, and inflation, and learn the analytical tools needed to find answers.

Why are buffalo almost extinct but cattle so plentiful? Do government deficits mortgage our children's future? Does an increase in the minimum wage help unskilled workers? These are some of the questions economists try to answer. As an economics student, you will learn to build, test and revise models of behavior — of consumers, firms, workers and the government — and examine how these agents interact in markets, both at the individual level in microeconomic analysis and at the economy-wide level in macroeconomic analysis.

## The Curriculum

Economics professors help students understand and predict social behavior in the world around them. Students then are able to analyze important social problems like unemployment, pollution, race and gender discrimination, and inflation. This analysis allows them to intelligently evaluate public-policy proposals that are offered as solutions to these problems.

Economics is a highly integrated discipline in which most economists work simultaneously with theory, analytical models, data, quantitative research methods and public-policy issues. Each economics course at Kenyon introduces all of these elements, in varying mixes. The common thread among the courses is reliance on models that explain and predict human behavior. Economics courses are designed to help students develop the ability to think in a rigorous, analytical fashion and to develop communication skills. This emphasis places economics at the heart of liberal arts education.

### For First-Year Students

ECON 101 (Principles of Microeconomics) and ECON 102 (Principles of Macroeconomics) are the complementary set of foundation courses in economics. Both are lecture and discussion courses, with usually between 20 and 30 students in each section. The introductory courses survey theories of producer and consumer behavior and show how these theories can be used to predict the consequences of individual, business and government actions. Current public-policy issues are also studied. Different instructors teach sections of these courses using different teaching styles. All sections, however, feature several examinations each semester, and in most sections there are also homework assignments and quizzes.

These courses are an excellent introduction to economics for those who plan no further work in the discipline, but they are also the foundation and prerequisites for all upper-level courses and the first courses in the economics major.

There are significant advantages in taking ECON 101 and ECON 102 as a first-year student. The courses prepare one to take virtually any other economics course starting in the sophomore year. Students who are seriously considering an economics major often find this early start helpful.

The department has found that even students who have done very well on the AP economics exams (microeconomics, macroeconomics) benefit from taking ECON 101 and/or ECON 102. As a result, we do not accept AP credits toward the economics major.

### The Major

Students who plan to major in economics are advised to take Calculus I in their first year or during the summer in order to satisfy the prerequisite for theory classes (ECON 201 [Microeconomic Theory] and ECON 202 [Macroeconomic Theory]). The prerequisite can be satisfied by successfully taking the mathematics placement test and placing out of Calculus I by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Students who plan to major in economics and study off campus should consider enrolling in ECON 101 and 102 as first-year students and ECON 201 and 202 as second-year students to provide a sound base for off-campus study.

# History

Oden Hall | [kenyon.edu/history](http://kenyon.edu/history)

**Come to a better understanding of the world by closely examining what past generations have left behind.**

History matters not only in its own right, but also because the stories of the past enlighten the predicaments of the present. As a history student, you will engage the past as a living, breathing reality that holds real meaning and the potential for clues to understanding contemporary life.

## **The Curriculum**

The department is global in orientation, collectively covering the history of most regions of the world and the connections between them. Course offerings in history are deep and wide, covering U.S. history, early modern and modern European history, African and Asian history, and Latin American history. More than half of all history classes are taught in a small seminar format, and students join with their teachers as explorers of the past through research, theoretical considerations and integration of coursework.

The discipline of history requires diverse approaches and serious engagement with different parts of the world and different moments of time. We use a variety of methodologies and sources to examine change over time and the connections among human beings, cultures, politics and places.

## **For First-Year Students**

First-year students should consider taking HIST 100 (Making of the Contemporary World). This course introduces students both to the history department and to key issues that shape society today. There are two alternately offered iterations of the course. One focuses on the 1920s and 1930s, a period that set in motion many of the trends, political changes, economic patterns and social questions that shape today's world. The other examines the unfolding of those trends and struggles from 1945 to 1990 in a global landscape transformed by the intervening world war and in the context of the Cold War.

In HIST 100, the class alternates between small discussion sections about primary source texts and contextualizing lectures by history faculty. In addition, first-year students in HIST 100 have opportunities to work on their writing skills in ways that benefit them later.

**For All Students**

Courses numbered 100–191 are designated as introductory courses on a particular subject or region. These courses are suitable both for those who plan further work in the field and for those who intend to enroll in only one or two history courses. These are appropriate for first-year students. Unless otherwise noted in the course description, first-year students — especially those with a strong background in history — may enroll in any course numbered below 300. Courses numbered 300 to 499 are advanced seminars with limited enrollment, usually requiring sophomore standing or above.

**The Major and Minor**

The department offers both a major and a minor and participates in the Asian and Middle East studies joint major. History majors often study abroad, and many participate in interdisciplinary programs. First-year students interested in pursuing history should see the departmental website.

# Political Science

Oden Hall | [kenyon.edu/politicalscience](http://kenyon.edu/politicalscience)

**Debate current events and the most profound, enduring issues of public life with fellow students who take political arguments seriously.**

With a firm grounding in political philosophy, you will seek to understand how political decisions affect people's lives and join with faculty in a small and vibrant intellectual community.

## **The Curriculum**

The curriculum pursues three basic objectives: to explore the nature of politics — its purposes, limitations and significance in human life; to promote an understanding of various forms of political systems and of relations among them; and to develop a capacity for intelligent analysis and evaluation of public policies and a capacity to take seriously opposing points of view in the political debates of our time.

The political science faculty includes specialists in American politics and public policy, European politics, Latin America, China, global environmental issues, international relations, American foreign policy, and ancient and modern political philosophy. The faculty members teach a broad array of courses, including politics and literature, international terrorism, gender and politics, American constitutional law, and immigration, citizenship, and national identity.

Many courses are taught as seminars, and the professors may get to know students well. Faculty members work closely with students to help them think analytically, evaluate political arguments and public policies, and write and argue logically and persuasively. Students and faculty often engage outside the classroom, in activities such as watching and discussing election results together and participating in a weekly current events lunch table.

## **For First-Year Students**

For first-year students, the department recommends taking PSCI 101Y–102Y (Quest for Justice). This is a year-long, discussion-based seminar designed specifically for first-year students. It is called Quest for Justice because that is what it is about: the conversation that has been going on for thousands of years among human beings about the best way to live together. This question is at the heart of any serious discussion of politics since it is about the ulti-

mate ends for which everything else — forms of government, social customs, morals — is a means. It is also the question at the heart of all liberal education. Students come to college with many ideas about what we and other people are like, and what is right and wrong. This course provides a chance to find out whether those ideas make sense by getting one's bearings in the rich, multimillennial and transnational conversation about human nature and right and wrong. Students read and debate with philosophers like Plato, Locke and Nietzsche, authors like Shakespeare and Sophocles, and politicians like Lincoln, Churchill and Stalin.

Although PSCI 101Y–102Y is not required for a major in political science, the faculty strongly recommend it as an introduction to the department's program. Every year the department offers several sections of this course, with about 18 students in each section. The course is designed to help students develop their writing, oral communication and critical thinking skills. To develop these skills, students read and discuss primary texts and engage in intense discussions about authors and ideas that have relevance to their own lives and to issues facing contemporary America and the world. During the year, students also write six or seven short papers, in which they take a stand and develop a logical argument.

In the spring semester, first-year students who are taking Quest for Justice may register for one of the department's 200-level foundation courses that are required for the major. These are courses in American politics, comparative politics and international relations. PSCI 200D (Liberal Democracy in America) explores the foundations, institutions and operation of the American political system. PSCI 240 (Modern Democracies) examines the process of democratization and analyzes the operation of different democratic political systems. PSCI 260 (International Relations) analyzes the ways in which states and other political actors interact in the global arena.

Students who are interested in political science and wish to study abroad during their junior year are encouraged to take PSCI 240 or PSCI 260 before going abroad.

Students who do not take political science courses in their first year may take any of the 200-level foundation courses in their sophomore year and still complete the major.

# Sociology

Oden Hall | [kenyon.edu/sociology](http://kenyon.edu/sociology)

Examine social life, from everyday encounters to the movements of civilizations throughout history.

The sociology department is a community of teacher-scholars and students who engaging in rigorous inquiry, the accumulation of social-scientific knowledge, engagement with community, and the formation of citizen-scholars. We inherit the ambitions of sociology's founders, who sought a new human and ethical science to understand a world undergoing unprecedented and tumultuous change. Sociology is the best vantage point from which to see the dynamic connections between the individual and the economy, politics, culture and history.

## The Curriculum

Sociology courses are organized in four tiers that reflect the specificity of the subject matter, the refinement of research and academic skills taught, and the expectations for student ownership of theirs and others' learning.

- **100-level introductory courses** are general overviews of the discipline. Each course takes a thematic approach to convey the basic components of sociological analysis. First-year students should begin by taking a 100-level course.
- **200-level survey courses** are “sociology of” courses that cover the concepts and research findings of sociologists studying key topics like the economy, health, gender, race, sexuality, culture, law and politics.
- **300-level advanced practice courses** give students “hands-on” experience with advanced methods (quantitative, qualitative and community-based), empirical case studies, close reading of theory, and engagement with publics and stakeholders in the community.
- **400-level intensive seminar courses** are curated around specific theoretical and empirical topics, research questions, or themes from which students are expected to independently derive their own rigorous research and lead discussion on challenging texts.

## For First-Year Students

Students should begin the study of sociology in any 100-level course, SOCY 101 – 108. Each course uses a different theme to demonstrate the foundational ideas of sociology. Students may earn credit for only one 100-level course. Introductory sociology courses introduce the major's key concepts and learning goals:



- **The sociological imagination.** This perspective primes students to see the link between themselves, the structured relationships around them, and their place in historical time. We use the sociological imagination to guide our inquiry into this thing called society.
- **The tension between structure and agency.** Our patterned relationships with others enable and constrain our individual actions. Understanding these tensions is fundamental to understanding our place in the world and history, as well as understanding the perspectives of other people who are constrained and enabled by those structures in different ways.
- **How sociology is distinct from and connected to our related disciplines across the liberal arts.** Our sociological imaginations allow us to see how power, economy, history, culture, and even personality as products of human relationships. As structures and institutions, those things enable and constrain action. As such, they are sociological subjects too.
- **How we use methods to study the different ways of being and experiencing humanity.** From interpersonal interactions to the big institutions that order our social world, sociologists collect data that can take the pulse of whole societies while also respecting the ways of knowing and being of the people we work with.

In an introduction to sociology course, students will also begin to practice a specialized, but powerful and poetic language of sociological theory and concepts. Students will also learn how to engage confidently with their classmates, communities, government and world by being rooted in data and text.

### The Major

A 100-level course is a requirement for the major and a prerequisite for 200- and 300-level courses in the department. We encourage potential majors to take a 200-level survey course as their second course. They should then plan to take SOCY 262 and SOCY 271 to begin their theory and methods requirements for the major.

### Other Opportunities

The John W. Adams Summer Scholars Program in Socio-Legal Studies provides students with an opportunity to conduct research on law and policy that is both domestic and international in scope. Students in this program are awarded a \$3,000 fellowship and on-campus summer housing so that they can collaborate with Kenyon professors on law-related research. First-year students are eligible to apply.

# Interdisciplinary Programs

African Diaspora Studies

American Studies

Asian and Middle East Studies

Biochemistry and  
Molecular Biology

Computing

Environmental Studies

Integrated Program in  
Humane Studies

International Studies

Latino/a Studies

Law and Society

Neuroscience

Public Policy

Women's and Gender Studies

# African Diaspora Studies

Ralston House | [kenyon.edu/africandiasporastudies](http://kenyon.edu/africandiasporastudies)

Explore the African diaspora across cultures, genres and time periods, from the history of jazz to the psychology of race and ethnicity.

Concentrating in African diaspora studies, you will explore the variety of cultural types in the African diaspora as well as the connections between African studies and African American studies. Intensive, discussion-based seminars led by faculty from multiple disciplines promote an intellectual give-and-take, exploring a range of topics, from ethnomedicine to the history of the civil rights era to the literature of Richard Wright and Toni Morrison.

## For First-Year Students

The program offers one introductory course to orient students to the interdisciplinary nature of African diaspora studies. AFDS 108 (The Crossroads Seminar) is offered every other year. It places an emphasis upon critical thinking, oral presentation and critical writing as integral components of the learning experience. The objective of this course is to introduce students to the wide range of approaches to the field of African diaspora studies, as informed by past events and as history continues to unfold.

## The Concentration

The program offers a concentration, drawing on coursework in American studies, anthropology, drama, English, history, political science, neuroscience, religious studies and sociology. Students interested in the concentration should consult the program's webpage and/or contact the program director.

# American Studies

O'Connor House | [kenyon.edu/americanstudies](http://kenyon.edu/americanstudies)

Explore the people, places, society and culture of the United States, and gain deeper insights into the dynamics of American society.

As a student of American studies, you will examine the personal side of American life, considering the role of music, art, memory, family and popular culture throughout history. Courses in the college curriculum explore African American history, the history of jazz and American culture, the history of the South, American modernist literature, and museums and memory, among many other topics. You will begin your inquiry with an examination of an artifact — a song, a work of art or a film — and use that as a jumping-off point to explore widening circles of culture.

## The Curriculum

The American studies curriculum appropriates ideas and methodologies from one discipline and applies them to another, transcending established boundaries among disciplines to create a new structure that combines traditional values and new visions. The program incorporates community-engaged learning through fieldwork research experiences, collaborative exploration and public presentation.

Offering both a major and a concentration, the American studies program draws on coursework in art history, studio art, drama, English, environmental studies, history, music, political science, religious studies and sociology.

## For First-Year Students

Both the major and concentration require AMST 108 (America and the '60s: An Introduction to American Studies), which is normally taken during the first or second year at Kenyon.

This course introduces students to the principles of American studies through the exploration of American history and culture. The course seeks to understand the nature of American society through the study of the struggle for political reform and the role of women, civil rights and alternative culture. Guest lectures, films and student presentations complement the course.

# Asian and Middle East Studies

O'Connor House | [kenyon.edu/asianstudies](http://kenyon.edu/asianstudies)

**Study Asian, Middle Eastern and Islamic cultures from within, guided by international experts.**

As a student in Asian and Middle East studies, you will acquire the analytical and critical ability to explore the linguistic, literary and cultural traditions of these regions and to develop the cultural sensitivity and humanistic knowledge needed in our increasingly globalized world. You will come to understand Asia and the Middle East as culturally diverse regions with deeply intertwined histories and Asian peoples as major actors in regional and world history, as well as the ways in which people of these regions have historically defined and expressed themselves.

## **The Program in Asian and Middle East Studies**

Asian and Middle East studies is both a concentration and a joint major, working in consort with another department. Students integrate coursework across disciplines, including anthropology, art history, history, language, music, philosophy, political science, religious studies and sociology. The program also sponsors films, invites speakers to the College, and promotes other social and cultural events to stimulate campus awareness of the societies of East Asia, India and Southeast Asia, the Middle East, North Africa and the Islamic world.

## **For First-Year Students in Asian and Middle East Studies**

First-year students interested in Asia and the Middle East are encouraged to take AMES 101 (First-Year Seminar: Introduction to Asian and Middle East Studies) or may consider enrolling in Chinese, Japanese or Arabic language courses, or in one of the art history, history or religious studies courses at the introductory level. This will help you move deeper into the study of Asia and the Middle East. From there you may continue toward the AMES joint major or the concentrations in Asian studies and Islamic civilizations and cultures.

### **The Concentration**

Islamic civilizations and cultures focuses on the study of Islamic civilizations as a global and multi-cultural phenomenon. There are currently more than a billion Muslims in the world. They live in dozens of countries — across continents — and speak hundreds of languages and dialects. They are the majority population in many countries including Senegal, Morocco and Indonesia.

The impact of the civilization connected with Islam on world history has been complex and profound. The founding of the religion of Islam and the first Islamic polity by the Prophet Muhammad was a major turning point in human history. From the Taj Mahal in India and the libraries of Timbuktu to the Blue Mosque in Istanbul and the Alhambra palace in Spain, Islamic societies generated remarkable works of art, architecture, literature and science. The focus and purpose of this concentration is to study systemically and coherently the global civilization of Islam and its religious traditions, histories and cultures in all of its diversity.

### **Beginning Studies in Islamic Civilizations and Cultures**

First-year and sophomore students may begin with any introductory course that deals with Islamic civilizations and cultures. RLST 140 (Islam's Diverse Paths: An Introduction to Islamic Tradition), and HIST 166 (History of the Islamicate World) or HIST 264 (History of Modern Middle East) are especially valuable as entry points. Of course, ARBC 111Y–112Y (Intensive Introduction Arabic) is best begun in the first year for students planning to study abroad in an Arabic speaking country. One year of Arabic is required for the concentration.

For more information about Islamic civilizations and cultures, students are encouraged to contact Professors Vernon Schubel, Nurten Kilic-Schubel and Wendy Singer.

# Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Higley and Tomsich Halls | [kenyon.edu/bmb](http://kenyon.edu/bmb)

The disciplines of biology and chemistry join forces to answer the questions “What is life?” and “How does life work?”

From drug design and enzyme mechanisms to molecular evolution and cellular differentiation, the intersection of chemistry and biology provides a rich foundation for understanding the physical basis of life. As a biochemistry or molecular biology major, you will learn from biology and chemistry faculty in this interdisciplinary program.

## The Program

The program offers two majors: one in biochemistry and one in molecular biology. Each major combines courses from the biology and chemistry departments, building from the same introductory courses toward greater specialization at the upper level.

## For First-Year Students

First-year students interested in pursuing either major are encouraged to begin taking both biology and chemistry courses immediately. Either major may be completed starting from the same introductory courses. Careful course selection in the first year will greatly aid later progress through the majors. Consult the course catalog and information from the individual departments for additional course content and placement details.

## Biology Courses

Appropriate biology courses for the first semester include BIOL 115 (Energy in Living Systems) and BIOL 109Y (Introduction to Experimental Biology). Students with a score of 5 on the AP biology exam should enroll in BIOL 116 (Information in Living Systems), skipping BIOL 115. Students with a 4 on the AP biology exam should consult with the BIOL 116 instructor.

## Chemistry Courses

Appropriate chemistry courses include CHEM 121 (Introductory Chemistry) or CHEM 122 (Chemical Principles). The same lab, CHEM 123 (Introductory Chemistry Lab), serves both courses. Be sure to take the chemistry department placement test to help guide your choice. A score of 4 or 5 on the AP chemistry exam allows the student to enroll in CHEM 122.



### Fall Courses

The following fall-semester courses are appropriate for first-year students interested in the biochemistry and molecular biology.

#### Biology Courses

- BIOL 109Y: Introduction to Experimental Biology
- BIOL 115: Energy in Living Systems
- BIOL 116: Information in Living Systems (for students with a 4 or 5 on the AP biology exam)

#### Chemistry Courses

The chemistry department placement test, available during Orientation, will help guide your choice of course.

- CHEM 121: Introductory Chemistry
- CHEM 122: Chemical Principles (for students with a score of 4 or 5 on the AP chemistry exam or via the placement exam)
- CHEM 123: Introductory Chemistry Lab (both CHEM 121 and CHEM 122 are served by the same lab)

### Spring Courses

The following spring-semester courses are appropriate for first-year students.

#### Biology Courses

- BIOL 110Y: Introduction to Experimental Biology II
- BIOL 116: Information in Living Systems

#### Chemistry Courses

- CHEM 124: Introductory Chemistry II or CHEM 126: Introductory Chemistry Lab II
- CHEM 231: Organic Chemistry I
- CHEM 233: Organic Chemistry Lab I

# Computing

Hayes Hall | [kenyon.edu/computing](http://kenyon.edu/computing)

**Develop programs and models, analyze complex data sets, and integrate cutting-edge laboratory equipment to solve complex scientific problems.**

You will learn to use advanced computing technology for scientific exploration and discovery. Courses in the concentration focus on four major areas: computer program development; mathematical modeling of natural phenomena using quantitative or symbolic computer techniques; analysis and visualization of complex data sets, functions and other relationships; and the integration of computers with other laboratory equipment for the acquisition of data in scientific research.

## **The Concentration**

The concentration in computing requires a total of 3.00 units of Kenyon coursework. COMP 118 (Introduction to Programming) serves as a foundation course for the program. Students who already have substantial programming experience before coming to Kenyon should consult the program chair for an appropriate alternative.

Since computational methods are of increasing importance in every scientific discipline, students in the scientific computing program will take several contributory and intermediate courses in one or more scientific disciplines. Such courses have been identified in biology, chemistry, economics, mathematics and statistics, political science, and physics. In these courses, computational methods form an essential means for investigating scientific problems of various kinds.

# Environmental Studies

Higley Hall | [kenyon.edu/environmentalstudies](http://kenyon.edu/environmentalstudies)

**Analyze the interactions of individuals, societies and the natural world, and learn how to solve some of the biggest challenges facing the environment today.**

Guided by faculty with expertise in such wide-ranging fields as climate change, wetlands preservation, macroecology and microbiology, you will study the complex systems that lie at the heart of humans' interaction with the natural world. The landscape surrounding Kenyon provides a unique living laboratory, giving you the opportunity to conduct field research in the riparian habitats of the Kokosing River and the pastures, prairies, wetlands and woodlands of the Kenyon Farm, Kokosing Nature Preserve and the 500-acre Brown Family Environmental Center.

## **The Curriculum**

The program's goals are for students to understand the interplay among humans, together with their social and cultural institutions, and the physical, chemical and biological processes of the natural world; approach complex problems from an analytical perspective and apply logic, scientific principles and quantitative tools to their solutions; understand the social, historical, philosophical, spiritual and literary traditions that define the relationships between humans and their environment; and persuasively communicate ideas and logical arguments both orally and in writing as active participants in the environmental problem-solving process.

Consequently, the major and concentration knit together many traditional academic disciplines, drawing on coursework in anthropology, economics, philosophy, political science, religious studies and sociology, in addition to biology, chemistry and physics.

## **For First-Year Students**

First-year students are encouraged to take ENVS 112 (Introduction to Environmental Studies). Other courses appropriate for first-year students who are interested in this program include ANTH 111, BIOL 115, ECON 101, PHIL 190 and SOCY 101.

# Integrated Program in Humane Studies

Timberlake House | [kenyon.edu/iphs](http://kenyon.edu/iphs)

In Kenyon's oldest interdisciplinary program, explore life's fundamental questions from multiple perspectives and build a strong foundation for a 21st-century liberal arts education.

In these courses, you will scrutinize and engage with both timeless human ideas and the pressing social issues of today. Through literature, art, philosophy, history, science and artificial intelligence, you have the freedom to explore different cultures and diverse disciplines all converging to dissect the age-old question, what does it mean to be human?

## The Program

Courses in the Integrated Program in Humane Studies explore human ideas, creations and inventions that have defined our present and even our future. As they progress through the program, students will delve deeper into questions such as whether we can program our humanity into our inventions, or whether we will be shaped irrevocably by our technologies. Can AI know us better than we know ourselves? Does it hold up a new mirror to our very nature?

By the end of the concentration, students will have the opportunity to build a digital portfolio of hands-on projects that solve real-world challenges. Students can also join the Kenyon Digital Humanities lab and be part of a collaborative multidisciplinary team engaged in cutting-edge research.

IPHS courses explore life's big questions and impart valuable skills for the 21st century. A liberal arts education is more important now than ever before, and this program will provide students with the tools and knowledge they need to succeed at Kenyon and beyond.

## For First-Year Students:

Students typically begin with IPHS 111Y–112Y (Odyssey: Pursuit of Wisdom and Understanding). This course offers a unique blend of lectures and small seminars that makes the perfect introduction to both liberal education and Kenyon. Each week different professors from the College's many majors give lectures in their areas of expertise. During our yearlong Odyssey, beginning with Homer and ending with the introduction of digital technology, students can expect to hear from more than 20 different professors. At the end of each week, students break into small groups with a seminar leader to discuss the week's material and debate some of the controversial issues and questions that it raised. Student papers are discussed in one-on-one student-faculty tutorials.

# International Studies

Oden Hall | [kenyon.edu/internationalstudies](http://kenyon.edu/internationalstudies)

Study in distant countries, learn foreign languages, carry out independent research and analyze an increasingly global society.

International studies students are adventurous — they spend at least one semester studying in another country, living in and experiencing a foreign culture. And they are highly motivated — they think rigorously across disciplinary boundaries while focusing intensely on a particular region of the world. As an international studies major, you will work closely with teachers who are experts in various world cultures. You will then apply your knowledge to the sustained study of a particular region of the world, studying abroad for at least one semester.

## For First-Year Students

International studies majors select a region of concentration and follow a series of courses in one of the program's three thematic tracks. The program faculty strongly recommends that first-year students take language courses in a language appropriate for the geographical area in which they plan to concentrate (Spanish for Latin America, Chinese for China, and so forth). Language study is vital because success in off-campus study depends heavily on language skills.

Second, students should consult the detailed program description online and look carefully at the courses listed as introductory courses for each of the three thematic tracks. Consider taking one or more of the courses listed there that can serve in more than one thematic track — for example, ANTH 113 (Introduction to Cultural Anthropology), ECON 101 (Principles of Microeconomics), PSCI 260 (International Relations) or SOCY 105 (Society in Comparative Perspective). Another strongly recommended first-year course is HIST 100 (Making of the Contemporary World).

Students should consult the director of the program during the year for additional advice.

# Latino/a Studies

Palme House | [kenyon.edu/latinostudies](http://kenyon.edu/latinostudies)

Study the diverse experiences of peoples who trace their origins to the countries of Latin America and the Spanish Caribbean.

Analyze, reconstruct and reflect on the Latino/a experience in the United States as well as its wider impact in the world. You will be guided by faculty with expertise in modern Mexican history, international development, postcolonial studies, literary translation, immigration and border studies, and transnational feminism.

## The Program

The concentration in Latino/a Studies emphasizes service learning, preparing students to link key issues from their coursework to community activities and needs, so as to strengthen their civic awareness and engagement. The faculty of the program is strongly dedicated to the promotion of service learning as a valuable learning tool to enrich the understanding of the Latino/a experience.

Nepantla, a Nahuatl word referring to “the land in the middle,” serves as an epistemological anchor for the concentration — a concept embracing Latino/a “border crossings” and a strategy to defy systemic forms of domination and to negotiate notions of power, identity and coloniality. By the 20th century, this notion was transformed into the theoretical approach known as “Border Theory.” In keeping with the spirit of nepantla, the concentration will expose students to action-oriented pedagogy and theoretical frameworks, such as border theory, postcolonial studies and liberation psychology.

## For First-Year Students

First- and second-year students may begin with any of the core courses listed below. Some of the core courses have prerequisites. Students who have to fulfill the language requirement for the concentration should begin their study of Spanish in the first two years at Kenyon.

## Core courses

- ENGL 273: Latinx Literature and Film (prerequisite: ENGL 103 or 104)
- HIST 323: Borderland History
- PSYC 228: Latino Psychology (prerequisite: PSYC 100 or 110, or AP psychology score of 5)
- SPAN 280: Cultural Productions of the Borderlands
- SPAN 281: Resisting Borders: Contemporary Latino/a Literature and Film

# Law and Society

Ralston House | [kenyon.edu/lawandsociety](http://kenyon.edu/lawandsociety)

Study the relationship between law and human behavior and the role of law in society.

Concentrating in law and society, you will focus on three areas: philosophies of law, law as a social institution, and law and government. The exploration begins with an introductory survey course and concludes with an intensive research project.

## The Curriculum

The concentration in law and society provides a comprehensive, coherent curricular structure within which to examine a plethora of law-related issues. These issues emerge across various disciplines seeking, if not the answers about law, then the appropriate questions. The concentration is not intended to be a pre-law or pre-professional program.

## For First-Year Students

First-year students who may be interested in this concentration should start by taking one or more introductory courses in one of the social sciences. This experience would give them good preparation for LGLS 110 (Introduction to Legal Studies), which is ordinarily intended for students who have attained at least sophomore standing. LGLS 110 exposes students to a variety of disciplinary approaches to the study of law and legal phenomena.

## Other Opportunities

The John W. Adams Summer Scholars Program in Socio-Legal Studies provides students with an opportunity to conduct research on law and policy that is both domestic and international in scope. First-year students are welcome to apply.

# Neuroscience

Samuel Mather Hall | [kenyon.edu/neuroscience](http://kenyon.edu/neuroscience)

**Be at the cutting edge of discovering the relationship between the brain and behavior.**

As the most rapidly developing interdisciplinary area in the sciences, neuroscience integrates biology, chemistry, psychology and philosophy to understand animal and human behavior. You will work with faculty experts across the sciences to prepare for graduate training or research occupations in neuroscience, neurochemistry, neurobiology, anatomy, physiology, physiological psychology, clinical psychology, behavioral sciences, the health sciences and general success after college.

## **For First-Year Students**

Students who are considering a concentration or a major in neuroscience should inquire about the program from the program director or any of the faculty listed on the program's website.

Students begin their studies of neuroscience by taking BIOL 115 (Energy in Living Systems) and CHEM 121 (Introductory Chemistry). These are pre-requisites, but, in rare cases with departmental approval, they may be taken as co-requisites. Following these, students enroll in their first neuroscience course, NEUR 212 (Neuroscience).

This course begins with a definition of neuroscience as an interdisciplinary field, in the context of the philosophy of science, basic brain anatomy and cellular function. It continues with a review of the organization of the nervous system and the processes responsible for neural conduction and synaptic transmission. This knowledge is then applied to a comprehensive examination of the neurochemical, sensory, motor, developmental, motivational, cognitive and emotional processes and structures that influence both normal and abnormal behavior. The course ends with a discussion of selected neurological dysfunctions.

## **The Major and Concentration**

The program offers both a major and a concentration in neuroscience.



# Public Policy

Horwitz House | [kenyon.edu/publicpolicy](http://kenyon.edu/publicpolicy)

**Analyze public policy problems and understand how public policy is formulated and implemented.**

As a student in public policy, you will explore problems that face all levels of government, learning how to analyze and solve these problems through an interdisciplinary approach.

## **For First-Year Students**

Students begin by taking foundation courses in economics and political science. The principles learned in these courses will then be applied to specific policy areas in the elective courses. In a typical program, a student would take ECON 101 and ECON 102 as a first- or second-year student and PSCI 310 in the sophomore year.

# Women's and Gender Studies

O'Connor House | [kenyon.edu/womensgender](http://kenyon.edu/womensgender)

Explore the complex ways gender shapes the world, from how we live our everyday lives to our major social institutions and cultural practices.

Gender affects both how we live — shaping families, children, reproduction and the organization of work — as well as all major social institutions and cultural practices. As a student in women's and gender studies, you will come to understand the social construction of gender at both the personal and institutional level.

## The Curriculum

Students in the field of women's and gender studies examine historical, theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of women, gender and sexuality. Supported by departmental courses in disciplines such as anthropology, English, history, political science, psychology and religious studies, the women's and gender studies program enables students to investigate gender through transnational and intersectional approaches.

To study gender both in one's own society and in the world, one must come to understand how the beliefs, values and practices that make up gender take shape in relationship to race, class, cultural identity, sexuality, nationality and religion. This holistic approach enables us to interrogate essentializing categories of identity and static notions like “traditional vs. modern,” “West vs. East” and “heterosexual vs. homosexual,” which distort significant gendered differences across the globe. Students in the program learn how to take responsibility for their own learning through collaborative projects and community-engaged learning and research.

## For First-Year Students

First-year students ordinarily begin with WGS 111 (Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies). This wide-ranging interdisciplinary course helps students develop a critical framework for thinking about questions relating to gender. Drawing on both scholarly and personal texts, and visual as well as written artifacts, the course emphasizes diverse women's significant

contributions to knowledge and culture; it explores topics in gender studies, including men's studies, family studies and the study of sexuality, as well as the intersections of various forms of oppression both within and outside of the U.S. Students will consider how racism, heterosexism and homophobia intersect with the cultural constructions of masculinity and femininity, as well as ways to promote more egalitarian gender relations.

First-year students may also explore more specialized areas of gender studies in courses designed for students at all levels. These include WGS 150 (which is open only to first-year students and satisfies the QR requirement) and WGS 121, 221 and 232. Students completing WGS 111 can enroll in WGS 242 to explore gender studies in a more global context.

Courses in the women's and gender studies program count toward collegiate diversification requirements in the social sciences. For more information, consult the program's website.

### **The Major and the Concentration**

The program offers both a major and a concentration. In each case, students will take courses not only in the Program in Women's and Gender Studies but also in other academic departments. The courses from these other departments that count toward the major are listed in the course catalogue and on the program website.

### **Other Opportunities**

Women's and gender studies majors and concentrators study abroad in a wide variety of countries in programs related to gender and sexuality. During their senior year, majors and concentrators develop and lead their own class—the senior colloquium—with a culminating capstone project.

The women's and gender studies program is governed by an advisory board that welcomes student participation in the administration of the program.

The program sponsors activities with both the Crozier Center for Women and Unity House. Both offer opportunities for students to make connections between their academic program and the co-curriculum.



# Academic Resources

As you adjust to life at Kenyon, you will be encouraged to seek out and actively engage with campus resources for advice and support. Members of the Kenyon community are here to guide you and celebrate your successes, if you are willing to make connections and put in the work.

## Office of Academic Advising

Academic Advising works with you to ensure that you make the most of your time at Kenyon, starting by connecting you with a faculty advisor. Along with your advisor, we help you navigate your academic experience, empower you to access resources to make informed decisions, and equip you with strategies for success. Our office also advises on how to prepare for and apply to prestigious national fellowship and scholarship programs, like Fulbright, Marshall and Truman.

### Tom Hawks, Dean for Academic Advising and Support

Chalmers Library, second floor  
740-427-5448, hawkst@kenyon.edu

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## About faculty advisors

One of the first steps in charting your academic path is to connect regularly with your faculty advisor. Advisors participate in Orientation to help answer your questions about classes and scheduling, and continue to play an active role by providing guidance in selecting courses, defining goals and planning for life after Kenyon. Once you declare a major, you will choose a faculty advisor from that department who will help you plan your major course of study.

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## Registrar's Office

The Registrar's Office is a valuable resource for answering your questions about the College's academic policies, including how they interact and are applied in individual circumstances. As the stewards and keepers of all academic records, our office upholds federal, state and college standards while protecting student and alumni privacy and ensuring the integrity of the Kenyon degree. We also track your progress toward the completion of degree requirements and provide degree evaluations.

### Ellen Harbourt, Registrar

Chalmers Library, second floor  
740-427-5122, harbourte@kenyon.edu

Find answers to frequently asked questions at [kenyon.edu/registrar](http://kenyon.edu/registrar).

### **Student Accessibility and Support Services**

Known as SASS, we advocate for and work with students with disabilities to provide empowerment, resources and referrals. Collaborating with offices across the College, we facilitate reasonable accommodations that allow students to fully participate in campus life. Our office also works closely with faculty to support students experiencing challenges in particular areas of academic work — making connections with peer tutors and advising on general academic concerns, including work management and test and writing anxiety.

**Chalmers Library, second floor**

740-427-5453

### **Math and Science Skills Center**

Faculty-trained peer tutors assist you in work for 100- to 200-level courses in biology, chemistry, economics, math, neuroscience, physics and psychology. Tutoring is offered to majors as well as anyone fulfilling the quantitative reasoning requirement. The center can be used for individual study, one-on-one tutoring, group work and organized review sessions. Laptops are available for use.

**Tomsich Hall 101**

Walk-ins welcome Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, 7 – 10 p.m.

### **Writing Center**

Discuss ideas for your writing or review what you've already written with a student writing consultant. Consultants, who have taken a course in analytical writing, will engage fellow writers in dialogue to help further understanding of a topic, find ways to better articulate ideas, or think through choices for organization and style.

**Chalmers Library, second floor**

Schedule an appointment at [kenyon.edu/writingcenter](http://kenyon.edu/writingcenter).

### **Library Resources**

#### **Collections**

The library collection comprises thousands of books, journals, newspapers and films; special collections and archives; and an institutional repository. Everything can be accessed via K-Search, the library's first-stop research tool. Laptops, chargers, cameras and other equipment are available on loan.

#### **Spaces**

Study areas range in size from individual to collaborative spaces that can accommodate up to 12 people at a time. A Digital Collaborative Studio on the third floor houses a wide range of technologies for your use.

### **Research and Instruction**

Librarians are available to assist you at any point in your research process. Assistance is available on an as-needed basis via the Research and Reference Desk or by making an appointment.

### **Career Development Office**

Starting your first semester, explore how your academic interests align with professional opportunities by connecting with the CDO for programs and one-on-one appointments. We help you navigate applications for student employment, internships, full-time employment and graduate school programs. You also can work with our office to connect with on- and off-campus interview opportunities, employer information sessions and Kenyon's professional network of alumni and parent volunteers.

**Chalmers Library, second floor**

740-427-5165, [cdo@kenyon.edu](mailto:cdo@kenyon.edu)

Schedule an appointment at [kenyon.edu/cdo](http://kenyon.edu/cdo).

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### **Hone your research skills**

Kenyon librarians offer a research skills course, INDS 191.00 (Special Topic: Access Denied: Science Information Literacy). It is open to any student, but ideal for those just beginning their college experience.

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### **Center for Global Engagement**

The CGE advises on off-campus study opportunities, connecting you with more than 200 programs. The primary resource for Kenyon's international students and scholars, our office also provides assistance with federal immigration regulations as well as support for adjusting to college and life in the U.S. We are committed to building a multicultural community on campus that reflects and affirms global diversity.

**Hoehn-Saric House, 207 Chase Avenue**

740-427-5637, [cge@kenyon.edu](mailto:cge@kenyon.edu)

Schedule an appointment at [kenyon.edu/cge](http://kenyon.edu/cge).

# On-Campus Internships and Research

Start building on your coursework with internships and research opportunities offered at Kenyon. Our rural location shapes the way we live and learn, starting in our local community and sprawling green spaces, and our active cultural and political scenes connect us with the world beyond Gambier.

## **Center for the Study of American Democracy**

Play an active role in civic discourse at Kenyon through CSAD, which brings together members of the campus community to debate the issues of the day, no matter how controversial. You can apply to become an associate your sophomore year or participate in events, research projects and Washington, D.C.-based internships.

### **Oden Hall**

[kenyon.edu/csad](http://kenyon.edu/csad)

## **Office for Community Partnerships**

Engage purposefully with the local community through Kenyon's Office for Community Partnerships. Based in the Wright Center in downtown Mount Vernon, we work with local organizations, institutions and businesses to strengthen the fabric of community life while promoting civic responsibility. Get involved through community-engaged learning courses and research projects, internships and volunteer experiences.

### **Wright Center, 400 S. Main Street in Mount Vernon**

[kenyon.edu/community-partnerships](http://kenyon.edu/community-partnerships)

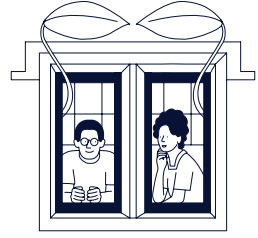
## **Office of Green Initiatives**

To take part in Kenyon's sustainability efforts, start with the Office of Green Initiatives. We promote curricular engagement with the College's green centers: the Brown Family Environmental Center, the Kenyon Farm, the Philander Chase Conservancy land trust and the Kokosing Nature Preserve conservation burial ground. Opportunities for your involvement include coursework, research, independent study and on-campus internships.

### **Bailey House**

[kenyon.edu/sustainability](http://kenyon.edu/sustainability)





### **Gund Gallery**

Discover Kenyon's arts scene at the Gund Gallery, Kenyon's museum of contemporary art and a cultural hub on campus. You can connect your coursework with rotating art exhibits or apply to become an associate, working with professional staff on behind-the-scenes operations, curatorial research and planning, collection maintenance and educational outreach.

### **Gund Gallery**

[gundgallery.org](http://gundgallery.org)

### **Kenyon Review**

Become a part of the Kenyon Review, one of America's most revered literary magazines, known for publishing breakthrough work by prize-winning authors and daring new voices. You can apply to become an associate and work with editors to read submissions, interview authors and organize literary programs and readings.

### **Finn House**

[kenyonreview.org](http://kenyonreview.org)

### **Summer Scholars**

Partner with faculty mentors during the summer months to work on research projects covering the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and fine arts. Apply to earn a spot in the program, which includes a \$4,000 stipend and on-campus housing, or look into the Cascade Scholar program, designed for first-year and second-year students with no prior research experience.

### **Office of the Provost, Bailey House**

[kenyon.edu/research](http://kenyon.edu/research)





**Kenyon**  
[kenyon.edu/academics](https://kenyon.edu/academics)