Welcome to Rutgers and the beginning of your college career!

This guide is a map for your Academic Planning & Advising experience. You’ll use this guide to learn how to explore your educational interests and goals and the academic opportunities available at the School of Arts and Sciences. It will also help you to understand the philosophy of a liberal arts education, your degree requirements, and to carefully plan your courses for the fall semester.

The Big Picture

School of Arts and Sciences students must earn at least **120 credits** to graduate.

You’ll earn credits by taking courses to complete the SAS Core Curriculum, a major, a minor, and elective credits.

Every course you take moves you closer to completing your degree, so you can feel comfortable studying many different subjects here!

**Basic Graduation Credits for SAS students:**

- **120 total minimum credits to graduate**
- **36 credits for many majors**\(^1\)
- **18 credits for most minors**\(^2\)
- **42 credits (maximum) for the Core**\(^3\)

= approximately 24 general elective credits still needed to reach 120!

\(^1\) Major credits vary

\(^2\) Students completing a credit-intensive major do not have to have a minor.

*See sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/majors*

\(^3\) Major and minor courses overlap with Core; some Core courses complete multiple learning goals
How do I get started?

1. Review information about majors and minors on pages 3-5.
2. Consider special Signature course for international scholars and electives on pages 6-7.
3. Review Byrne and FIGS Seminars offerings (separate links).
4. Understand the SAS Core (see separate Core Curriculum link).
5. Live Chat with an adviser or email frosh@sas.rutgers.edu with any questions.
6. Complete your course request form and submit it to frosh@sas.rutgers.edu.

Your First Semester Schedule

Request courses that interest you and that provide you with information about possible majors and minors. In general, your first semester schedule will look something like this (courses in bold are mandatory):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Name or Department</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>How to choose*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing course</td>
<td>4-9 cr.</td>
<td>Based on placement**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course for major exploration</td>
<td>3-4 cr.</td>
<td>See pages 4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course for major/minor exploration</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
<td>See pages 4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature Course/Elective</td>
<td>3-4 cr.</td>
<td>See page 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byrne Seminar &amp; First-Year Interest Group Seminar (FIGS)</td>
<td>2 cr.</td>
<td>See separate Byrne and FIGS links</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>=13-16 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Advisers will review your requests and make necessary adjustments based on placement test results, AP/IB/A-level scores, prior college coursework and appropriateness based on department recommendations.

**If you place into EAD Fundamentals, 356:151, for writing, you will take that 9-credit writing course plus 1 additional course for major exploration and Byrne Seminars/FIGS for a 13-14 credit semester.

A few words about minors

A minor is an important component of your degree. Most minors are 18-21 credits and do not need to relate to your major. A minor is required, except for the following:

- Students completing credit-intensive majors are strongly encouraged to complete a minor, but are not required to do so. Credit-intensive majors are indicated as such at sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/majors.
- Students completing multiple majors are not required to complete a minor.
School of Arts & Sciences students can choose from over 160 majors, minors, specializations, and certificates. We’ve grouped the majors into broad academic areas below. Match the background color of that box with the color on one of the grids on pages 4 & 5 for information on suggested course requests.

Visit [sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/majors](http://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/majors) for a full list of programs.

### Life and Natural Sciences
- Biological Sciences
- Biomathematics
- Cell Biology & Neuroscience
- Ecology, Evolution, & Natural Resources
- Exercise Science - options in Applied Kinesiology, Exercise Physiology, and Exercise Science
- Genetics
- Geological Sciences
- Marine Sciences
- Medical Technology
- Microbiology
- Molecular Biology & Biochemistry
- Public Health

### Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Astrophysics
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Information Technology & Informatics
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Statistics
- Statistics/Mathematics

### Business & Communication
- Communication
- Economics
- Exercise Science & Sports Studies-Sport Management
- Human Resource Management
- Information Technology & Informatics
- Journalism and Media Studies
- Labor Studies & Employment Relations
- Pre-Business Majors (transfer to RBS)

### Social Sciences & Humanities
(Majors in **bold** require study of a language other than English)
- African, Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages & Literatures (AMESALL)
- Africana Studies
- American Studies
- Anthropology
- Art History
- **Chinese**
- Cinema Studies
- Classics
- Comparative Literature
- Criminal Justice
- East Asian Languages & Area Studies
- English
- European Studies
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- Italian
- Italian Studies
- Jewish Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Latino & Hispanic Caribbean Studies
- Linguistics
- Medieval Studies
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- **Portuguese**
- Psychology
- Public Health
- Public Policy
- Religion
- **Russian**
- Social Work
- **Spanish**
- Women’s & Gender Studies

### Fine Arts
- Art
- **Dance**
- Music
- **Theater Arts**
Exploring Majors

These pages offer SUGGESTIONS for planning your fall schedule; they are not prescribed schedules and can vary to accommodate your interests. The first row color corresponds to the academic areas listed on the previous page.

We’ve also included grids for students planning to transfer to the School of Nursing and School of Engineering. Students planning to transfer to the School of Pharmacy should follow the Life Sciences grid.

You should explore the majors in which you’re interested by requesting a course or two within that department. Some majors require courses offered by academic departments other than the major; that information is noted in italics in each grid; recommendations for specific majors are noted by an asterisk (*).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science, Technology &amp; Mathematics</th>
<th>Life Sciences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing Course per placement (4-9 cr.)</td>
<td>Writing Course per placement (4-9 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calculus I for Math &amp; Physical Sciences (4 cr.)</td>
<td>General Chemistry (4 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course for major exploration (3 cr.)*</td>
<td>Calculus I (4 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature course/Elective (3-4 cr.) - See pages 6-7</td>
<td>Signature course/Elective (3-4 cr.) - See pages 6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byrne Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
<td>Byrne Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Interest Group Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
<td>First-Year Interest Group Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Specific courses, by major:</strong></td>
<td>Review the Health Professions Office website at hpo.rutgers.edu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science: Intro to Computer Science 111 or Computer Science 110</td>
<td><strong>A note about Biology:</strong> General Biology at Rutgers requires that students have a minimum placement of Expository Writing and PreCalculus. International students should speak with an adviser about their unique timeline for taking General Biology, based on your writing placement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology &amp; Informatics: Calculus not required.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics or Statistics/Mathematics: Intro to Computers 110 or Intro to Computer Science 111</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other majors, request courses within the department on the Course Request Form.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transfer to School of Nursing</th>
<th>Transfer to School of Engineering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing Course per placement (4-9 cr.)</td>
<td>Writing Course per placement (4-9 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics I</td>
<td>General Chemistry for Engineers (3 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro to Sociology</td>
<td>Analytical Physics 1A (2 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives in History, Political Science, or Anthropology</td>
<td>Calculus I for Math &amp; Physical Sciences (4 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byrne Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
<td>Byrne Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Interest Group Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
<td>First-Year Interest Group Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>For summer: Anatomy &amp; Physiology</strong></td>
<td><strong>For spring: Engineering Orientation Lecture</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Course Options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undecided and Exploring</strong></td>
<td>Writing Course per placement (4-9 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course for major exploration (3 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course for major exploration (3-4 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Signature course/Elective (3-4 cr.) - See pages 6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Byrne Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First-Year Interest Group Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Make selections from your department(s) of interest on the course request form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Sciences &amp; Humanities</strong></td>
<td>Writing Course per placement (4-9 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course for major exploration (3 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course for major exploration (3 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Signature course/Elective (3-4 cr.) - See pages 6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Byrne Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First-Year Interest Group Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Make selections from your department(s) of interest on the course request form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fine Arts</strong></td>
<td>Writing Course per placement (4-9 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course for major exploration (3 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course for major exploration (3 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Signature course/Elective (3-4 cr.) - See pages 6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Byrne Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First-Year Interest Group Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Contact the appropriate MGSA department in the summer regarding portfolio review or audition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Business &amp; Communication</strong></td>
<td>Writing Course per placement (4-9 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course for major exploration (3 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course for major exploration (3-4 cr.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Signature course/Elective (3-4 cr.) - See pages 6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Byrne Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First-Year Interest Group Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Recommendations for specific majors:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pre-business: Math course by placement and Intro to Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exercise Science—Sport Management: Intro to Communication or Intro to Media Systems &amp; Processes, General Psychology or Intro to Sociology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*A note about Economics: Economics courses at Rutgers require that students have a minimum placement of Expository Writing and Calculus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transfer to School of Business</strong></td>
<td>Writing Course per placement (4-9 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intro to Business (3 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Calculus I (4 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Signature course/Elective (3-4 cr.) - See pages 6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Byrne Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First-Year Interest Group Seminar (1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*A note about Economics: Economics courses at Rutgers require that students have a minimum placement of Expository Writing and Calculus.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Special Signature Course for International Students

**Extinction (Anthropology)** - "Extinction" uses an interdisciplinary approach to examine extinction as a biological and cultural process, and probes the significance of such processes for humans around the globe. International students also take a 1-credit Writing & Reading in Extinction course to support their understanding of course material without adding extra assignments.

*Extinction is highlighted in yellow on the course request form and can meet 21C, NS and HST goals.*

### Other SAS Signature courses

*Signature courses are foundational courses taught by award-winning instructors*

- Once Upon a Time: Why We Tell Stories (English)
- Conservation (Geography)
- Sea Change: Rise & Fall of Sea Level & the Jersey Shore (Geology)
- Energy & Climate Change (Interdisciplinary)

What is an Elective? **An elective is a course that does not fulfill a requirement within a student’s major, minor, or SAS Core, but earns credit toward graduation. All students need electives to graduate.**

The Course Request form includes over 200 classes; as you review the form, you’ll start to notice that topics in which you may be interested are sometimes found in unexpected places.

To get you started, we’ve created some groupings here to illustrate that topics might be found in unexpected places on the Course Request Form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Art &amp; Arts</th>
<th>Music</th>
<th>Health Professions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baroque Magnificence (Art History)</td>
<td>History &amp; Culture of Hip Hop (American Studies)</td>
<td>Intro to Human Evolution (Anthropology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Drama &amp; Performing Arts (Chinese)</td>
<td>Popular Music in the US (History)</td>
<td>Being Human (Comparative Literature)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theater of France (French)</td>
<td>Intro to Music Theory (Music)</td>
<td>Science &amp; Society (History)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian Opera (Italian)</td>
<td></td>
<td>General Psychology (Psychology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art &amp; Visual Culture of the Caribbean (Latino Studies)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Death &amp; Afterlife (Religion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sociology of Medicine &amp; Health Care (Sociology)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Film & Cinema Studies**
- Black Experience & Film Medium (Africana Studies)
- Israeli Film (Jewish Studies)
- Plantation to the White House (History)
- American Government (Political Science)
- Minority Groups in American Society (Sociology)

**Law, Justice, Politics**
- Naguib Mahfouz’s Egypt (AMESALL)
- Intro to Criminal Justice (Criminal Justice)
- Current Moral & Social Issues (Philosophy)
- Intro to Ethics (Philosophy)
- Law & Politics (Political Science)
- General Psychology (Psychology)
- Intro to Religious Social Patterns (Religion)
- Intro to Social Justice (Social Justice)
- Intro to Sociology (Sociology)
- Social Analysis of Social Problems (Sociology)

**Business**
- Intro to Microeconomics (Economics)
- Intro to Ethics (Philosophy)
- Intro to International Relations (Political Science)
- General Psychology (Psychology)
- Intro to Labor Studies & Employment (Labor Studies)
- Work & Society (Labor Studies)
- Development of the Labor Movement (Labor Studies)

Also consider studying a foreign language!

**Technology & Data**
- Intro to Computers & Their Applications (Computer Science)
- Science & Society (History)
- Information Technology & Informatics (ITI)

**The Power of Language**
- Language & Society of Africa, Middle East & South Asia (AMESALL)
- Intro to Linguistic Anthropology (Anthropology)
- Language, Power & the Power of Language (Arts & Sciences)
- Language & Identity in Modern China (Chinese)
- Being Human (Comparative Literature)
- Literature Across Borders: Hate (Comparative Literature)
- The World in France—France in the World (French)
- Intro to Linguistic Theory (Linguistics)

**Current Events**
- The Contemporary American (American Studies)
- The Cultural History of Now (English)
- France in the World—the World in France (French)
- Plantation to the White House (History)
- Intro to Modern Middle East (Middle Eastern Studies)
- Work & Society (Labor Studies)

**Global Climate Change**
- Global Climate System (Geography)
- Sea Change: Rise & Fall of Sea Level & the Jersey Shore (Geology)
- Energy & Climate Change (Interdisciplinary)
- Conservation (Geography)

**Literature**
- Offerings in Comparative Literature and English, plus:
  - Classical Literature of Africa, Middle East & South Asia (AMESALL)
  - Intro to the Literatures of Africa (AMESALL)
  - Chinese Literary Writings (Chinese Studies)
  - Major French Writers in Translation: Desire in Literature (French)
  - A-Bomb Literature & Film in Japan (Japanese)
  - Modern Jewish Culture: Key Texts & their Afterlives (Jewish Studies)
  - Korean Literature in Translation (Korean)
  - Intro to the Bible I: Torah and Prose (Religion)
  - New Testament (Religion)
Next Steps:

1. **Ask questions!** Contact us via email or Live Chat (sasundergrad.rutgers.edu) this summer.

2. **Placement Tests:** if you haven’t already, please take the Math and English placement tests. (oirap.rutgers.edu/testplace.html)

3. **Send us your information:** please be sure to have any AP/IB scores, A-levels, and prior college courses to us.

4. **Look for email on August 20:** your schedule will be released online on August 20th and we will email you with directions on how to access it.

5. **Attend International Student Orientation on August 29:** as part of the orientation, you will have a presentation by a first year dean. We will remind you of the degree requirements and discuss your schedule with you.

Thinking ahead to the fall....

- You will have the option to make changes during add/drop in the first week of classes. Plan to attend a Registration Workshop during Fall Orientation to learn more about that process.
- Many college students struggle in their first year. We have resources on campus to help you to study more effectively and manage your time more productively. Plan to visit an academic coach or attend a workshop at the Rutgers Learning Centers (rlc.rutgers.edu) in your first semester!