

# SophomOrientation 2015

## Friday, September 7 - Sunday, September 9

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3 pm - 4:30	Academic Coffee House with Faculty and Students	Goodrich
7 pm - 9 pm	Welcome Back! Wings from The Forge Class Gift Distribution Class Banner signing	The Log

### Saturday, September 8

2 pm - 3:30 pm	Future Planning Panel -JA Study Abroad Junior Year on Campus	'62 Center
4pm	Capture the Flag?	
10pm - 2am	2015 Black light Party!	Greylock

### Saturday, September 9

7pm - 9pm	Campfire/Summer Stories	Poker Flats
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2015: Welcome to your Sophomore Fall!

Sophomore year is an exciting time. You can find the dining hall without any help, you know all the popular spots on Spring Street, and you're figuring out what you want to get out of your next three years at Williams. Enjoy every moment of it!

Sophomore year is also a time when you have to make some very important decisions. You need to declare a major by the end of the year. Do you want to study away? Do you want to write a thesis? Do you want to apply to be a Junior Advisor? This handbook is intended to provide some helpful information that will allow you to make these decisions more easily. Forget about the Sophomore Slump. This is YOUR year!

This booklet started out as a cooperative effort of the members of the Gargoyle Society, the Senior Advisors, and the Office of Special Academic Programs. This year's version was produced and updated by the 2012 SophomOrientation Committee. In determining what information would be useful in a guide like this, upperclassmen were asked what advice they wished they had been given during their sophomore year. We've tried to combine the advice from students who have been in your shoes before with the optimism of the students who are looking forward to spending their second year at Williams alongside you.

This book is not by any means a comprehensive volume with all the information you'll ever need about sophomore year. Obviously, you need the course catalogue to choose courses, and we don't have as much information about fellowships and summer jobs as the Director of Fellowships and the Office of Career Counseling. This booklet will provide the essential information you need to be familiar with during your second year at Williams College. The Sophomore Handbook's helpful tips and valuable guidance will illuminate and demystify the various steps you need to take in order to make the most of your college career.

We hope you find this guide useful, and we wish you the best in your sophomore year and beyond.

Sincerely,

*Your SophomOrientation 2015 Committee*

# Major Decisions

## Choosing a Major

When you pre-register for the classes you will take in your junior year during the spring of your sophomore year, you will be asked to declare a major. If you've already decided on a major, it's worth taking advantage of sophomore year to try new things and make sure that it is the right major for you.

“Don't get locked into a major too soon.”

- Chemistry Major

“Don't limit yourself to just your major – be willing to try other departments.”

- History/Biology Double Major

If you haven't already decided on a major, don't panic. You still have lots of time to experiment and see what you want to do (and lots of opportunities to get advice). Plenty of students don't know what they want to major in by the end of their sophomore year. Some change majors several times before they graduate.

## Questions to consider as you choose your major:

- Will you be able to fulfill your major's requirements and your other distribution requirements? This is usually not a problem for sophomores, but it could potentially be a problem for juniors and seniors interested in changing majors or adding a second major. Think about this carefully and plan your schedule accordingly.
- Will there be a conflict between your major and a concentration or another major you are interested in? You should consult the Course Bulletin and speak with faculty in these specific departments.
- How does this major fit in with your study abroad ambitions? For some students, studying abroad can be difficult depending on the major. Every major at Williams can go abroad so long as students take the right courses.

**Choose your prefixes wisely.** You may enroll in certain courses under multiple prefixes. Students are asked to choose which prefix they would like the course to count under (for example, PSCI or LEAD). Changing the prefix after the fact (to have it count for a major, let's say) will cost \$25 in a late registration fee.

## Majors, Grad Schools, and...Jobs?

Keep in mind that some grad schools and professions require certain undergraduate coursework. Visit individual departments and your advisors for more detailed info.

“Once you have an idea of what major or post-grad goals you have, seek some faculty member out to advise you-- not necessarily an official advisor, but someone you can talk to about both the major and post-grad plans.”

3 - Biology Major

Even if you know you want to go into a given profession, you don't necessarily have to major in something directly related. Not all lawyers were Political Science or Economics majors, for example. If you really loved the religion or psychology course you took last year, it's worth taking the time to look at the course descriptions for the major in the course catalog and talking to other students who have chosen those majors.

## Changing Your Mind

Even after you have chosen a major, you aren't necessarily locked into it. It is possible to change majors after your sophomore year. All you have to do is fill out the Major Declaration form found in the Registrar's Office with your new major and have your faculty advisor sign it: <http://www.williams.edu/Registrar/petitions/Major.pdf>

I changed my major from psychology to economics after a summer experience before my senior year!  
-Econ Major

You should keep in mind that in some cases, majors require certain courses to be taken in sequence. For this reason, you should think about which classes you'll need to take before you graduate and draw up potential three-year plans when choosing courses. Some courses are offered only every other year, and professors go on leave. If there's a course you need to graduate, don't assume it will be offered your senior spring.

In this matter, as in many others, the Course Bulletin is an invaluable resource. In addition to listing all the courses offered in a particular academic year, it includes descriptions of the requirements for every major, descriptions and statements of purpose from every department, and listings of courses to be offered the following year. A good way to find out what you're interested in is simply to take an afternoon and read through the catalog. It also includes inspirational writings from Williams's presidents past and present, as well as the academic qualifications of all of your professors. It's a good read lounging on Chapin Beach.

To see the 2011-2012 Course Catalog: <http://catalog.williams.edu>

## Double Majoring

A double major can be a good opportunity to explore two divisions or different disciplines within the same division. For some students, double majoring presents a unique way to specialize in two separate areas that are related.

"Double majoring has given me the opportunity to integrate two courses of study to suit my particular interest in American art and culture. Because one of my majors is interdisciplinary, I have never felt limited or 'locked in' to any particular field."

-Art History/American Studies Major

Double majoring can also be limiting. Each student only takes 32 courses and four Winter Studies at Williams, and double

majoring usually means that at least 18 of the courses will be taken up by the requirements of the two majors. Keep in mind that **courses cannot be “double counted” if the same course is**

“I wish I had majored in one and taken a lot of courses in the other, but used the open slots from not double majoring to take courses in Political Science, Art History, or History.”

-Religion/Anthropology Major

**an elective for both majors.** This can limit a student’s academic scope and flexibility to choose courses and can also make fulfilling distribution requirements more burdensome. However, some majors and concentrations allow one course to give credit for both fields. Check with your major and concentration and our “Programs, Concentrations, Clusters” section for more information.

For some double majors, particularly those for whom one major is interdisciplinary (like Asian Studies or American Studies), these limitations are not so severe. For students who are really interested in two disciplines, double majoring can be an enjoyable and academically rewarding experience. It is important, though, to consider what you will sacrifice (along with what you will gain) in order to determine if it’s the right course of study for you.

“Think very seriously about why you plan to double major or concentrate. Don’t do it if your answer is ‘because it wouldn’t hurt.’ You might as well just take the classes you want.”

- Psychology Major

## **Contract Majors**

There are a few students each year who don’t find a major that fits their intellectual and academic needs. Contract majors combine interdisciplinary study with initiative in creating an academically viable course of study. Because the contract major is an unusual opportunity to combine interdisciplinary interests, contract majors can’t double major. If you’re interested, check the College Bulletin and/or contact Dean Toomajian (the contract major advisor).

### **Proposing a Contract Major: The Timeline**

1. *Beginning of sophomore year*: start researching your options! In particular, they should contact potential faculty sponsors and consult with Dean Toomajian, who is the contract major advisor.
2. *End of Winter Study*: preliminary proposal ready.
3. *4<sup>th</sup> Week of Spring Semester*: full proposal due to Dean Toomajian and the CEP.

Consult the College Bulletin for the formal procedure.

### **Requirements for a Proposing a Contract Major:**

- 2 faculty sponsors who will be willing to take an active role in the student’s contract major
- 2 alternate faculty sponsors

- A full proposal to be submitted to the contract major advisor and the CEP (Committee on Educational Policy) for approval by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> week of spring semester. The proposal includes:
  - a description of the contract major,
  - endorsement forms from the faculty sponsors,
  - a list of the courses that will be taken
  - an explanation of how each course fits into the proposed major
  - a list of other courses taken to meet distribution requirements

The CEP's standards are high; only the strongest proposals are approved.

## Choosing Courses

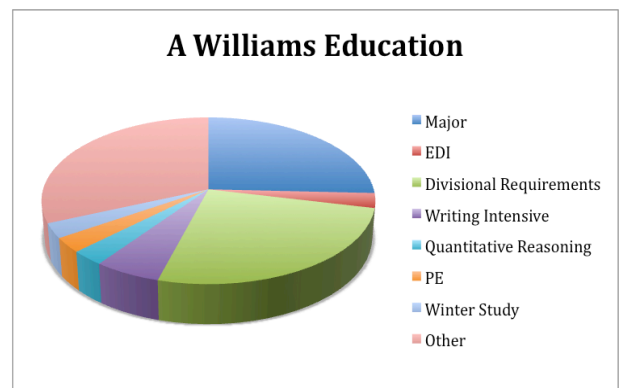
Keep in mind that to be eligible for the Bachelor of Arts degree, you must:

- pass 32 regularly graded semester courses
- receive grades of C minus or higher in at least 19 of those semester courses
- pass four Winter Study Projects
- fulfill the distribution requirement
- complete all requirements for the major including an average of C minus or higher
- complete the PE requirement

### Distribution Requirements

Every student must have a major and meet distribution requirements. This means meeting the requirements for:

- A major, usually 9 or 10 courses in one field
- A four-part distribution requirement including:
  - The divisional requirement
  - One graded semester course in the Exploring Diversity Initiative
  - Two graded Writing Intensive courses
  - One graded quantitative/formal reasoning course



### The Divisional Requirement

The divisional requirement specifies that each student must take 3 graded semester courses from each of the 3 divisions into which courses are divided at Williams, with **2 in each division completed by the end of sophomore year**. The courses used to meet the divisional requirement must be from at least two different subjects in each division. In practical terms, this means that no more than two of the three courses used to satisfy a divisional requirement might have the same course prefix.

Divisions are designated for each department in the Courses of Instruction and the College Bulletin, or in the course description for certain courses.

These divisional requirements are indeed minimal, and some students are content with satisfying the minimum. But we're Williams students, so further exposure to the range of the curriculum in patterns that seem to make sense in light of your interests and abilities is the way to go. For example, you may want to cluster some of your course work outside your major, especially after the first year. There may be electives that would reinforce or complement other lines of inquiry you are already pursuing. In many areas, there are formal programs that facilitate this complementary work (for example: Science and Technology Studies, Jewish Studies, and Latino Studies, etc.). Other interesting and productive connections are not always obvious and you may need to explore with faculty what courses in other departments or divisions would best reinforce your major interest.

You may also have the opposite need: to find a course that taps a hitherto undeveloped interest or challenges a settled point of view. In particular, you may need encouragement to take some curricular risks and to experiment with subjects for which you had no prior preparation in high school or with subjects that you have prematurely written off as outside your strengths-- think lab sciences, mathematics, foreign languages, or studio art. Keep in mind that you have come to college to develop and grow: deepen your grasp of the already familiar and to open yourself to experiences that are completely unfamiliar.

Again, **choose your prefixes wisely**. You may enroll in certain courses under multiple prefixes. Students are asked to choose which prefix they would like the course to count under (for example, PSCI or LEAD). Changing the prefix after the fact (to have it count for a major or divisional requirement, let's say) will cost \$25 in a late registration fee.

## **The Exploring Diversity Initiative Requirement**

### **Goals of the EDI**

- study groups, cultures, and societies as they interact with and challenge each other
- give you the tools to understand cultural differences
- lay the **groundwork for a life-long engagement** with the diverse cultures, societies, and histories throughout the world

### **Details and Requirements**

- You must complete ONE EDI course before you graduate, but it's suggested that you finish it by the end of sophomore year
- A course taken for EDI credit can also count as your divisional credit
- EDI courses are designated "D" in the College Bulletin
- You can use the course catalog to search exclusively for EDI courses

There are a LOT of ways to get an EDI class under your belt: by studying one culture inside and out, comparing multiple cultures, or exploring how thoughts and emotions have

resulted in different actions. They fall in one (or more) of the five categories outlined below. You get to pick the class most attractive to you, so go check them out!

**1. Comparative Study of Cultures and Societies:** These courses focus on the differences and similarities between cultures and societies, and/or on the ways in which cultures, peoples, and societies have interacted and responded to one another in the past.

**2. Empathetic Understanding:** These courses explore diverse human feelings, thoughts, and actions by recreating the social, political, cultural, and historical context of a group in order to imagine why within that context, those beliefs, experiences, and actions of the group emerged.

**3. Power and Privilege:** These courses link issues of diversity to economic and political power relations, investigating how cultural interaction is influenced by various structures, institutions, or practices that enable, maintain, or mitigate inequality among different groups.

**4. Critical Theorization:** These courses focus on ways scholars theorize the possibilities of cross-cultural understanding and interaction; they investigate the ways that disciplines and paradigms of knowledge both constitute “difference” and are reconfigured by the study of diversity-related questions.

**5. Cultural Immersion:** In various ways these courses immerse students in another culture and give them the tools with which to understand that culture from the inside. They include those foreign language courses that explicitly engage in the self-conscious awareness of cultural and societal differences, traditions, and customs as an integral aspect of language study.

**A note on the EDI:** The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) is reviewing the EDI requirement this year. There is also a Students Against Silence task force that is investigating how to make the EDI more engaging and effective. Please email Erica Moszkowski at elm3 with specific suggestions!

### EDI and Study Abroad

You can get EDI credit while studying abroad. Here’s what you have to do:

- submit a petition **before** their departure proposing EDI credit for:
  - a particular course on their program
  - particular experiences (such as independent research or a home stay)
  - a specific language training program you will undertake while abroad.
- In the petition, you must describe how you believe your proposed study abroad experience will meet one or more of the goals of the EDI.
- The petition will be considered by the Director of the EDI working in concert with the Committee on Academic Standing.



## Physical Education

Don't forget PE! You may be relieved that the graduation requirement is only 4 PE credits (it used to be 8). However, this requirement needs to be satisfied **by the end of sophomore year**. By completing them this year, you'll spare yourself possible future headaches with registration conflicts and study abroad requirements.

### **Sports/Dance and PE Credits:**

- Varsity Fall or Spring sport: 2 credits
- Varsity Winter sport: 3 credits
- Club sport: up to 2 credits
- Dance group: up to 2 credits
- WOOLF Leader: 1 credit

A maximum of three credits may be attained while participating in intercollegiate sports, with the exception of a two-sport athlete who can fulfill the physical education requirement by totaling four units in two sports.

### **Have some fun (and earn PE credit!) in these areas:**

Badminton	Paddle Tennis
Basketball	Rock Climbing
Bicycling	Rowing
Broomball	Ski Patrol
Canoeing	Skiing (Alpine and Cross Country)
Core Training	Snowboarding
Dance (African, Ballet, Modern, Hip Hop)	Soccer
Diving	Spinning
Figure Skating	Squash
Fly Fishing	Swimming
Golf	Tennis
Horseback Riding	Trail Crew
Ice Climbing	Volleyball
Kayaking	Water Aerobics
Martial Arts	Weight Training
Method Matwork (Pilates based)	Wilderness Leadership
Mountain Biking	Women's Self Defense
Muscle Fitness	Yoga

## **Interdisciplinary Studies: Programs, Concentrations, and Clusters**

In recent years, the interest in interdisciplinary studies has increased dramatically at both colleges and universities. The traditional disciplines, each represented administratively by a department (like the English Department or the Chemistry Department) have therefore been coupled with interdisciplinary programs, so called because such programs cut across

disciplinary boundaries and offer students a formal structure within which to study topics that involve two or more disciplines. Exactly what defines such a program, and what its relationship is to the curriculum as a whole, varies widely from school to school.

Every *department* at Williams offers a major (except for Dance). In contrast, most of our *programs* offer a “concentration,” which is a coherent set of courses deemed to provide for students a significant understanding of an interdisciplinary area without requiring students to commit to the number of courses and requirements that a major entails. However, 4 programs do offer majors. In addition, some language departments offer certificates.

**Concentrations:**

- Africana Studies
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Cognitive Studies
- Environmental Studies
- International Studies
- Neuroscience
- Science and Technology Studies
- Jewish Studies
- Latino/a Studies
- Leadership Studies
- Legal Studies
- Maritime Studies

**Program Majors:**

- American Studies
- Comparative Literature (formerly Literary Studies)
- Political Economy
- Women’s and Gender Studies

**Language Certificates:**

- German
- French
- Spanish
- Russian

No program has ever been allowed to offer both a major and a concentration; this comes too close to making a concentration look like a kind of minor, and debates about minors at Williams have always ended in the defeat of any proposal to institute them. So programs have to decide: concentration or major, but not both. Departments, which have always offered majors, have not and may not also offer concentrations.

One important thing to note about concentrations: some do permit a certain number of their courses to be “double counted”: to fulfill the criteria for both your major and the concentration. This option exists only for certain concentrations (check the Course Catalog) and doesn’t apply to double majoring: no course may be counted towards more than one major.

**Guidelines and Suggestions**

Broaden your curricular horizons: experiment with new fields!

Although your choice of courses will reflect your interests and background, keep in mind that a liberal arts education involves expanding your breadth of knowledge. Your first two years, in particular, are the time to experiment by trying new fields and exposing yourself to a

wide range of disciplines. For some, this is the only chance to do this sort of intellectual exploration, so grab it.

What opportunities for experimentation does the curriculum offer you? That depends on the strengths you have already established. For example, you may excel in analytical thinking; testing out your artistic skills might be a curricular challenge. If you have never tried a laboratory science, now is the time to do so. Likewise, if you have never had the opportunity to investigate cultures, values, and belief systems fundamentally different from your own, your course of study at Williams provides the occasion to do so.

Choose courses that will help you with particular skills!

Many courses at Williams are designed to help students develop their critical and analytical skills-- the abilities students need to become better readers, writers, and logical thinkers. Students are encouraged to take at least one course that focuses on these skills early in their career at Williams, so if you didn't take such a course last year, now's the time. Go through the Course Catalog and pay particular attention to courses that focus on developing fundamental skills.

Writing-Intensive courses at Williams are designated in the catalog by a (W) following the course's title and are listed together at the end of the College Bulletin. We'd also like to draw your attention to the courses that have been designated part of **Williams's Critical Reasoning and Analytical Skills (CRAAS)**.

As well as covering interesting subject matter, CRAAS courses stress the teaching of process: analysis of ideas, data, texts, or artworks; interpretation, synthesis and development of argument; and presentation of ideas and results. They pay especially strong attention to writing and/or preparing oral presentations.

Pursue Modern Foreign Language Study

Studying the language of a foreign culture can be an incredibly enriching and valuable experience. It's never too late to start. Whether or not you think you may want to major in a department focusing on a foreign language, foreign language study can enrich other majors or concentrations and is absolutely vital to some. In addition, many study abroad programs require foreign language study at the college level, graduate programs in a number of fields have foreign language requirements, and job opportunities in business, foreign service, and other areas can be substantially improved for those who can demonstrate some proficiency in a foreign language. In addition to our language departments, the **Critical Languages program** offers the opportunity to study other languages in a largely independent format: **Hebrew, Hindi, Korean, Swahili, and Intermediate Arabic**. If you are considering studying a language in the Critical Languages program during your junior year, you'll need to make the arrangements during the spring of your sophomore year.

For more information on the Critical Languages program, please see its listing in the Course Bulletin or contact the coordinator, Jane Canova, at (413) 597-2392.

**Take a Tutorial**

The Tutorial Program offers Williams students a distinctive opportunity to take on more responsibility for their own intellectual development. Tutorials place greater emphasis than regular courses (or even small seminars) on student participation.

Tutorials are typically limited to ten students. At the start of term, the instructor divides the students into pairs. Each pair meets weekly with the instructor for about one hour. Many tutorial courses begin and end the term with a group seminar, and in a few departments, instructors hold weekly group meetings of all tutorial members to provide background information designed to facilitate the students' independent work. But the heart of every tutorial course is the weekly meeting of the two students with the instructor.

At these weekly meetings, one student delivers a prepared essay or presentation (an analysis of a text or work of art, a discussion of a problem set, a report on laboratory exercises, etc.) pertaining to the assignment for that week, while the other student, and then the instructor, provide a critique. In the following week, students switch roles. Typically, students write five or six essays (usually in the range of four to eight pages each) during the term, and prepare five or six critiques of their partner's work.

Since the program's inception in 1988, students have ranked tutorials among the most demanding, yet rewarding, courses they have taken at Williams. Students have consistently placed tutorials among the most enriching and consequential courses they have enrolled in. They have appreciated the close attention to their writing and argumentation skills; the opportunity to be held accountable, in a detailed way, for the extended implications of their ideas; the chance to develop their oral abilities as they engage in debate; and the close intellectual bonds tutorials build between teachers and students, and students with each other. Many students have formed important advising and mentoring relationships with their tutorial teachers.

For general information, advice or questions contact Professor Stephen Fix, Tutorial Program Director for 2012 - 2013 at [Stephen.E.Fix@williams.edu](mailto:Stephen.E.Fix@williams.edu).

**BALANCE** your course load and your life.

Courses have different paces and intensities of work. Language courses and science courses usually demand the most time throughout the semester, but courses with final papers can take up a great deal of time, somewhat overwhelmingly, in the last few weeks of the semester. Expectations for a course are stated in their descriptions in the Course Catalog. Read these descriptions carefully and talk to the professors if you have any questions.

**DON'T** prioritize your classes over your own happiness. Remember why you are at Williams: to learn and to grow. This growth comes from an investment in your coursework and in the many moments shared with friends, going to concerts, taking part in activities or clubs on campus, or sipping on a hot cup of coffee at the Goodrich Coffee Bar. Don't limit yourself to one type of growth.

# Upcoming Decisions

So much to choose, so little time! During your sophomore year, you will have to make a variety of decisions about your junior year. While it may seem intense to be thinking so far ahead, we want you to be ready for them—a little thought will go a long way when it comes to successfully executing your junior year plans.

## Study Abroad

### Here's What You Need To Do:

By the end of sophomore year, you must have:

- Completed at least two out of three distribution requirements in each division by the end of sophomore year.
- Completed one writing intensive course if you are studying away for one semester, two if you are studying away for a year.
- Declared your major and discuss your plan to study abroad with the chair of the department or designated advisor.
- Met the language requirements for Williams and the program in question (see below).
- Completed all four physical education credits by the end of sophomore year.

“The best piece of advice I got at Williams was to go abroad my junior year. It’s not that the academic offerings are better at foreign institutions, but it is good to see what else there is in the world.”

- History and Asian Studies Major

### Language Requirements for Studying Away:

- Most programs require students to have a working knowledge of the appropriate language. Many require two years, or five semesters, of college level work or the equivalent.
- If you begin a language while studying abroad, the **“hyphen rule”** applies: you must continue the language when you return to Williams (if that language is offered).
  - Exceptions to the “hyphen rule”:
    - If you receive an exemption from the Committee for Academic Standing because of a competing need and pressing schedule conflict or other academic reasons
    - If you complete the equivalent of 102 while abroad, if possible.
    - If you study language abroad at a higher level, where there is no hyphen in the catalogue (such as RLFR 103), there is no language requirement on returning to Williams.

If you have any questions, be sure to contact the Dean of Study Abroad, Dean McKeon, at [Laura.B.McKeon@williams.edu](mailto:Laura.B.McKeon@williams.edu).

## Planning Major Requirements Around Study Abroad:

Careful planning is essential to those who wish to study abroad and complete a major during their four years at Williams.

“Choose a program where you can get credit towards your major, since it is really hard to finish otherwise.”

-Latin American Studies Contract Major

Most departments will accept one to three credits towards your major from studying abroad. Check with your department (or prospective department) to find out which study abroad programs meet with the department’s approval.

## **If you want to study abroad and are thinking of doing a thesis:**

Some departments require approval of thesis topics in the spring of junior year. If you’re planning to be away until the fall of senior year and want to do a thesis, you will need to plan and perhaps communicate with your department while you’re abroad.

Start thinking about a thesis topic and talking to potential advisors.

“My sophomore year, a professor in the history department advised me to select a preliminary topic for my thesis before leaving to go abroad for my junior year. I could collect material while in Europe, which turned out to be very beneficial.”

- History and German Literature Major

## **If you are completing any pre-health sequences and want to study abroad:**

“With careful planning, it is possible to study abroad and complete the pre-med requirements by the end of senior year. In other words, simply because you are pre-med, don’t let that prevent you from studying abroad.”

- Biology Major

Be especially careful in planning your sophomore, junior, and senior years. Be sure to talk to the health professions advisor, Jane Cary ([Jane.D.Cary@williams.edu](mailto:Jane.D.Cary@williams.edu)), as you explore your options.

For additional study abroad

information, please see the Guide to Study Abroad, available from the Dean’s Office or Online, or contact the Study Abroad Coordinator, Dean Laura McKeon at (413) 597-4263.

## **Junior Advisor**

Every year, about fifty sophomores are selected to live in first-year housing as Junior Advisors. JAs are required to stay on campus for the entire year, including Winter Study. They are expected to provide valuable advice and support and be generally useful to students in their first year at Williams. Being a JA is hard work and you sacrifice a lot to do it, but many find the experience to be extremely rewarding. Some former JAs shared this advice:

“Do not have any expectations. If you go into JA-ing with a set idea of what it will be like, you may be disappointed.”

“I thought [being a Junior Advisor] was far and away the best thing I’ve done at Williams, but a large part of what made my experience so good was that I was willing to put in a lot of time.”

“I met 30 intriguing people who I would never have met otherwise, and with them experienced entirely new facets of Williams. JA-ing is really one of the best ways to deepen your bonds with the Williams community.”

**The application to be a JA consists of four parts:**

1. One-page self-recommendation
2. One-page peer recommendation
3. One-page recommendation from a current or former Junior Advisor
4. An interview, conducted during January or early February

Interested in being a JA? You can pick up an application packed at one of the several meetings that will be held in the fall. **Applications are due the first day of Winter Study.**

**The JA Selection Committee:**

- The JAs are chosen by the JA Selection Committee, which is comprised of members of the sophomore, junior, and senior classes, current JAs, former JAs, and non-JAs.
- If you don’t plan to apply to be a JA yourself, you can provide an invaluable service by nominating yourself to be on the Selection Committee. As a member of the sophomore class, you probably know more about each of the applicants than most of the other members of the committee and you can be especially helpful.

Interested in being on the Selection Committee? You will receive a mailing from the two chairs of the committee in the fall, inviting you to nominate yourself for the selection committee.

**The Williams-Exeter Program**

Williams offers a yearlong program of studies at Oxford University in cooperation with Exeter College, Oxford. Based at Ephraim Williams House, Williams-Exeter Program students are full undergraduate members of the University, eligible for access to virtually all of its facilities, libraries, and resources, and will thus enjoy full integration into the intellectual and social life of one of the world's great universities.

**Coursework:**

In addition to extensive opportunities to pursue British and Commonwealth Studies, the program also offers instruction in other fields for which Oxford is particularly noted or which are represented only marginally/infrequently in the Williams curriculum.

**Program requirements:**

Over the course of the three terms at Oxford, students are required to enroll in a minimum of FIVE tutorial courses (consisting of eight tutorial meetings and requiring the preparation of eight essays or their equivalent).

**The deadline for applying to the program is typically in early February.** Before you apply, you should also consult with the chair of your major's department.

For more information about the Oxford Program, please visit <http://www.williams.edu/dean/oxford/>.

## **The Williams-Mystic Program**

The William-Mystic Seaport Maritime Studies Program offers students a unique opportunity to explore the ocean, to travel the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf Coasts, and to undertake original research of your own design in the humanities and sciences. Four Williams courses are offered as an integrated, multidisciplinary curriculum in the semester-long program at Mystic Seaport, in Mystic, Connecticut.

### **Who can attend?**

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors can all attend! No sailing experience is necessary.

### **Credits you will receive:**

- A semester's credit
- one Winter Study requirement
- Writing Intensive course credit

### **Courses offered:**

- Maritime History
- Literature of the Sea
- Marine Policy
- either Marine Ecology or Oceanography.

### **Housing and Resources:**

- historic, cooperative, co-ed houses at Mystic Seaport, the world's largest maritime museum
- full access to world-class maritime collections, a maritime library, well-equipped laboratory, and diverse coastal habitats (where field research can be undertaken in a wide variety of environments, ranging from tide pools and salt marshes to sandy beaches and

estuaries).

### **Travel includes:**

- an offshore voyage on the open ocean sailing aboard a tall ship
- a seminar along the Pacific Coast
- a Louisiana seminar

All of these travel exercises are cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary.

### **Other perks:**

Students also participate in learning maritime skills under professional instruction, with choices such as:

- celestial navigation
- maritime art
- music of the sea
- boat building
- small boat handling and sailing

For more information, contact Williams-Mystic at [admissions@williamsmystic.org](mailto:admissions@williamsmystic.org) or go to

<http://www.williams.edu/williamsmystic/>.



## **The Williams in Africa Initiative**

Thanks to the Williams in Africa Review Committee, students can now participate in an academic program of experiential learning that will both teach them about South African politics, society, and development as well as cultivate their research skills for studying it in the field around the central issues of social justice. Students will encounter and learn about globalization from a perspective that is unfamiliar to most of our students-- one where opportunities for a better future struggle with realities of dramatically uneven levels of development and prosperity.

### **What's unique about the program:**

There will be a unifying seminar on contemporary social and political issues in South Africa that will bring Williams students together with **South African Parliamentarians** in a collaborative effort with the **Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI)**, which has a fifteen-year history working with Williams on South African capacity building.

### **Other perks:**

- take courses at the University of Cape Town
- take courses offered by the EPRI to members of the National Parliament and government officials from around the world
- combine coursework with research-oriented fieldwork and personal experience
- experience a society that is embedded in the global economy under challenging circumstances.

For more information, contact Paula Consolini at [Paula.M.Consolini@williams.edu](mailto:Paula.M.Consolini@williams.edu) or go to <http://www.williams.edu/admin/deanfac/exped/africa/seminar.htm>.

## **Winter Study 99's**

The Winter Study Program offers sophomores, juniors, and seniors the opportunity to pursue special independent projects of their own design, called 99's, which they have arranged with faculty sponsors and that take the place of regular Winter Study courses. The Winter Study 99 is the perfect route for exploration.

### **Past 99's:**

Students have...

- written novels
- undertaken in-depth studies of particular literary works
- interned in government offices
- assisted in foreign and domestic medical clinics
- conducted fieldwork in economics in developing countries



- given performances illustrating the history of American dance

99 forms are available online ([www.williams.edu/registrar/winterstudy/99direct.html](http://www.williams.edu/registrar/winterstudy/99direct.html)). **The deadline for submitting the proposals to faculty sponsors is late SEPTEMBER.** The sooner you begin thinking about your proposal and discussing it with potential faculty sponsors, the better.

“Although the Winter Study classes offered at Williams College are diverse and interesting, the opportunity to invent/create/structure one month devoted to one’s personal interest is an excellent chance to flex imagination, motivation, and inspiration.”

“If you are motivated, it is a great chance to try out what you think you want to do for a living, or to enrich your life in a way they you may not have time or inclination to do later.”

- Biology Major

-Geology and Math Double Major

“The key to 99 proposals is making them academic; whether you’re scuba diving or translating ancient texts, you’ve got to have an impressive bibliography and a definite schedule for each week.”

- American Studies Major

For guidelines and an excellent explanation of what makes a good 99:  
<http://www.williams.edu/registrar/winterstudy/good99.html>

### **Winter Study Travel Courses**

As a sophomore, you now have the opportunity to leave the Purple Bubble and take a traveling Winter Study course. These courses incorporate an intense experiential component in their coursework and can be incredibly rewarding. **Registration for Winter Study Travel courses will take place *prior* to the registration for other Winter Study courses.**

#### **WSP Travel Courses 2013**

**AFR 25 Touring Black Religion in the `New' South (Same as Religion 26)**  
 (James.Manigault-Bryant@williams.edu; Rhon.Manigault-Bryant@williams.edu)

**ARTH 25 Williams in NOLA: Recovery and Rebuilding in Post-Katrina New Orleans**  
 (james.samenfeldspecht@gmail.com)\*

**CHIN 25 Study Tour to Taiwan** (Cornelius.Kubler@williams.edu)

**CHEM 25 Paleoanthropology in Egypt (Same as ANTH 25)** (Anne.Skinner@williams.edu)

**COMP 25 Transnational Narratives on the Mexico-US Border (Same as LATS 25)**  
 (Armando.Vargas@williams.edu; Jane.Canova@williams.edu)

**ENVI 25 California Agriculture** (Henry.Art@williams.edu)

**GEOS 25 Field Geology in the Colorado Front Range-the Geologic Evolution of the Southern Rocky Mountains** (Reinhard.Wobus@williams.edu)

**INST 25 Art of Experience in Egypt: Visual Documentation of Journey and Encounter** (Julia.Morgan-Leamon@williams.edu)

**LEAD 25 Justice and Public Policy (Same as PSCI 15)** (Michael Keating; martha.coakley@state.ma.us)\*

**MATH 25 The History, Geography and Economics of the Wines of France** (Richard.DeVeaux@williams.edu)

**MUS 25 The Calusa Indians of Southern Florida: The Cultural Legacy and Inspiration of an Extinct Civilization** (Ileana.Perez-Velazquez@williams.edu)

**PSCI 25 Eye Care and Culture on the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua** (Robert.Peck@williams.edu)

**REL 25 Jerusalem: One City, Two Cultures, Three Faiths, Many Narratives** (Robert.Scherr@williams.edu)

**RUSS 25 Williams in Georgia (Same as SPEC 25)** (Julie.Cassiday@williams.edu)

**WGSS 25 Computer Trainings for HIV Positive Youth in Rural Uganda** (Kiaran.Honderich@williams.edu)

**SPEC 26 Teaching, Doctoring and Living With Refugees and Immigrants (Same as AMST 26 and HIST 26)** (jeffrey.thaler@maine.edu)\*

\*Indicates professors who may not be on campus.

**If you want to register for a WSP Travel Course as your first choice:**

After reading the descriptions and consulting with the instructor, if you decide that you would like to register for one of these courses as your first choice for a WSP project, **complete the required form no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, 27 September, 2012.**

**If you do not want to register for a WSP Travel Course as your first choice:**

If you decide that you do not want to register for a travel

“I went on a trip to Jerusalem for Winter Study in my sophomore year and I learned more about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in two weeks than I had in all of my studies. Also, since I wanted to be a JA, this was my only opportunity to study abroad.”  
- Music Major

course as a first choice, you do not have to do anything until Registration for other WSP courses, which will take place October 20-24 via SELFREG. If you do not get your first choice and want to try to get into a travel course as an alternate option, you can only be added to that course with the permission of the instructor and only if space is still available.

## Starting EARLY

### The Thesis: A Degree with Honors

Every department has its own requirements for Honors, and anyone interested in pursuing a degree with Honors should read a department's Bulletin entry for the details. However, nearly every department emphasizes the writing of a thesis as central to earning the degree with Honors.

"Thesising" is a time-honored ritual -- a semester or year-long intensive research project that culminates in an original thesis. Students wishing to write a thesis should find a member of the department's faculty to serve as their thesis advisor as soon as possible.

Most departments require students to submit a proposal for the thesis for department approval no later than pre-registration in the spring of the junior year. If their overall work in the major continues to be of high quality, other requirements are met, and the thesis is deemed worthy, they may be awarded Honors or Highest Honors.



### Should I do a thesis?

If you

- have something in particular you are interested in studying that is not offered by your department,
- are interested in doing original, independent research or study, or
- are interested in going to graduate school in your major,

then you should think about doing a thesis. Talk to the faculty and students doing a thesis in your department and ask around for advice and input!

*Keep in mind that nearly every department's thesis includes Winter Study. Winter Study of your junior year may well be your last regular Winter Study! Be sure that you're okay with this.*

### How do I initiate a thesis?

Even if you are not sure about doing a thesis, you should **contact the faculty** in your department to get advice and start getting to know them better. Most departments require you to submit a thesis proposal in the spring of your junior year, usually before the course registration period for the following year. **Be aware of your deadlines.**

## **How do I know what I'm going to be doing?**

Usually when you know you are interested in a particular field of study in your major, you should contact the professors that specialize in the field of study you are interested in and ask if you could learn more about what they do.

## **Can I do a joint thesis with two departments?**

Yes. Plenty of students have undertaken original thesis study with two departments.

## **Internships and Summer Research**

### **Resources at the Career Center**

The Office of Career Counseling is ready to help with your search for the best summer opportunities:

- Make an appointment with a career counselor to answer questions and to discuss your ideas for the summer by calling (413) 597-2311.
- Get information and attend workshops covering:
  - résumé and cover letter writing
  - interviewing
  - networking skills.
- Check out online databases like **The Experience** system, which offers several thousand internship and summer job listings in a database shared by 18 liberal arts colleges around the country.
- Apply for the Alumni Sponsored Internship Program (see below)
- Register for listserves to get e-mails specifically focused on what it is that you want.
- Look for the New Lephlet, a printed newsletter delivered to your mailbox every two weeks.

Check the OCC's website for a calendar of events and much, much more!

### **Alumni Sponsored Internship Program**

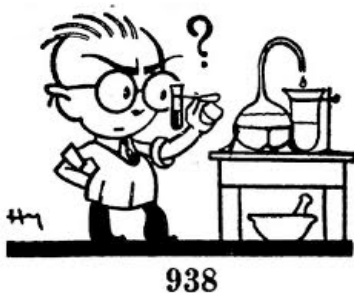
This program offers grants exclusively for sophomores and juniors exploring opportunities in a variety of fields. Each summer, the program provides funding for about 100 interns in **government, non-profit, and community service** sectors. The Williams Alumni Sponsored Internship Program enables students to perform a public service to organizations and work on special projects with an opportunity to gain experience, explore career fields, develop skills, and build a network.

If you plan on applying for Williams Alumni Sponsored Internship you **MUST** attend one of the Summer Starter Workshop. All summer starter sessions are held at the OCC in Mears House.

The OCC holds regular drop-in hours between 11:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

\*For more information about summer and post-graduate opportunities, visit the Office of Career Counseling website at <http://www.williams.edu/go/careers/>

## Summer Research Assistantships and Fellowships



There are various opportunities for students to work on research with faculty mentors during the summers and the academic year:

- **Division III** has an extensive summer research program in Bronfman, with approximately 150 students working as research assistants to faculty members.
- Faculty in **Divisions I and II** also utilize student research assistants. Interested students should approach faculty

members to find out about specific opportunities.

## **Mellon Mays Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Program and the Williams College Undergraduate Research Fellowship**

Williams also hosts two research programs intended to encourage students from groups underrepresented in academia to consider graduate school and academic employers. Both programs draw from the sophomore class and provide two years of support for students interested in research. Five of these positions are open to students who are African American, Latino/a, or Native American and who are interested in pursuing a doctorate degree in one of the humanities or certain natural and social sciences.



The College also funds five positions for students who are either First Generation college students or from underrepresented groups. During the following two school years and the summer between junior and senior years, fellows work under the supervision of faculty mentors. Stipends allow the research projects to replace summer and work-study jobs.

For more information on both and applications go to the Office of Special Academic Programs at <http://www.williams.edu/resources/osap/>

## **Graduate/Professional School**

If you think you may be interested in pursuing a doctorate or Masters degree in an academic discipline, your **professors are your best resource**.

For most professional schools (law, business, public policy, journalism) the OCC is the place to go. However, there are also specific individuals who offer advising for pre-health, pre-engineering, and teacher certification (see below).

Some professional schools require that you have taken a set of required coursework before you can apply, so **planning ahead is critical**. While many programs (such as law, business, education, journalism) do not have specific course requirements, it is necessary to look ahead and see what direction you think you might want to take.

Some schools look to see if students have a solid base in varied disciplines. For example, all majors will be expected to know how to write effectively, and some schools might look for a background in quantitative skills (math, economics, computer science), even from Division I majors.

### **The GRE**

For some graduate school applications, you'll need to take the GRE, which tests general critical thinking, analytical writing, verbal reasoning, and quantitative reasoning skills. Perhaps you will also need to take a subject-specific GRE, depending on particular grad schools' requirements. The general GRE is now offered year-round in a computer-based format that requires you to go to one of several designated sites. **The nearest general GRE location is in Albany.** For details about the general and subject-specific GRE's and test locations, see the GRE web page at [www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org).

To learn more about this program, contact Molly Magavern in the Office of Special Academic Programs at (413) 597-3747. Mailings are sent out to all eligible students toward the end of first semester.

### **Pre-Med and Health Professions Advising**

These eight semesters of core science are required by virtually every school:



- BIOL 101 and 102: The Cell, then The Organism
- CHEM 151 (or 153 or 155 with AP credit): Introduction to Physical Chemistry
- CHEM 156-251: Organic Chemistry
- CHEM 256: Advanced Introductory Physical Chemistry
- PHYS 131 (or 141), 132: Mechanics, then Electromagnetism and Optics

Most medical schools require two semesters of English and two semesters of college math (calculus or statistics). A number require biochemistry (BIO/CHEM 321 or 322). Introductory psychology or sociology is also a good idea.

Since requirements vary from school to school, it is important to consult with the Health Professions Office to ensure that your course planning coincides with the requirements of the schools that interest you.

**You don't have to major in the sciences if you are pre-med.** While many Williams pre-med students are bio or chem majors, students major in other divisions as well. Success rates in med school are essentially the same for students who majored in sciences as those who didn't.

As you complete the science courses, you can make plans to take the MCAT, the Medical College Admission Test, a standardized test required for application to almost every medical school in America. Many students take this test in April of their junior year. It must be taken a full year before you plan to begin medical school. **The application process takes over a year,** and about one third of recent Williams applicants have applied at the end of the junior year, hoping to matriculate immediately after college.

For more information, contact the Health Professions Office, Thompson Biology at (413) 597-2120, or Jane Cary at (413) 597-2598 or at [Jane.D.Cary@williams.edu](mailto:Jane.D.Cary@williams.edu).

## **Preparing for Engineering School**

Successful engineers need to be able to communicate effectively, reason logically, and understand both the technical and the social dimensions of a problem. Williams offers opportunities to acquire a strong grounding in science and mathematics, while also studying broadly in the humanities and social sciences.

A prospective **engineer** should major in one of the sciences and should plan to study at an engineering school after Williams. Williams students usually choose one of two ways to an engineering career:

1. B.A. from Williams + Engineering School

The most common way is to complete a B.A. at Williams in the normal four years, majoring in one of the sciences (usually physics, chemistry, computer science, or mathematics). Afterwards, the student goes to a graduate school for a Master's degree or doctorate in engineering. Our experience is that many of the best engineering graduate programs are eager to accept Williams students who have strong records in science courses.

2. The 3-2 Program:

An alternative method is the Combined Program in Liberal Arts and Engineering, also known as the 3-2 Program. A student can study at Williams for three years and then transfer to Columbia University for two years of engineering study. At the end of five years, the student receives both a B.A. from Williams and a B.S. in Engineering from Columbia. Please note that a 3-2 student must complete the Williams distribution requirements and a Williams major, earning a 3.0 GPA overall, as well as take several prerequisite courses. Careful planning is necessary to complete all of these requirements in three years. With approval of the chair of the major department, the student may receive credit toward his or her Williams major for engineering courses taken at Columbia.

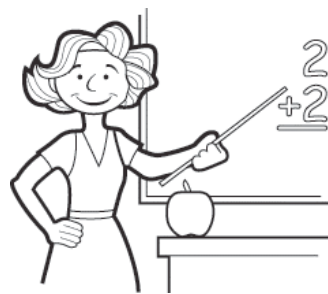
For advice, please contact the pre-engineering advisor, Professor Strait. He can be reached by e-mail at [Jefferson.Strait@williams.edu](mailto:Jefferson.Strait@williams.edu) or by phone at (413) 597-2008.



## Teaching Certification Program

Williams now offers teaching certification through a partnership program with Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. While fulfilling the requirements for a liberal arts major, students take certain education courses and then enroll in a post-B.A. semester at MCLA for the required supervised teaching practicum.

Interested students in teaching should contact Professor Susan Engel at (413) 597-4522.



## Preparing for Law School

Law schools don't require particular undergraduate courses, so Williams doesn't have a pre-law program. Law schools tend to look for successful, well-rounded students, and they will look at your LSAT scores and your grades, not necessarily your major.

The LSAT, the Law School Admission Test, required by essentially every American Law School, is offered four times per year (June, October, December, February) and registration deadlines are generally four to five weeks prior to the test date. You can find all the relevant info at [www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org).

Some students have found that taking courses like Constitutional Law, American Legal Philosophy, or the Philosophy of Law help them decide if law is something they would like to pursue, although those courses are not prerequisites for law schools. The Legal Studies concentration offers many resources to students interested in this field.

## Fellowships

### Academic Fellowships

While most fellowships available to Williams students are for seniors, there are a few for which sophomores and juniors may apply.

- The **Truman Scholarship** grants \$3,000 for senior year and up to \$27,000 for the first three years of graduate or professional study for juniors who are interested in a career in public service.
- The **Beinecke Scholarship** provides \$2,000 towards senior year and up to \$15,000 per year for the first two years of graduate school.
- Sophomores and juniors majoring in Division III disciplines are eligible for the **Goldwater Scholarship**, which grants up to \$7,000 for the final two years of college for students who intend to pursue math or physical sciences.

### Fellowships for Summer Study

- The **Student World Fellowship** is intended to support summer research by juniors studying abroad; under special circumstances, a sophomore may be allowed to apply. The World's

focus is on study that can promote conflict resolution, international understanding and world peace.

- The **Robert G. Wilmers Memorial Fellowship** provides support to juniors for summer research and travel.
- The **Nathaniel M. Lawrence Traveling Fellowship** provides support for summer study abroad, and the Linen Fellowship (administered by Asian Studies) grants money to Williams students for summer travel in Asia for educational purposes.

### **Post-Grad Fellowships**

Post-graduate fellowships are something else to begin thinking about. Applications for things like Rhodes and Fulbright scholarships, among many others, are due early in the fall of senior year. A bit of advanced thinking can be really useful in planning applications.

For fellowship information, contact Lynn Chick in the Fellowships Office at [Mary.Lynn.Chick@williams.edu](mailto:Mary.Lynn.Chick@williams.edu) and arrange a meeting. If you are at all curious about what fellowships are out there and what opportunities Williams offers, now is the time to begin your research.

## **Academic Resources**

In addition to your professors and First Year Advisor (who you actually must go back and see before registering for sophomore year classes!), there are some specific places where you can go for academic help. For any questions regarding Academic Resources, e-mail Joyce Foster, Director of Academic Resources, at [Joyce.P.Foster@williams.edu](mailto:Joyce.P.Foster@williams.edu).

### **The Writing Workshop** (413) 597-4264

**Sawyer and Schow:** Sunday through Thursday, 7:45 PM – midnight

Writing Workshop tutors help other students to develop, organize, and refine their essays. Students can bring an essay at any stage in the writing process to one of the drop-in offices to have a tutor read and comment on it. Although tutors do not read for content or ideas of an essay, they are trained to help focus a thesis or strengthen organization. Tutors also proofread and can help polish an essay. The workshops operate on a drop-in, first come, first served basis, but appointments can be made online or by signing up on a sheet on the door of each office. The workshop is a helpful, readily accessible resource for all students, so don't hesitate to use it!

### **The Math and Science Resource Center (MSRC)** (413) 597-4672

**Thompson Physics 113, 114, and 207:** Sunday - Thursday: 8 PM – midnight

If you're working on homework or a lab report and want a place where there will be other people doing similar work, the Resource Center is the place to go. If you already have questions about material you are working on, there are student tutors at the Resource Center

for each course listed on the courses page of the MSRC Website (below) and the tutor for your course will be able to help you with the material that is challenging you. You may come to the Resource Center as often as you'd like, and it is completely free.

Students find the Resource Center a friendly place to work. Bring your questions, your books, and a cup; they'll provide something warm to drink and a cookie to go with it. You must supply your own mug!

For more information on the MSRC, go to:

[http://www.williams.edu/resources/acad\\_resources/math\\_science/](http://www.williams.edu/resources/acad_resources/math_science/)

### **Study Skills Workshops**

**Hopkins B1964:** see schedule online or outside of Paresky 202, the Academic Resources office.

Developing another good study habit or two can do wonders. Study skills student tutors offer workshops throughout the year that go over ways to improve the four main study skills: note taking, reading, test taking, and time management. The 30 minutes you invest in a workshop could very well pay off through time and grief saved later! More information will also be posted on WSO closer to the dates of the workshops.

E-mail this year's student coordinators below, check the flyers outside the Academic Resources Office in Paresky 202, or check WSO for more information on the sessions.

Ayanna Smith '13 (ais3@williams.edu)

Elisheba Odei '14 (eao1@williams.edu)

### **Peer Tutoring Program**

The Peer Tutoring Program is an important part of academic resources at Williams College. Through individualized tutoring sessions and group work, students can broaden and enhance their academic experience at Williams. The service of a qualified undergraduate tutor may be available to any student who desires academic resources to meet the demands of courses in which he or she is currently enrolled. Every year, each academic department is invited to select students to be tutors and lists what courses they are qualified to tutor.

If you want one-on-one help in a class from a more experienced student who almost always has taken the course for which he or she tutors, tutoring is available free of charge. Drop by the Dean's Office and ask for the book of tutors. You can also find the complete Peer Tutor Book online by going to the Dean of the College website. You make the arrangements and the Dean's Office picks up the tab. Tutoring should not serve as a substitute for class attendance or well-organized study habits, but can be a great way to stay on top of your work.

It's super easy to sign up! Need a Peer Tutor? Log into PeopleSoft. Go to your Self Service page. Click the link "Request a Tutor."

## **What About Classmates and Friends?**

Although Williams does offer a wealth of institutionalized academic resources, don't underestimate the power of the study group or of bouncing ideas off of a classmate, roommate, or peer. Don't be afraid to ask other students for help. Reach out to the student sitting next to you in Organic Chemistry or International Law and arrange a study date. Having another student relate to the difficulty of a certain problem set or who can better explain a concept proposed in class can go a long way towards enhancing the academic experience here.

"I don't think I would have survived sophomore year without those late night conversations I had with my friend down the hall. We would both end up in the common room and bounce ideas off of each other to see if they sounded silly. It helped a lot and I made a great new friend!"  
- Political Science Major

## **Getting INVOLVED at Williams**

Let's face it: sophomores run the school. Many juniors are away or JAs and seniors are thinking about life after Williams. Be a part of making this concept a reality and embrace the strength of your class.

One unique feature about Williams is how flat the pyramid of leadership is. Any student can easily make an appointment with the Dean of the College, the President, or practically any administrator. The administration really cares about the students' opinions, so let yours be heard. If you see an issue, tackle it. If you are worried about auditioning for a singing group or trying out for a team, do it anyway. You won't regret it and you never know what hidden passions you may uncover.

## **College Council FAQ**

### **Running for an Elected Position**

Running for a position on the Council is one of the best ways to get involved at Williams. In taking part in the Council, you will learn about how the school works, how events and groups are funded, how improvements to the school are made, and how student input is given to the administration. Elections are held **every semester** for a variety of positions and no experience is necessary: just a desire to get involved in the community.

### **What if I don't want to run for College Council, but I am curious?**

All College Council meetings are open to EVERYONE. They are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 PM to 9 PM in Hopkins Basement. If you have questions, e-mail your Class of 2015 Representative, Ben Augenbraun, at [Benjamin.L.Augenbraun@williams.edu](mailto:Benjamin.L.Augenbraun@williams.edu)

### **What does College Council do?**

College Council does many things. CC deals with and responds to issues of the moment in order to make sure that the students' voices are heard. For example, the school wanted to

restrict card access for students to only their dormitories until College Council held an all-campus vote that showed high student disapproval of such measures. The move to restrict card access was stopped.

College Council also funds all student groups, distributes nearly \$400,000 annually to fund campus activities, events, and student organization costs. Additionally, College Council members propose and initiate their own projects every semester. Sophomore Orientation is an example of one of these projects.

### **What is the CC Projects Fund?**

EVERYONE can apply to be allocated money to help fund their GREAT IDEA idea that would improve student life for us all. Those who want to request money from the fund need simply to go to the weekly Financial Committee meeting. If the project is approved, the student who proposes it will work with a member of College Council to make it a reality. An example of a potential project would be having mugs available at the Eco Café or expanding the Textbook Reserve Program. **Note:** This fund cannot serve as the primary source of funding for a project.

For more information on College Council you can go to:  
collegecouncil.williams.edu, or  
[http://wso.williams.edu/wiki/index.php/College\\_Council](http://wso.williams.edu/wiki/index.php/College_Council)

### **All Campus Entertainment (ACE)**

ACE is the student-run organization that provides the Williams campus with some good old fashioned fun.

ACE plans:

1. Homecoming and Spring concerts
2. weekly Stressbusters in Goodrich
3. First Fridays dance parties
4. lots more!

Plus you work closely Student Life, College Council, and the student body at large!

### **Neighborhood Governance Boards**

Another great way to get involved is through the Neighborhood Governance Boards (NGBs). NGBs hold elections at the end of every year and meet weekly.

The boards plan events for their individual neighborhood, deal with issues within the houses, and maintain neighborhood traditions while creating new ones. The neighborhood system is fairly new, so it is up to the current boards to create a sense of identity for the students in the neighborhood. There are a variety of ways of doing this, one of which is through events like the Currier Neighborhood Class Dinners, which are catered dinners in Currier Ballroom reserved for members of specific classes in the Currier Cluster. Contact Doug Schiazza in the Office of Student Life for more information at [Douglas.Schiazza@williams.edu](mailto:Douglas.Schiazza@williams.edu).

### **Baxter Fellows**

Being a Baxter Fellow of a Neighborhood dorm is another great way to get involved, gain leadership skills, and meet other students. Baxter Fellows deal with issues arising in the dormitories (including house damages) and hold monthly Snacks for their houses. Baxter Fellows are trained before school starts every year and are given a monthly salary for their service.

For more information on Baxter Fellows go to:

[http://www.williams.edu/dean/campus\\_life/baxterfellows.htm](http://www.williams.edu/dean/campus_life/baxterfellows.htm)

### **MinCo (Minority Coalition)**

If you are interested in getting involved in one of the many religious or ethnic groups on campus, joining MinCo is a great way to do so. MinCo was formed in response to a call for a more unified voice against prejudice and discrimination at Williams. The group aims to create an atmosphere of respect and understanding by enhancing campus awareness of issues of discrimination at Williams, to provide a forum for member organizations to develop strategies to deal with difficulties and challenges, and to assist in funding cultural awareness activities. Every MinCo group has a representative at MinCo meetings. Additionally, MinCo itself hosts a variety of multicultural events yearly including MinCo Fest.

For more information on MinCo go to: <http://wso.williams.edu/orgs/minco/>

### **Student Organizations**

There are over 160 student groups at Williams. Join one! Better yet, start one! All you have to do is grab some friends and meet with a CC subcommittee. Check [collegecouncil.williams.edu](http://collegecouncil.williams.edu) for more info.

Every year, the leadership and number of groups changes. There are groups to suit all and every interest. Getting involved in a student groups allows you to share your passions with other students, focus on something other than class work, meet new Ephs, and potentially gain some leadership experience. A collection of student groups, their current leaders, and meeting times was compiled this past summer (by our much-beloved Krista Pickett!) and will be accessible in the Student Activities Resource Center in Paresky across from the Office of Student Life (and online!). There's a list online at:

[http://wso.williams.edu/wiki/index.php/List\\_of\\_student\\_groups](http://wso.williams.edu/wiki/index.php/List_of_student_groups)

### **Student/Faculty Committees**

One great example of the strong connection between the administration, faculty, and student body in the decision making of the College is the many committees that students can serve on. These committees are directly responsible for many of the College's movements and vary in the levels of commitment necessary. The student body will receive an e-mail from College Council in the spring requesting self-nominations, along with a list of committees. As long as you demonstrate why you are right for the committee, it isn't very difficult to be placed on one. For tips on writing a good self-nomination check out

<http://wso.williams.edu/wiki/index.php/Self-nom.>

Below is a list of Williams College Student/Faculty committees:

- Alumni Relations and Development Committee
- Calendar and Schedule Committee
- Campus Environmental Advisory Committee
- Committee on Diversity and Community
- Committee on Educational Policy
- Committee on Priorities and Resources
- Committee on Undergraduate Life
- Dining Services Committee
- Facilities Director Committee
- Financial Committee
- Grievance Committee
- Housing and Community Life Coordinators Committee
- Honorary Degrees Committee
- Honor System-Discipline Committee
- Housing and Buildings & Grounds Committee
- Implementation Committee
- Information Technology Committee
- Lecture Committee
- Library Committee
- Office of Career Counseling Committee
- Security Advisory Committee
- Stetson-Sawyer Committee
- Student Centers Management Team
- Student Health Advisory Council
- Williams Reads Committee
- Winter Study Committee

For more information on committees, e-mail your Class Representative, Ben Augenbraun, at Benjamin.L.Augenbraun@williams.edu, or go to the College Council website.

## **Student Activities Resource Center (SARC)**

The new and improved Student Activities Resource Center (SARC) is housed on the second floor of Paresky, across from the Office of Student Life. Previously a long empty anteroom with a few couches on one end, the SARC has undergone some renovation and is now a fully functional resource center for all students! Sophomores, as they are typically very involved, are especially encouraged to utilize the new space.

### **So, what's in it?**

There are three areas in the SARC: the student office, student workspace, and student lounge.

The office has:

1. 2 Macs and 4 PCs linked to the Paresky printer
2. Comfy leather couches
3. A case with historic Williams trophies, medals, old yearbooks from the 1800s, and videos of old Williams.

The Workspace has:

1. Mailboxes for all the student organizations
2. A central work desk with supplies for poster making and organizational use
3. A hardwood countertop for multi-purpose use.

The lounge has:

1. A variety of plush chairs and sofas and coffee tables

2. A sink and a microwave
3. A large flat screen TV with cable and a DVD player.

The lounge is yours to use as you choose: for movies, meetings, or mucking around.

## **Funding at Williams**

There are so many places to get funding for your great idea. All it takes is a go-get it attitude and a bit of perservereance.

Good places to go for some or all funding for all-campus or all-class events:

- MinCo
- All Campus Entertainment
- Committees
- Academic Departments
- the Dean's Office
- College Council

CC is the last resort, so make sure you have tried other places before contacting the College Council Treasurer (*Treasurer e-mail?*). Be ready to bring a budget for the event to the weekly Financial Committee meeting at 10:30 pm on Tuesdays. All you have to do in explain the event to the committee and what you need the money for and they will make their decision whether or not to fund your cause, and how much to allocate. *Note: College Council does not provide money for alcohol.*

For a very complete guide to funding at Williams, check out the Nurnberg Funding Guide compiled by former CC Treasurer Peter Nurnberg, Williams Class of 2009, below:

<http://wso.williams.edu/orgs/cc/docs/Funding%20Guide/TheNurnbergFundingGuide.doc>



# **APPENDIX: Campus Spaces, Services, and Schedules**

## **Everyday Student Necessities**

### **Athletic Facilities**

Hours are subject to change due to contests, holidays, and breaks.

#### **Chandler Gym, Lasell Gym, and Simon Squash Center**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 6 a.m.-9:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Thursday: 6 a.m.-9:30 p.m.  
 Saturday: 10 a.m.-9:00 p.m.  
 Sunday: 1-9:30 p.m.

#### **Lower Lasell Fitness Center**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 6-9 a.m., 10 a.m.-9 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Thursday: 6-9 a.m., 11 a.m.- 9:30 p.m.  
 Saturday: 10 a.m.-9 p.m.  
 Sunday: 1- 9:30 p.m.

#### **Upper Lasell Fitness Area**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 6:00 a.m - 9:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Thursday: 6:00 a.m - 9:30 p.m.  
 Saturday: 10 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 Sunday: 1:00 pm - 9:30 p.m.

#### **Towne Field House**

Regular Walking Hours:  
 Monday-Friday: 7-9 a.m., noon-1 p.m.

#### **Pool Hours**

Monday-Friday: 7-9 a.m., noon-2 p.m., 7-9 p.m.  
 Saturday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
 Sunday: 1-6 p.m.  
 \* To confirm pool hours, please call the **WET LINE** at 597-2419

#### **Lansing-Chapman Ice Rink**

November through mid-March  
 Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.: noon-1 p.m.  
 Wed. noon-1:00 pm Staff open hockey  
 Wed.: 1:15-2:15 p.m. Student, faculty, staff open skating  
 \* To confirm rink hours, please call the **ICE LINE** at 597-2433

### **Library Hours**

Day	Sawyer	Schow	Sawyer Reference	Schow Reference	Archives & Chapin Library
Mon-Thurs	8 AM – 2:30 AM	8 AM – 3 AM	10 AM – 5 PM; 7 PM – 10 PM	9 AM – 5 PM; 7 PM – 10 PM	10 AM – 5 PM
Fri	8 AM – 10 PM	8 AM – 8 PM	10 AM – 5 PM	9 AM – 5 PM	10 AM – 5 PM
Sat	9 AM – 10 PM	11 AM – 8 PM	1 PM – 5 PM	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sun	9 AM – 2:30 AM	11 AM – 3 AM	1 PM – 5 PM; 7 PM – 10 PM	7 PM – 10 PM	CLOSED

## Dining Halls

### Whitmans'

	Monday-Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	7:30-10:30	7:30-10:30	CLOSED
Lite Lunch	10:30-11:30	10:30-11:30	n/a
Lunch	11:30-2:00	11:30-2:00	BRUNCH: 11:00-1:30
Dinner	5:00-8:00	5:00-8:00	5:00-8:00
Late Night	8:00 – 1:00 AM	8:00 – 1:00 AM	8:00 – 1:00 AM

### Mission Park

	Monday-Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	7:30-10:30	7:30-10:30	8:30-10:00
Lite Lunch	10:30-11:30	10:30-11:30	n/a
Lunch	11:30-2:00	11:30-2:00	BRUNCH: 11:00-1:30
Dinner	5:00-8:00	5:00-8:00	5:00-8:00

### Driscoll

	Monday-Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	7:30-10:30	7:30-10:30	8:30-10:00
Lite Lunch	10:30-11:30	10:30-11:30	n/a
Lunch	11:30-2:00	11:30-2:00	BRUNCH: 11:00 – 1:30
Dinner	5:00-8:00	5:00-8:00	5:00-8:00

### Eco Café

Only Monday-Friday:

Breakfast: 7:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Bag Lunch: 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

### Grab 'n Go

MWF: 10 AM – 2:30 PM

Tues/Thurs: 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

### '82 Grill

	Monday-Thurs	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Lunch	11:30 – 2:00	11:30-2:00	CLOSED	CLOSED
Dinner	5:00-8:00	CLOSED	CLOSED	5:00-8:00
Late Night	8:00 – 1:00 AM	8:00 – 1:00 AM	8:00 – 1:00 AM	8:00 – 1:00 AM

### Lee Snack Bar

Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

\*Does not take the meal plan.

## **24 Hour Spaces**

- Paresky Center (Except for Friday and Saturday Nights)
- The 1962 Center for Theater and Dance (Doors lock at 10 PM)
- Hopkins B1964 & B03
- Goodrich Hall (Coffee Bar is also open until midnight)
- Driscoll Lounge
- Spencer Art Studio
- Jesup Hall (print in color)
- Bronfman Mathematics and Statistics Library
- Schow Atrium (Yummy Cappuccino Machine)
- Rice, Hardy, Jenness Houses
- Thompson Chapel Basement
- The Jewish Religious Center (JRC)

## **Health and Safety**

### **Health Services**

Location: Thompson Health Center, End of Hoxsey Street

Phone Number: (413) 597-2206

General Hours: Monday-Friday: 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM & Saturday – Sunday 1:00 PM – 8:00PM

### **Clinics and Hours:**

**Nurse Practitioner Clinics:** Monday - Thursday 9 AM – noon and 1 PM – 5 PM

**General Physician:** Monday - Friday 3 PM – 5 PM

**Orthopedics:** Mondays and Thursdays from 4 PM - 5 PM.

**Gynecological Appointments:** Gynecological clinics are held twice weekly. Appointments should be made in advance by calling (413) 597-2206.

**Nutrition:** Appointments with the Health Center Nutritionist are available by appointment.

### **Fees:**

**No charges are made for most treatment and medicines provided by the Health Center.**

### **Lab Work and Testing:**

- Laboratory work is sent to an outside laboratory and the fees are charged to the student's insurance.
- Testing for HIV/STDs is always free and confidential. **There is no limit to the number of times a student may have HIV/STD testing.** This is a great service that students should use on a regular basis.

### **Other:**

Dental treatment and fitting of glasses are not provided by the College, nor is any form of elective surgery. These needs are ordinarily met at home during vacation periods, but if

students, while residents at the College, require any type of specialized care not provided at the Health Center, they can be referred to a dentist or a doctor in the area.

Medical programs, such as **allergy treatments**, initiated or requested by a student's home physician can ordinarily be continued at the Health Center. North Adams Regional Hospital can be reached at (413) 664-5000.

In addition to providing standard medical services, the staff endeavors to respond to a broad range of student health needs. These may include questions about health careers or anxiety about the health of a friend or family member. There may be a need for better self-understanding or for help with a troubled personal relationship.

## **Psych Services**

Telephone: (413) 597-2353

Location: Thompson Health Center

For most students, the college years are a period of rapid personal and social (as well as intellectual) change and development, which is often accompanied by inner conflict and stress. The opportunity to discuss these feelings with experienced psychotherapists can help to clarify and ameliorate conflicts.

The clinical therapists of the Counseling Service are available for consultation to all students at no cost. Discussions may deal with personal or family problems, social and interpersonal concerns, eating concerns, sexual anxieties, depression, academic worries, uncertainties about career or the future, or anything else on a student's mind.

In order to facilitate open and honest discussions, the Counseling Service maintains strict standards and procedures of privacy and confidentiality. Students should be aware that the exception to this policy occurs if there is a serious threat to the student's life or welfare, or to the life or welfare of another student or the community at large.

Appointments may be made by telephone or with the Secretary of the Counseling Service at the Health Center.

## **RASAN**

Telephone: (413) 597-4100

The Rape and Sexual Assault Network of Williams is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week while school is in session. Anyone who needs to talk about rape, incest, sexual assault (recent or past), or a bad hook-up is encouraged to call. RASAN is staffed by trained student volunteers who can answer specific questions about rape and sexual assault as well as provide counseling and support. All calls are confidential.

(E-mail: [hotline@wso.williams.edu](mailto:hotline@wso.williams.edu)).

## **Peer Health**

Call-In/Walk-In Hours: Sunday - Thursday 7 PM – 10 PM in Paresky 212

By telephone: (413) 597-3140

Instant Messenger: HealthyEphs  
Email: Peer.Health@gmail.com  
Website: <http://sites.williams.edu/peerhealth/>

Peer Health is available to answer your questions and offer advice on any of your mental and physical health related concerns: from stress to alcohol to sex. You can even ask an anonymous question on their web site. They also sell contraceptives and other products.

## **Campus Safety and Security (CSS)**

### **Emergency Numbers:**

Fire, Police, Ambulance: 413.458.5646  
CSS during office hours: 413.597.4343

### **Non-Emergency Numbers:**

CSS Non-Emergency Number: 413.597.4444  
CSS Escort Service: 413.597.4400  
College Switchboard: 413.597.3131  
Town Police Non-Emergency: 413.458.5733  
Fire Department Non-Emergency: 413.458.8113  
Village Ambulance Non-Emergency: 413.458.4889

### **Escort Service:**

CSS provides a free walking escort service. If you ever feel unsafe walking on campus, give them a call at the number provided above.

### **Anonymous Tip Line:**

Campus Security has an anonymous tip line that is available to all members of the community. You can fill out a form to confidentially and anonymously report any security problems: [http://security.williams.edu/?page\\_id=74](http://security.williams.edu/?page_id=74)

### **Lost and Found:**

Items turned in to Lost and Found are stored for 6 months before they are disposed of. Items can be claimed at the Campus Safety and Security Office (Hopkins Basement) Monday-Friday between 9 am and 4 pm. Lost items can be reported at any time.

### **Stolen Items:**

If you have had an item stolen, please report the theft to Campus Safety & Security. The information you provide will be used during the investigation. It is extremely important to have as much information as possible with you during the reporting phase. A Stolen Article Report will be filed with the Campus Safety & Security Department as well as the Williamstown Police Department and you will be contacted if the item is recovered.

## **Housing**

## **Living Off Campus:**

For extensive information on living off campus, living in a co-op, room change, or study abroad housing concerns, visit <http://campuslife.williams.edu/residential-life-housing/>

## **Changing Neighborhoods:**

### **Application Process**

Students will be able to apply in groups of up to six, with any mixture of class years. Applications will be weighted so that class year priority determines pick order when the lottery is run. Students will be required to give up their current neighborhood assignment in order to participate in the Neighborhood Change Lottery. Essentially, if they choose to go through this process, they will have no assigned neighborhood until they select one at the time of the selection process. This will allow Campus Life to determine the available spaces in each neighborhood and make any adjustments necessary for a proper balance. Campus Life will insure that there are enough spaces so that everyone will be able to select a neighborhood on the night of the selection process. Special requests/situations will be dealt with at this time.

### **Lottery and Selection Process**

Once the application process is completed and the number of participants is confirmed (a deadline for withdrawing your application will be set), the lottery will be run to determine the pick order. A date and time will be set and published along with instructions about when to show up to make your pick (this will be similar to the regular neighborhood room draw). Students must attend or send a proxy to choose their new neighborhood.

Based on the applications received and the needs of the neighborhood, the available spaces will be visible to all participants. Space in the neighborhood will be broken down into two categories: class year and gender. When students are called to select, they must take a space from their class year and gender. When the categories reach zero in either class year or gender, students will be restricted in those categories. Everyone **MUST** pick a neighborhood or be assigned by Campus Life after the process is over. In the past there has been a penalty assessed to your pick number for switching neighborhoods. To clarify, this penalty no longer exists.

## **Religious and Spiritual Support**

The Chaplains' Office: (413) 597-2483; 205 Paresky Student Center

## **Religious advisors at Williams:**

- The Reverend Rick Spalding, Chaplain to the College, who oversees the religious life of the College as well as offering particular spiritual support to Protestant Christians and to unaffiliated students, seekers, and members of underrepresented religious minority groups
- Father Gary Caster, Catholic Chaplain, serving the Williams Roman Catholic community
- Cantor Robert Scherr, Jewish Chaplain to the Jewish community
- Bilal Ansari, Muslim Chaplain and Associate Coordinator for Community Engagement.

The chaplains provide spiritual direction and counseling, offer programs and lead service projects, and collaborate to encourage the vitality of all religious and spiritual communities and traditions represented in the student body. They are assisted in this work by many local clergy and religious professionals who work in close consultation with the Chaplains' Office.

## **Worship Services, Meetings, and Celebrations:**

Regular worship services are conducted by many of these communities, including Jewish, Muslim, and Christian (Protestant and Roman Catholic) congregations. To find out when these communities meet consult the Communities at Worship brochure: <http://www.williams.edu/chaplain/Worship.php>

The **Meditation Society** organizes regular sittings at The Log on Spring Street and the College Zendo; **Hindus, Bahá'í Faith, Quakers, Unitarians** and other groups gather regularly, depending on student interest. Speakers, discussions, workshops, and occasions of inter-religious dialogue are frequent, and are open to the entire College community. The calendar for each academic year includes occasions for multi-faith worship during Family Weekends, Martin Luther King Day, and Baccalaureate.

## **Dietary Restrictions:**

Dining Services is willing to work with all students to accommodate any religious needs. Kosher meals are prepared and frozen for students who eat Kosher meat only. The meals can be found in the Kosher/Hallal corner in Mission. College Council also helped install a vegetarian grill and more healthy options in the Snack Bar for those who do not eat meat.

## **Spiritual Facilities:**

The Chaplains' Office handles requests for the use of the Jewish Religious Center and facilities of Thompson Chapel by faculty and student groups. For more information, contact Nancy Luczynski at [Nancy.E.Luczynski@williams.edu](mailto:Nancy.E.Luczynski@williams.edu).

# Facilities

Hotline: (413) 597-2486

## Service Requests

You can e-mail non-emergency work requests to [service@williams.edu](mailto:service@williams.edu). If you have an **emergency request** after 3:30 PM or on weekends or holidays, call Security at (413) 597-4444.

Issue	Extension
Housing maintenance issues (between 7 AM – 3:30 PM; M-F)	2486
Custodial Services, Keys, Opening & Closing of Residences	3496
Facilities Service Administrative Assistant	2195

Work orders for moves and special events (tables, chairs, electricity) must be requested **5 working days prior** to the target date. 10 working days are required between May 1st and June 15th and between mid-August and mid-September.

Emergency work (power failure, health or safety hazard, potential damage to facility or equipment) is scheduled for the same day.

## Reserving Studio Space\*

There are six dance and acting studio spaces at Williams.

- For the Main Dance Studio in the '62 Center and the Lower or Upper Goodrich Dance Studios in Goodrich, e-mail **Mary Pfister** at [Mary.G.Pfister@williams.edu](mailto:Mary.G.Pfister@williams.edu). The Main Dance Studio and the Lower Goodrich Studio have mirrors. The Upper Goodrich Studio does not. These spaces are typically reserved for groups in the Dance Department.
- For the Director's Studio and the Shared Studio in the 62 Center, e-mail **Cosmo Catalano** at [Cosmo.A.Catalano@williams.edu](mailto:Cosmo.A.Catalano@williams.edu). The Shared studio has a mirror, but the Director's Studio does not.
- For the Multi-Purpose Room in Lasell Gymnasium, e-mail Coach Kangas at [William.R.Kangas@williams.edu](mailto:William.R.Kangas@williams.edu). This studio has a mirror but no sound system.

\*Note: For some of the studios, certain flooring has been installed that can only be used for specific forms of dance. These include the Main Dance Studio in the 62 Center and the Upper Goodrich Studio.



## **PARTING WORDS**

This handbook was written BY Williams students FOR Williams students. Many of those who contributed to this handbook have already experienced sophomore year-- and what a year it was! Filled with fun memories and tough decision-making, late-night essay writing and visits to Snack Bar, and a transition from being NEW to being YOU. It IS the sophomore class who moves Williams forward and who energizes this campus. You can be a part of this tradition.

What is not fun about sophomore year is feeling unprepared or unaware and being left alone (whether in your new dorm, new classes, or with your new decisions in life). We who have done it have learned, and we pass this knowledge along to you.

Now you know all about the changes Williams made to its dining halls and how to reserve a dance studio to practice new choreography.

Now you know what is involved in becoming an Art History and Psychology double major.

Now you know what you need to do before you can study away in Morocco or Paris, before you apply to live on a boat for a semester, or study with members of the South African Parliament.

Now you can get involved, investigate an aspect of this great College that can be made greater, and actually see it improve before your eyes.

Now go be the best sophomore possible.

We're happy to have helped.