

have an opportunity to enroll in courses that are part of the Hub beginning this fall. Incoming freshmen will register for courses in the Hub during this summer's Orientation sessions.

"This is an immense undertaking, and many people are working hard in many areas to prepare for first-year students who will be entering under BU Hub" this fall, says Elizabeth Loizeaux, associate provost for undergraduate affairs and cochair of the University Council General Education Committee, which approves courses and cocurricular activities for the Hub.

Loizeaux, also a College of Arts & Sciences professor of English, says that while the committee anticipates more proposals for new courses for the Hub as it goes forward, the bulk of them to date have involved existing classes.

Classes such as Religion, Community, and the Birth of Social Sciences. Stephanie Nelson, a CAS associate professor of classical studies, says the course studies the religious basis of society, focusing on reformers, probing such questions as: What is a just war? Do people have natural rights? Is tolerance of others a utopian goal? In Introduction to Climate and Earth System Science, taught since 2015 and tweaked for the Hub, students will learn that "Earth is an amazing but complex system," says Christine Regalla, a CAS assistant professor of earth and environment, who coteaches the course with Diane Thompson, also a CAS assistant professor of earth and environment.

And in Living in the City, taught by Diana Wylie, a CAS professor of history, students will study selected cities, from Uruk, a pivotal ancient Sumerian city, to modern Shanghai, China's largest urban center. They will read histories and documents and discuss issues affecting the urban future, such as justice, health, worship, human rights, and city planning. **RB**

Cecilia Lopez makes more than 300 omelets on a typical day.

ONLINE:
Watch a video of Dining Services employee Cecilia Lopez crafting an omelet and talking about what she loves most about her job at bu.edu/bostonia.

ON THE JOB

Meet Warren Towers' Omelet Lady

CECILIA LOPEZ

Dining Services employee is a campus celebrity



CYDNEY SCOTT

Students may not know her name, but chances are that if they've ever had an omelet at Warren Towers, they know her face. Cecilia Lopez has been a Dining Services employee for 25 years, and could rightly be called a campus celebrity, as famous for knowing the orders of her regulars as she is for her delicious omelets.

While her shift technically starts each day at 5 am, Lopez likes to arrive at work 30 minutes early to change clothes and arrange her hair. She boils water for the oatmeal and then begins stocking the omelet station with onions, tomatoes, peppers, ham, and more. "Everything has to be perfect by 7 am," she says through a translator (her first language is Spanish).

She greets each customer, always asking first how they are, then how they want their omelet prepared. Lopez has a college-age daughter and takes a genuine interest in the students, serving as a kind of mother figure, commiserating with them if they are sick or have pulled an all-nighter. "When I see a student that is very tired, I try to encourage them," she says.

Born in El Salvador, Lopez came to the United States at the age of 19, arriving in Houston, Tex. "At that time the revolution and guerrillas were emerging in my country," she says, "and they were kidnapping young women my age, so my mother was very worried."

In 1992, she moved to Boston and started working at BU part time. Her first job was as a dining hall custodian. At the time, she says, she didn't know much English. One day, a coworker asked if she would like to serve food, and from there, she went on to work the grill and prepare burritos before becoming an omelet chef 15 years ago. By her own estimate, a typical morning sees her making more than 300 omelets.

When she isn't working, she loves to watch the Discovery Network and cook for her daughter, but only on weekends. One of her specialties is the traditional Salvadorean dish pupusa, a corn tortilla stuffed with a savory filling. Other favorite dishes include tamales, enchiladas, and soup. Eggs are almost never on the menu, she says. "I don't buy any eggs because I see too many eggs here." **AMY LASKOWSKI**