Core classes are conducted as seminars capped at 16 students, led by full-time faculty. Students form a close relation with faculty and other students both in the classroom and in optional co-curricular activities, while developing the skills necessary for success in upper-level seminars in their major.

Core Humanities follows a broad historical sweep from early Mesopotamia to 20th century Europe and America. This chronological study of art, music, literature and philosophy creates an invaluable cultural context for History students, giving depth and resonance to their understanding of particular historical periods. Core also explores the different world-views of Western and Asian cultures, providing an essential perspective from which to view the overriding concerns of either.

In Core Social Sciences we read historians such as Herodotus, Thucydides and Ibn Khaldun, as well as authors such as Hobbes, Adam Smith, Tocqueville and Marx whose works shaped the world we live in. Students in the Core Natural Sciences study not only the natural world and our relation to it, but also, in conjunction with the Humanities, how human beings’ relation to nature is interconnected with human culture.

Students generally take CC 101 and 102 in their first year; however, as long as the Humanities are taken in order, Core classes can be taken at any time during your BU career.

Core offers additional opportunities for achievement, as well:

- Students who take one of the four two-course sequences available in Core (CC 101/102; CC 201/202; CC 112/211; CC 111/212) may begin a Core Minor.
- Students who complete Core with a grade of at least B+ in each of their Core classes become eligible for Core Honors.
- Students who complete Core are acknowledged with an official annotation on their BU transcript, reading: “Completed the Interdisciplinary Core Curriculum in Arts & Sciences.”

Core and your schedule

Since Core satisfies Hub general education requirements there is plenty of room to complete the program. Students who take all of Core fulfill all Hub and Writing requirements, including Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning. For example:

- CC 101 gives Hub credit for Aesthetic Exploration, Global Citizenship, and Creativity / Innovation, while CC 102 gives WR 120 credit.
- For History majors CC 101 & 102 together also count for HI 101.
- CC 111 and 212 give Scientific Inquiry I and II and Quantitative Reasoning I and II as well as Teamwork / Collaboration and Critical Thinking.
- For History majors CC 201 & 202 together also count for HI 102.

For students pursuing a double major, the course credit earned in Core can be a valuable asset. Visit www.bu.edu/core/about/factsheets to learn how Core course equivalencies can satisfy requirements in particular majors.

For more information about Core please contact Prof. Nelson at nelson@bu.edu / 617-353-5404, or Chris McMullen in the CAS Advising Office: cmcmull@bu.edu / 617-353-2400.

Whenever you’re on campus, please feel free to stop by the Core Office for a visit. We’re in CAS Room 119, at 685 Commonwealth Avenue, adjacent to Tsai Auditorium.