CAS Core for Majors in Sargent College

In the Core Curriculum, Sargent students can fulfill Writing and Hub requirements in a learning community where students and faculty together study texts, artworks, scientific discoveries, and ideas that have shaped our world.

Because the Core is interdisciplinary, students in Core courses are propelled to think beyond the boundaries of a particular discipline, and to develop the perspective necessary for creative and innovative thought.

Students come to Core from every college at BU to work with dedicated faculty representing a rich variety of departments. For Sargent students, Core is a way to complement a STEM and clinical curriculum with seminars based in discussion of foundational works and ideas. Core seminars are led by full-time faculty, and capped at an enrollment limit of 16 students.

Students who complete the entire Core program receive an annotation on their official BU transcript, reading “Completed the Interdisciplinary Core Curriculum in Arts & Sciences,” and become eligible for Core Honors. Students in STEM majors can satisfy this completion requirement by taking only the Core humanities and social sciences, satisfying Hub and Writing requirements while also obtaining recognition of a distinctive achievement. And because the Core humanities and social sciences courses provide credit for Hub and Writing requirements, Sargent students are able to add Core classes to their BU experience without adding to their course load.

over >>
Non-CAS students taking classes in CAS can sometimes find themselves sidelined in department courses where the focus can be oriented toward departmental majors. The Core community provides a place for students from any college at BU to participate in a shared sense of experience, purpose, and belonging. And since Core isn’t in competition with the home department or college, the program becomes just one more source of support on campus.

Core is a particularly suitable complement for the study of health and rehabilitation disciplines because it allows students to consider humanity from all angles—the physical, the social, the ethical, and the imaginative. Before one is a health care practitioner or a patient, one is a human being, and Core challenges its students to consider what that truly means.

First-year students taking large and demanding science classes particularly benefit from the close relation with faculty and other students that Core provides, both in class and in opportunities such as:

- **Scholarships for Summer Study in Athens**
- **Core housing in central campus**
- **Leadership opportunities including Core Peer Tutoring fellowships**
- **The Core Polytropos Award and the Devlin Award for excellence in writing**
- **Visits to the Museum of Fine Arts, the BSO, and other cultural sites**
- **An undergraduate society with weekly discussion meetings**
- **An annual literary journal in publication for more than 25 years**

To find out more about Core, please visit [www.bu.edu/core/learnmore](http://www.bu.edu/core/learnmore).

For more information, feel free to contact Professor Stephanie Nelson, the Director of the Core, at nelson@bu.edu and 617-358-0840. Or, get in touch with the Core main office at core@bu.edu and 617-353-5404.

SAR majors interested in making Core part of their BU program are welcome to drop by the Core office in the College of Arts & Sciences any time, to speak with faculty, staff, or current students.