



Arvind and Chandan Nandlal Kilachand Honors College

OUR MISSION

The mission of Kilachand Honors College is to offer a challenging liberal education grounded in critical and creative thinking and interdisciplinary problem-solving related to important global, societal, corporate, and geopolitical challenges. Kilachand's integrated, four-year curriculum is augmented by an extensive series of co-curricular events, including visits to cultural institutions, arts events, and discussions with leading scientists, artists, and professionals. All Kilachand students complete a substantial work of empirical or scholarly research, creativity, or invention by the close of their senior year and share the outcomes of their work in a celebratory Symposium. All of these endeavors occur within a supportive living-learning community that offers students educational experiences similar to those of a small liberal arts college with the resources and intellectual depth of a major urban research university.

OUR COMMUNITY

Kilachand students pursue majors and minors offered by the schools and colleges across Boston University. English, chemistry, and neuroscience majors from the College of Arts and Sciences find themselves working in teams with biomedical engineers from the College of Engineering, business majors from the Questrom School of Business, and painters from the College of Fine Arts. All our first year students live together in Kilachand Hall, where the College advisors, staff, director, and associate directors also have offices. Co-curricular events that enhance the educational goals and the community of the college are also held in Kilachand Hall, offering students opportunities for frequent, informal interactions with faculty and staff.

OUR STUDENTS

The students who thrive at Kilachand are intellectually curious and courageous, and they want to put their knowledge to use to benefit their communities. We seek students who wish to study an array of subjects across disciplines, as well as focus deeply on their major interests. The Kilachand curriculum asks students to use the tools and methods of every academic discipline to understand global challenges and develop practical solutions. Through rigorous courses and co-curricular events, students hone their capacity for critical reasoning and effective communication, skills that are crucial to every academic, intellectual, and socially responsible enterprise as well as to that all-important pursuit of shaping an engaged and fulfilling life beyond the university.

OUR LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Students will be exposed to different domains of knowledge in the arts, sciences, and professions and will understand disciplinary differences and similarities related to research methods and what constitutes knowledge in that field.
- Students will learn to formulate and discuss interdisciplinary questions of high scientific, social, ethical and aesthetic significance and share their conclusions with a broad audience.
- Students will be exposed to a variety of research methodologies and develop the ability to plan and execute an intensive senior research project, the Kilachand Keystone Project.
- Students will learn excellent oral and written communication and presentation skills that allow them to communicate with interdisciplinary audiences.
- Students will hone their creative and critical thinking skills and apply them to complicated problems of great contemporary relevance.
- Students will learn that the global challenges we face as a civilization must be analyzed and tackled with a diverse range of methodologies and tools.

OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many students are in Kilachand Honors College?

Approximately 150 students join our community each fall.

How many people will be in my Kilachand classes?

Kilachand students experience an array of course styles from small seminars and one-on-one workshops to cohort-based lectures and team breakout sessions.

Is Kilachand my major?

Kilachand students enroll in a variety of major programs offered through Boston University's many degree-granting schools and colleges while simultaneously tackling challenging contemporary issues through Kilachand's multidisciplinary curriculum.

Do Kilachand courses count toward the requirements for my major?

Kilachand courses are taken alongside students' major coursework that together make up a majority of each student's degree requirements and unique pathway through the BU Hub, Boston University's general education program.

Is it OK to be undeclared if I am in Kilachand Honors College?

Absolutely! We encourage students to explore during their time at Boston University. Kilachand academic advisors help students to identify their strengths, goals, and interests to craft challenging and fulfilling academic experiences.

Where will I live?

First-year Kilachand students live together on dedicated floors of Kilachand Hall where their shared residential and intellectual experiences are the foundation for Kilachand's living-learning community. Many upperclassmen choose to stay in Kilachand Hall or the Kilachand House, a specialty brownstone on Bay State Road.

What is the Kilachand Keystone Project?

Under the guidance of a faculty mentor, Kilachand students engage in intellectual discovery through a scholarly, experimental, or creative work. The Keystone Project is flexible and can be accomplished through major departments, home schools and colleges, or Kilachand.

Can I Study Abroad?

We encourage it! Kilachand students typically participate in Study Abroad programs in their second or third year. Kilachand students also engage in off-campus experiences offered by different departments in the fourth year, such as the Tropical Ecology Program or the Los Angeles Internship Program for Film & TV majors.


Is it possible to complete a double major or a Dual Degree with the course load of Kilachand?

Boston University invites students to integrate their professional and personal interests by pursuing a double major or Dual Degree. The undertaking of either goal is different for every student. Students interested in pursuing a double major or Dual Degree are encouraged to discuss the compatibility of their programs with their academic advisors.

Will I have time to participate in extracurricular activities while in Kilachand?

Kilachand students are active and engaged participants in various activities and programs at the university and throughout the city, from community service to student organizations, student employment to lab research, and varsity athletics.

MORE QUESTIONS? The Kilachand Ambassadors would love to hear from you @ www.bu.edu/khc/people



Kilachand is a living-learning community that serves as a primary pathway through the BU Hub. Kilachand students pursue majors across BU's schools and colleges and come together to tackle contemporary global issues. Kilachand's flexible curriculum engages students through coursework, experiential opportunities, research, and creative activity.

KILACHAND HONORS COLLEGE

www.bu.edu/khc

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

KILACHAND

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

The students who thrive at Kilachand are **INTELLECTUALLY CURIOUS** and **COURAGEOUS** and they want to put their knowledge to use to benefit their **COMMUNITIES**. We seek students who wish to study an array of subjects across disciplines, as well as focus deeply on their major interests. The Kilachand curriculum asks students to use the tools and methods of every academic discipline to understand **GLOBAL CHALLENGES** and develop practical solutions. Through rigorous courses and co-curricular events, students hone their capacity for critical reasoning and effective **COMMUNICATION**, skills that are crucial to every academic, intellectual, and **SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE** enterprise as well as to that all-important pursuit of shaping an **ENGAGED** and fulfilling life beyond the university.



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THE KILACHAND CURRICULUM

The Kilachand curriculum invites students to formulate and discuss questions of scientific, social, ethical, and aesthetic significance and share their conclusions with a broad audience. Through a combination of seminars, lectures, break-out discussions, and experiential opportunities, students hone their creative and critical thinking skills and apply them to problems of contemporary relevance.

FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

During the first year, students take two seminars—one in the fall semester, one in the spring semester—that introduce empirical and scholarly research, creative work, and discovery through an intensive look at examples of current work in various disciplines. Seminars give students the chance to explore important contemporary themes and problems in different fields.

WRITING STUDIOS

In Writing Studios, Kilachand students develop their writing, critical reading, and analytical skills. Students explore fundamental ethical, aesthetic, and social concerns posed by challenging texts and events. They compose and revise their own writing, learning to consider the evidence, media, genres, and styles of expression that are appropriate to the goals of the piece and its designated audience. Students also learn research skills and methodologies as they design and compose a research paper, share research orally and in writing, and engage the revision process with the benefit of significant individual attention in tutorials with their instructors.

INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Kilachand students take a two-semester sequence during their second or third year that examines global challenges with a team of faculty representing different disciplines and perspectives. The major challenges we face, such as climate change and the refugee crisis, are best understood in an interdisciplinary context, and the tools and insights of many fields of study must be harnessed to tackle these problems. Students have the opportunity to work in teams to develop practical solutions to the fundamental challenges facing human societies.

THE PROCESS OF INQUIRY

In the second or third year, students take a one-semester course, *The Process of Inquiry*, which explores scholarly research and the creative process by studying a variety of research methodologies, including qualitative and quantitative research techniques, data analysis and visualization, and interdisciplinary strategies. Students apply these research techniques to contemporary issues and leave the course with an understanding of what constitutes data in various disciplines and how to evaluate the data, facts, and statistics they see every day.

PEOPLE IN PROCESS

In the fourth year, students take the *People in Process* sequence. These courses offer students the opportunity to delve into the biographies and influence of particular people and are grounded in the liberal arts commitment to critical inquiry, textual sophistication, and interdisciplinarity. As seniors consider their own post-college choices, these courses illuminate the multiple and often serendipitous paths of people in process as they pursued particular goals.

KEYSTONE PROJECT

All Kilachand students complete a substantial work of empirical or scholarly research, creativity, or invention by the close of their senior year and share the outcomes of their work in a celebratory Symposium. There are various pathways through which Kilachand students can complete the project both at Kilachand and through their home schools or major departments.

BU HUB

Kilachand courses are taken alongside students' major coursework that together make up a majority of each student's degree requirements and unique pathway through the BU Hub, Boston University's general education program.

CO-CURRICULAR EVENTS

Co-curricular events complement Kilachand's formal curriculum with lectures, panels, site visits, and activities that bring students together to make them think. The co-curricular program encourages students to explore ideas they had not previously considered and topics that are not part of their coursework. They take students away from their normal sphere of activity and professional competence and introduce them to something new and often unexpected.



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FIRST YEAR SEMINARS

During the first year, Kilachand students take seminars that introduce them to research, creation, and discovery through an intensive look at an example of current work in a specific discipline. Seminars give students the chance to explore important contemporary themes and problems in different fields. All first-year seminars carry BU Hub units and offerings vary from year to year. A selection of recently offered seminars can be found below.

Whose Schools: Power, Equality, and Public Education

Mary Battenfeld, College of Arts & Sciences American Studies

Free public schools, open to all, are a hallmark of American democracy. Yet we are far from fulfilling Thomas Jefferson's promise for public schools "which shall reach every description of our citizens." The course asks why, and examines significant eras, debates, and struggles for equality in U.S. education, with a particular focus on Boston. Public policy questions, such as charter school expansion, exam school admissions, or the best governance structure for Boston's school committee, will be explored through readings, discussion, and by collaborations with local education or civil rights organizations.

Fractured Lives and Bodies: Forensic Anthropology, Disasters, and Human Rights

Sean Tallman, School of Medicine Anatomy and Neurobiology

Forensic anthropological contributions to humanitarian issues are increasingly commonplace due to historic and current episodes of political instability, natural and human-induced mass disasters, and state-sponsored violence. While often perceived as occurring far afield from the average university student, such complex and traumatic episodes have far-reaching effects on public policy, nationalism, personal identity, and scientific inquiry. The anthropological contributions to such episodes are particularly interesting as they reside at the intersection of socio-cultural, - political, and -economic theory; archaeological method and theory; and the science of forensics. In this course, we will investigate the roles and responsibilities of forensic anthropology in the context of global disasters, forced and voluntary displacements and migrations, and human rights.

Race in America: Understanding the Present by Exploring the Past

Nina Silber, College of Arts & Sciences History & John Matthews, College of Arts & Sciences English

A central objective of this course is to deepen our appreciation of how artistic works shape our understanding of historical events, how art in turn shapes the way people interpret their lives and decide what courses of action to take. Literature helps us experience ways of being otherwise unavailable to us and imagine alternative realities. In addition to thinking about the nature of art, obviously our course also invites students to think historically, as we go back and look at explanations of the present in the past, see how people responded to the actual circumstances of racial oppression at different points in the history of the US, and examine first-hand some of the documents and places still surviving in New England from America's earliest moments of its racial past.

Seeing Poverty: Understanding and Addressing Poverty in America

Sophie Godley, School of Public Health Community Health Sciences

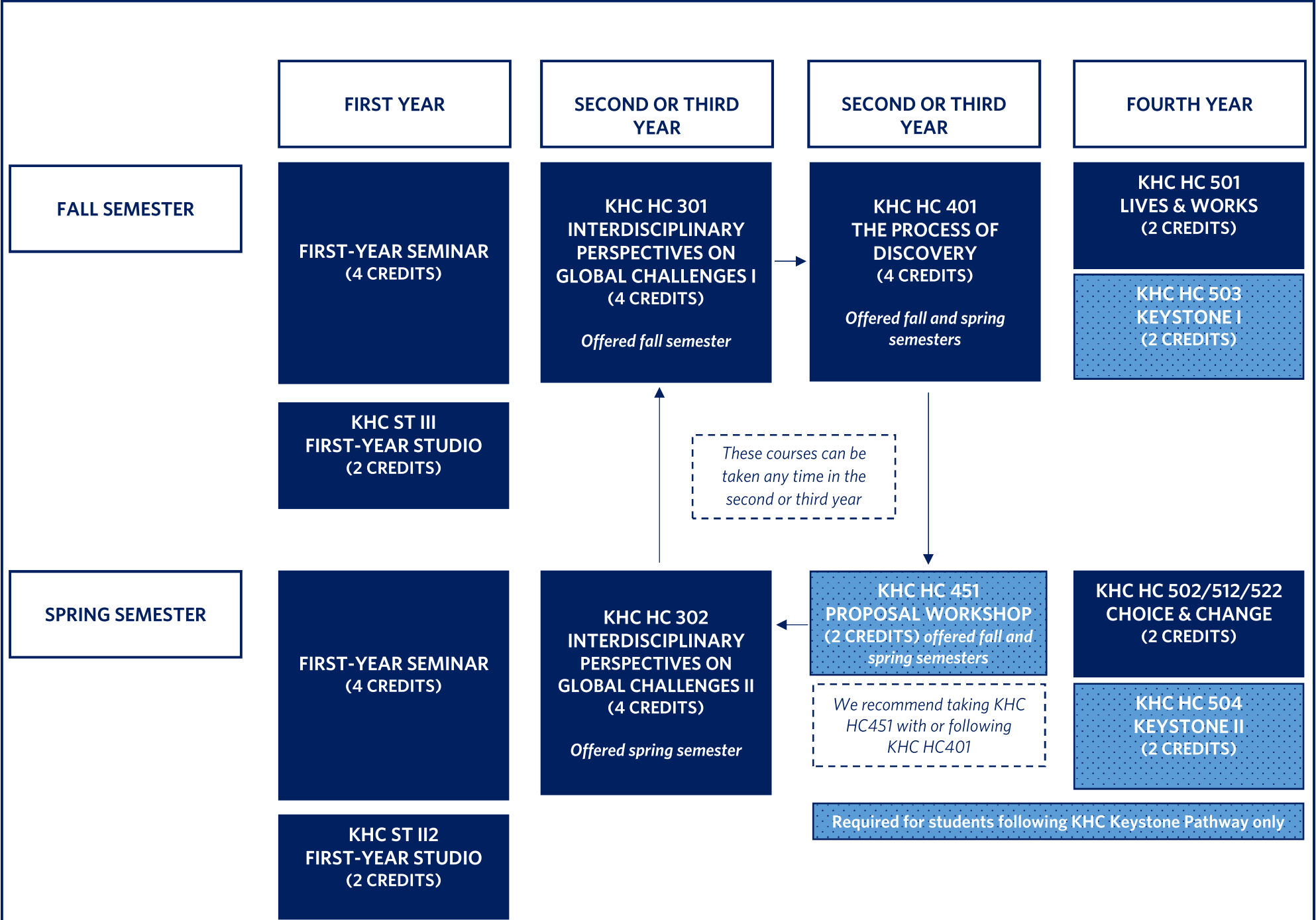
How do we understand poverty in modern America? Images of poverty might lead us to believe poverty is exclusively a problem of urban people of color, but what do historic and modern depictions of poverty in popular culture – reality TV shows, or films tell us? How is data on poverty calculated and understood? This course explores the ever-changing and ever-political sociological and public health issues of measuring poverty in America today. Using literature, film, photography, and public data sets, the course will explore the true meaning of "poverty" and what it really means to be poor. The root causes of poverty, intergenerational poverty, and gendered poverty will be examined, and common myths about poverty will be debated. Particular attention will be given to intersections of race and class, and the lifelong impact for children growing up in poverty will be furthered examined.

Marriage, Families and Gender: Contemporary Legal and Social Controversies

Linda McClain, School of Law

This seminar critically examines the family, marriage, and gender by asking several basic questions: What is family? What is marriage? Why do family and marriage matter to individuals and to society? What role does or should law have in supporting and regulating families and marriage? In defining parenthood? How do new technologies that provide new pathways to parenthood and new forms of control over reproduction pose ethical and legal challenges and how should law address those challenges? How do problems of family inequality relate to broader issues of economic and social inequality How do ideas about gender and proper gender roles in intimate and public life feature in answering these questions? This seminar will introduce students to past and present controversies over marriage, family, and parenthood.

KILACHAND HONORS COLLEGE FOUR-YEAR CURRICULUM MAP



Academic Advising at Kilachand

Advising at Kilachand is a collaborative process of intellectual exploration that establishes a network between Kilachand, our students' home schools and colleges, and the many resources of Boston University

Academic Advisors at Kilachand help students to:

- craft a fulfilling and coherent academic plan
- identify and integrate their interests, strengths, and goals
- identify and access campus resources for opportunity and support
- understand the intent of the Kilachand curriculum
- understand Kilachand's unique role as a pathway through the Hub
- find balance in managing the various aspects of the university experience
- engage with community through leadership opportunities and enriching peer connections

