



From the Benjamin Franklin College Dean's Office

Dean's Notes– August 30, 2021

Dear Franklinites,

It's with a full heart that I welcome you back, in full force, to Benjamin Franklin and to Yale! The college is 100% occupied (including some annexed visitors from TD and Morse– be nice to them) and the surrounding streets are abuzz with off campus students settling in for the new term. Glad to have you all back, and readying for a return to in-person life.

The class of 2025 is in high gear with Orientation, and our team of FroCos is working tirelessly to support and cheer them along the journey. Thank a FroCo when you see one. And for that matter, all of the student leaders – PLs, CCEs, SAMs, SOCs – who are helping all of our newest members of the community to Yale Up.

Sophomores: Registration is today at 5:00 in the courtyard

Juniors: Registration is Tuesday at 4:00 in the courtyard

Seniors: Registration is Tuesday at 4:30 in the courtyard

For now, I wish you luck in selecting not only the classes you will shop, but also the values and habits of mind. Who do you wish to be and become this year, for yourself and for others?

Warmly,

Dean Hill

Most people never ask where the road goes if the road is very beautiful! This is an ignorance because the "endings" may never carry the beauties of the beginnings!

-Mehmet Murat ildan

Course Enrollment

Remaining course enrollment activities include selecting discussion and lab sections, and the refinement of your course schedule during the Add/Drop period.

- August 30, 9:00 a.m. (Monday) – [Preference Selection](#) opens for all Yale College students to rank discussion and lab section preferences for Economics and Physics courses.
- September 1, 9:00 a.m. (Wednesday) – Classes begin. Add/Drop period begins for all students.
- September 2, 9:00 a.m. (Thursday) - Preference Selection closes. Departments will post Preference Selection discussion and lab section results to registration worksheets by 11:00 a.m., September 3.
- September 3, 12:00 p.m. (Friday) – Open enrollment begins for remaining discussion and lab section seats. Use the registration worksheet in [YCS](#) to enroll in open seats in discussion and lab sections.
- September 15, 5:00 p.m. (Wednesday) – Add/Drop period ends for all students. Registration worksheets in YCS close

Additional course enrollment resources and instructions can be found on the [University Registrar's Office registration website](#).

Upcoming Deadlines:

The deadline to apply for a leave of absence for the fall term is the 15th day of the term: that is, by 5 pm on September 15, 2021. This same date is the deadline for receiving a full rebate of the term's tuition for students withdrawing by that date. If you are considering a leave of absence or withdrawal for this term, see me ASAP.

Yale College deadlines are firm. This is an issue of equity; we do all we can to ensure that the academic regulations are applied fairly and consistently every semester to the thousands of Yale students across the 14 residential college

Important Notes on Course Enrollment

- The University Registrar's Office has a helpful new website devoted to course registration, at registration.yale.edu.
- During the Add/Drop period, you may add courses (if the course is open or you have permission to enroll) and drop courses within Yale Course Search without a fee. The Add/Drop period ends at 5 pm on September 15 and the courses listed on your registration worksheet at that time will constitute your fall course schedule. After September 15, you will need my permission to make any changes to your schedule, and the Registrar will charge a \$20 processing fee for each course added or dropped.
- Your "Canvas worksheet" synchronizes with Canvas, and you may load as many as 10 course credits onto your Canvas worksheet. Including a course there grants you "visitor" access to those courses' Canvas sites' "assignments" and "announcements" features, and that visitor access will last for the duration of the Add/Drop period.
- Be sure to distinguish your registration worksheet (used to enroll in courses) from your Canvas worksheet (used as a sort of scratch pad). Keep in mind that to enroll in a course, you **must** include it on your **registration worksheet**.

Overloads, Overlaps, Professional School Courses, and Other Petitions

- You need my permission to enroll for more than 5.5 course credits and must have sound academic reasons for doing so. You also need my permission to enroll for only 3 or 3.5 course credits. To request an overload or underload, submit an [overload request](#) when add/drop opens on September 1 at 9:00 a.m. If you fail to take either action, the last course in which you were enrolled will be administratively dropped after the add/drop period ends and you will incur a \$20 administrative fee.

- Enrollment in courses that overlap in meeting times is generally not permitted. If you find you **MUST** enroll in two courses that overlap in meeting times, such an overlap cannot be more than fifteen minutes and requires the permission of both instructors (**even if one of the courses is recorded, and even if you will be missing class time in only one of the two courses**) AND a petition through my office to the Committee on Honors and Academic Standing. There must be sound academic reasons for such an overlap. This petition is due by the end of the Add/Drop Period, and sooner would be prudent.
- No more than four course credits completed under the Credit/D/Fail Option may be offered toward the bachelor's degree. You should have a good reason for enrolling in a course under the CR/D/Fail option. You may elect no more than two course credits under the CR/D/Fail option in a term, and you must be enrolled in each term in at least two courses, representing at least two course credits, for a letter grade. The deadline to convert a full-term course from a letter grade to CR/D/Fail mode is the last day of classes, which is December 10. The deadlines for half-term courses are given in the Yale College Calendar with Pertinent Deadlines in the online *Yale College Programs of Study*. These deadlines are strictly enforced.
- There are restrictions on the number of independent study or directed reading courses you can take in any term and throughout your course of study. See the *YCPS* for details: <http://catalog.yale.edu/ycps/academic-regulations/course-credits-course-loads/> Such courses may not be used to fulfill any distributional requirements. Independent study courses, other than senior projects and certain other courses designated for A-F grading by the department offering the course, are graded Pass/Fail. Students cannot petition for a conversion from P/F to A-F; only the department or program offering the course may do so.
- To enroll in one of the Yale professional schools, you will need to submit a request, which is [available online](#) at the Registrar's Forms & Petitions site. Enrollment in such courses will not be recorded by the Registrar's Office in the absence of this form. Note that not all professional school classes earn course credit in Yale College. If the course earns no Yale College credit, it will not appear on your transcript.
- You may not enroll in a graduate or professional school course designated as an independent study, nor may you apply credit earned in a graduate or professional school course to any of the Yale College distributional requirements.
- If you are interested in petitioning to earn double credit in a single-credit course, please [read the relevant section in the YCPS](#), and then consult with me. The deadline to submit this petition is Midterm, but I recommend that you do so well before that date.

Sophomore Academic Benchmarks

- By the end of the fourth term of enrollment you must have enrolled for at least one course credit in each of the three disciplinary areas and for at least one course credit in each of the

three skills categories. You should continue enrollment in language courses to fulfill the language skills requirement. All skills requirements, including language requirements, must be completed by the end the junior year. It's best to take your language courses in consecutive terms of enrollment.

- No courses taken on the Credit/D/Fail basis may be used to fulfill the distribution requirements for the bachelor's degree or for the junior year.

By the end of your fourth term of enrollment you must have successfully completed a minimum of 16 course credits to be promoted to junior standing.

Sophomore Advising

- Advising information for sophomores, including information on a range of tutoring resources, is available on the "Advising Resources" website at <http://advising.yalecollege.yale.edu/>
- At the end of last year, either you indicated you would remain with your original college adviser, or you submitted an online form to switch to a new college adviser (a faculty member). If you did not submit a form last spring: now's the time, using the [Change-of-Adviser form](#).
- For some of you, the advising relationship you developed last year with your college adviser worked in all the right ways. You want to continue with that adviser this year, and that's fine. For others, the beginning of your sophomore year is a good time to consider a new adviser — maybe an instructor with whom you developed a good academic or advising relationship last year, or a faculty member in a possible field of study (perhaps even the DUS). If that's the case, I encourage you to submit a [Change-of-Adviser form](#) soon so that your new college adviser can discuss your fall-term goals and guide your course selection now.
- If you do change advisers, please let your former college adviser know as a courtesy. There won't be hard feelings: they all know to expect this possibility.
- Our college advising system allows you to change advisers at any time this year, not just during course selection period, but you may only switch to a faculty member, and only once per term.
- Potential majors in science, engineering or mathematics should select the DUS of the intended major as their current college adviser.

Notes for Sophomores from Yale Study Abroad

Sophomores in their second term of enrollment may study abroad for Yale course credit. If you are interested in studying abroad this spring term or next year, begin planning course selections now and be especially mindful of whether you have sufficient ability in a language to study abroad in a program in which instruction is given in that language; you should also consult with your DUS or faculty adviser to see if you can complete the requirements of your major with a term or year abroad as part of your program of study.

Applications for a spring term 2021 abroad are due October 15, 2021. Applications for Fall term 2022 and for year-long 2022-2023 study abroad programs are due on April 1, 2022. Visit studyabroad.yale.edu for more information.

The deadline to apply for 2022 Yale Summer Session Programs Abroad is February 15, 2022. If you are considering credit for summer study abroad in 2022 with Non-Yale programs, you must apply for approval through the [Summer Abroad program](#). The deadline to apply for credit for a Non-Yale Summer Abroad program is March 1, 2022. Information about the summer study abroad application process, including a list of eligible programs, is available at studyabroad.yale.edu.

Undergraduate Regulations

All Yale College students are governed by, and expected to familiarize themselves with, the Undergraduate Regulations. The updated version of these regulations is available online. If you ever have questions about the undergraduate regulations, please talk with me.

Notes for Sophomores from the Office of Career Strategy

You can use an online program, Interfolio, as a dossier service to request and keep on file letters of recommendation for employers, schools, or fellowships. You should begin to ask your instructors to write letters for this file now, so that you have them ready to send out whenever opportunities arise. For more information about this service, please consult the [Office of Career Strategy website](#) or talk with an OCS counselor.

Yale College asks all returning students to complete a Summer Activities Survey so that we can better understand students' paths and expand these opportunities. This information will also be used to populate a peer-to-peer summer database through which students can learn from one another about various experiences. This database is password protected and viewable only by the Yale community. Student names and contact information will not be displayed without their consent. So, if you have not already completed this survey, please take a few minutes to do as soon as possible. The survey is available via Symplcity: <https://yale-csm.symplcity.com/>

Notes for Sophomores on Fellowships, Scholarships, and Grants

For information about fellowships, scholarships and grants, consult the C.I.P.E.'s Office of Fellowships website.

Academic Benchmarks for Juniors

- By the end of the sixth term of enrollment you must have **completed** all of your skills requirements, and you must have earned at least one course credit in each of the three disciplinary areas, to be eligible for promotion to senior standing. Students who anticipate special difficulties in meeting the distributional requirements for the junior year should speak to me individually as soon as possible.
- Check on your progress towards fulfillment of requirements for your major, and if you have not declared a major, you need to do so via SIS. If you are thinking about completing two majors, please make an appointment to meet with me.
- Check on your progress towards fulfillment of Distributional Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree: successful completion of no fewer than two course credits in the humanities and arts, two course credits in the sciences, and two course credits in the social sciences. In addition, you must fulfill the skills requirements by successful completion of two course credits in quantitative reasoning, two course credits in writing, and courses to further your language proficiency. No credits earned in courses completed on a Credit/D/Fail basis may be used to fulfill any of the junior year or bachelor's degree distributional requirements, nor may credits earned in independent study, tutorial, directed research, or directed reading courses.
- If you have been awarded at least 4 acceleration credits and have a question about accelerating by means of acceleration credits, please make an appointment to see me.
- By the end of your sixth term of enrollment you must have successfully completed a minimum of 26 course credits to be promoted to senior standing.

Advising & Tutoring Resources

Information on a range of tutoring resources is available on the "Advising Resources" website at <http://advising.yalecollege.yale.edu/>

Notes for Juniors from Yale Study Abroad

If you are planning on participating in Junior Term Abroad for spring term 2022, you must apply by October 15 to the Yale College Center for International and Professional Experience (C.I.P.E.).

The deadline to apply for 2022 Yale Summer Session Programs Abroad is February 15, 2022. If you are considering credit for summer study abroad in 2022 with Non-Yale programs, you must apply for approval through the [Summer Abroad program](#). The deadline to apply for credit for a Non-Yale Summer Abroad program is March 1, 2022.

Fellowships, Scholarships, and Grants

For information about fellowships, scholarships and grants, consult the C.I.P.E.'s Fellowships website.

Recommendation File

You can use an online program, Interfolio, as a dossier service to request and keep on file letters of recommendation for employers, schools, or fellowships. You should begin to ask your instructors to write letters for this file now, so that you have them ready to send out whenever opportunities arise. For more information about this service, please consult the [Office of Career Strategy website](#) or talk with an OCS counselor.

Academic Benchmarks for Seniors

- Check carefully on your progress toward fulfillment of the Distributional Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree; a minimum of two course credits in each disciplinary area (humanities, science, social science), a minimum of two course credits in Quantitative Reasoning and Writing, and completion of the language requirement.
- No courses taken on the Credit/D/Fail basis may be used to fulfill the distribution requirements for the bachelor's degree.
- Check on your progress towards fulfillment of requirements of your major, and pay special attention to the Senior Requirement in your major: it may involve a two-term Senior Essay that must be begun this term or enrollment in a special seminar that meets only in the Fall term.
- By the end of your final term of enrollment you must have successfully completed **a minimum of 36 course credits for the degree.**

Other Resources

- Information on a range of tutoring resources is available on the “Advising Resources” website at <http://advising.yalecollege.yale.edu/>
- For information about fellowships, scholarships and grants, consult the C.I.P.E. Fellowships website.
- You can use an online program, Interfolio, as a dossier service to request and keep on file letters of recommendation for employers, schools, or fellowships. You should begin to ask your instructors to write letters for this file now, so that you have them ready to send out whenever opportunities arise. For more information about this service, please consult the [Office of Career Strategy website](#) or talk with an OCS counselor.

Workshops:

Essentials for First Years: A bundle of 4 key ASP workshops—Time Management, Seminars v. Lectures, Getting the Most Out of Your Reading, and Pathways for First Years—offered during the first 2 weeks of classes. Students can sign up for all 4 workshops using this Google form: [Essentials for First Years](#)

Transitioning Back to In-Person Learning workshops: Workshops designed to help students ease back into their in-person academic work by considering strengths they built during remote learning and strategies for re-engaging academically in person.

- For First Years: [Thurs., Sept. 9, 4-5 pm ET](#) OR [Weds., September 15, 7-8 pm ET](#)
- For Upper-level students: [Tues, Sept. 7, 7-8 pm ET](#) OR [Weds. Sept. 15 7-8 pm ET](#)

Returning from your Leave of Absence workshops: This workshop helps students who are returning from leaves of absences adjust to academic work after returning from campus. Students will consider how their time away may have affected their academic interests and goals and make plans for moving forward and making new connections in their academic lives.

- [Thurs., Sept. 4, 7-8 pm ET](#); [Weds. Sept. 8, 4-5 pm ET](#); [Tues., Sept. 14, 7-8 pm ET](#).

Senior Thesis Peer Groups:

Students will meet regularly to share strategies, support, solidarity, and accountability in the development and writing of the senior thesis. Meetings begin the week of September 13: [ASP Senior Thesis Groups](#).

ASP Peer Groups for First Years and Sophomores:

Organized by class year and area of academic interest, these peer groups meet regularly with an ASP mentor as they explore the academic resources and opportunities that are especially important for first-year and sophomore students.

- [Academic Peer Mentorship Groups](#) (for non-FGLI students)
- ASP/Community Initiative Peer Groups for first-gen/low-income students (students will also receive a direct invitation via email on Mon. August 30)
 - [Click here to sign up for an FGLI First-Year Peer Group](#)
 - [Click here to sign up for an FGLI Sophomore Peer Group](#)

Disability Peer Mentorship Program

Formerly led on a volunteer basis by Disability Empowerment at Yale (DEFY), Dean Chun requested that the program now be institutionalized through Academic Strategies. The program matches students with disabilities with peer mentors who have similar experiences navigating academic life at Yale. Students can request a mentor via this form: <http://tinyurl.com/2021MentorRequest>. First-year students can also request mentorship through the [SAS Peer Liaison Program](#).

Please note: Through October 4, all of our workshop, peer group, and 1-1 will remain online. After Oct. 4, we hope to begin to offer an opt-in option for in-person 1-1 and small group meetings, while our workshops will remain online throughout the fall.

Below is a list of our upcoming events, workshops, 1-1 mentoring opportunities, and resources. Can you please include this information in your next dean's email?

Thank you for your support! Here's to another great year!

Best wishes,

Karin Gosselink

Director, Academic Strategies Program

Yale Academic Strategies Program

https://yaleconnect.yale.edu/PoorvuAcademicStrategies/club_signup

<https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/academic-strategies-program>

Our mission is to help all Yale undergraduate be active, empowered learners at Yale. Through peer academic mentoring, interactive workshops, and connections to resources, we hope to provide you with the tools that can propel you towards your goals.

ASP Peer Groups for First Years and Sophomores:

Organized by class year and area of academic interest, these peer groups meet regularly with an ASP mentor as they explore the academic resources and opportunities that are especially important for first-year and sophomore students. To sign up, click here: [Academic Peer Mentorship Groups](#)

ASP/Community Initiative Peer Groups for FGLI First-Years and Sophomores

A partnership between the FGLI Community Initiative and ASP, this program places first-generation/low-income (FGLI) students in small peer groups led by an FGLI-identifying junior or senior peer mentor. Students can talk through their experiences navigating Yale and receive in-depth information and support about important Yale resources and opportunities.

[Click here to sign up for an FGLI First-Year Peer Group](#)

[Click here to sign up for an FGLI Sophomore Peer Group](#)

Senior Thesis Peer Groups:

Students will meet regularly to share strategies, support, solidarity, and accountability in the development and writing of the senior thesis. Meetings begin the week of September 13. Sign up here: [ASP Senior Thesis Groups](#).

Disability Peer Mentorship Program

A collaboration between Academic Strategies and Disability Empowerment at Yale, this program matches students with disabilities with peer mentors who have similar experiences navigating academic life at Yale for individual mentoring. Students can request a mentor via this form: <http://tinyurl.com/2021MentorRequest>. First-year students can also request mentorship and guidance about Student Accessibility Resources through the [SAS Peer Liaison Program](#).

ADHD Discussion Group

Academic Strategies hosts a discussion group for undergraduate students with ADHD. Share strategies and support with peers who understand your experience. To sign up, fill out this form: [ADHD Discussion Group](#).

Meet with our Learning Specialist

Have a learning difference or other condition that affects how you accomplish your academic work? We can talk with you about new approaches for meeting Yale's academic challenges. Contact Academic Strategies Learning Specialist Sarah Cussler (sarah.cussler@yale.edu) for an appointment.

For First-Years: College Transition Videos

Did you know that [diving into your syllabi can help you succeed in your classes](#)? What to learn [the keys to performing well on p-sets](#)? Learn about these topics and more through our college transition videos: <https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/undergraduates/academic-strategies/first-years-workshops-videos-events>

Individual Mentoring

Get organized for the semester by meeting with an [Academic Strategies Mentor](#). Mentors will help you develop a weekly study routine, offer strategies for approaching complicated readings and p-sets, and help you develop a plan for prepping for those first exams. Our online mentoring schedule goes live Monday, Sept. 13. If you'd like to schedule a meeting before then, please email us at academicstrategies@yale.edu.

Workshops

Our famous workshop sessions will all be online again this academic year. Register via YaleConnect to access Zoom links:

Time Management

[Monday, Aug. 30, 4-5 pm](#)

[Friday, Sept. 3, 1-2 pm](#)

Time management is key for lowering stress at Yale. Set priorities and develop a weekly schedule that can lead to an active and balanced academic life.

Get the Most Out of Your Seminars & Lectures

[Monday, Aug. 30, 7-8 pm](#)

Learn preparation, participation, note-taking, and review strategies to help you succeed in these two very different learning environments.

Get the Most Out of Your Language Classes

[Weds., Sept. 1, 4-5 pm](#)

Learn the daily habits and mindsets that can help you succeed in learning a language at Yale.

Strategies for Intro Math: Problem Sets & Exams

[Weds., Sept. 1, 7-8 pm](#)

Learn strategies for efficiently working on intro math problem sets and key approaches for studying for exams

Get the Most Out of Your Reading

[Weds., Sept. 1, 9-10 pm](#)

Learn general strategies for effectively reading texts for any Yale class. Learn how to preview a text, effectively interact with the text while reading, and review your reading for class, essays, and exams.

Managing a Heavy Reading Load

[Thurs., Sept. 2, 4-5 pm](#)

Feeling overwhelmed by piles of reading? Learn some essential strategies to make the most of your limited reading time. Have less stress and create more free time!

Reading Analytically for Social Science

[Thursday, Sept. 2, 7-8 pm](#)

This interactive workshop provides an overview of deep reading to generate effective contributions to class discussion, develop essay topics, and identify strong evidence for essays.

Returning from Your Leave of Absence

[Thursday, Sept. 2, 7-8 pm](#)

This interactive workshop helps you assess your current interests, strengths, and needs, and helps you develop a transition plan to help you get reconnected to your academic life at Yale.

Strategic Planning for Your Senior Project

[Thursday, Sept. 2, 9-10 pm](#)

Learn how to plan your writing and research, and how to access support resources for your senior thesis. For full-year and 1-semester senior thesis writers.

Health Advisory Council

Help shape Student Health Care at Yale – Application deadline is September 10, 2021

The Undergraduate and Graduate Health Advisory Councils function as a partnership between Yale Health and students in an effort to promote, review, and revise student care services across the Yale healthcare system. Students bring varying and valuable perspectives on our operational processes and programs, and based on discussions and prioritization, student projects are created to improve overall care. [Learn more and apply today!](#) The application deadline is 5:00pm on September 10, 2021.

Yale University Bands auditions: Sept. 1 – Sept 4.

Concert Band, Jazz Ensembles, Yale Precision Marching Band

<https://bands.yalecollege.yale.edu>



Yale Degree Audit

Yale Degree Audit (YDA) is a tool that tracks your progress toward the bachelor's degree. YDA is located on the Academics tab of Student Information System (SIS). YDA displays the Yale College degree requirements that you have already completed and those that are still pending. A "Look Ahead" feature shows you how future course enrollment might apply toward your degree. Yale Degree Audit does not take the place of face-to-face advising, although you may wish to share your audit with your adviser. Instead, it provides an easy-to-read summary of requirements, allowing you and your adviser to spend more time discussing course selection and academic goals.

Do not rely solely on your degree audit when planning your courses; continue to use Yale's standard systems for schedule planning and employ YDA as an additional tool. More features will be added to YDA in the future, including the ability to track progress toward major requirements.

If you have suggestions, general observations, or questions that are not answered by the FAQs, send them to registrar@yale.edu using the subject line "Degree Audit." If you believe that academic information in your degree audit is incorrect, contact our office.