Last Spring you registered for the Fall Semester. When you return to campus, please review your selections, discuss your schedule with your Advisor, and make whatever changes are needed. Please keep in mind the requirements and other considerations given below.

Your CSS Advisor for this year will normally be the same as last year, but due to sabbaticals and leaves, she or he may be replaced over the summer. Please check your WesPortal in late August to see if your Advisor has changed and, if so, to whom you have been reassigned. Seek advice and authorization from her or him during November preregistration.

**CHOOSING COURSES FOR THE SENIOR YEAR**

All CSS Seniors take CSS 391, Senior Colloquium, in the Fall Semester, and were preregistered for the Colloquium in the Spring. In addition, during their Senior year they take either two Senior Thesis Tutorials (worth one credit each) resulting in the completion of a Senior Thesis, or they make take an individual Tutorial (worth one credit) in order to complete a Senior Essay. Very occasionally, and with the approval of your Advisor and the CSS Co-Chairs, Senior Essays may also be completed within an advanced seminar in one of the social sciences.

All Seniors should submit an updated Senior Thesis Proposal or Senior Essay Proposal as an attachment to the CSS Administrative Assistant by Wednesday, September 4th. Guidelines for that proposal are described in the “Senior Year Program,” a document that is part of this summer mailing.

**General Education Expectations:** You must finish both your Stage I and Stage II General Education Expectations by the end of your Senior year in order to graduate with a CSS major. If you are not yet Stage II compliant, you should devise with your Advisor a plan (or a revised/updated plan if you already submitted a previous plan) to complete Stage II by the end of spring semester. Please let the CSS Co-Chairs know your plan to complete your Gen Ed requirements. Do this by e-mail to Martha by Wednesday, September 4th.

**General Notes**

**Grades:** As in Junior year, CSS courses (including the Senior Thesis and the Individual Tutorials) are graded on the usual scale of A to F. You may take your other courses graded or not, if the professor gives you a choice, and the results will be recorded accordingly on your transcript by the Registrar's Office. For the Senior Thesis Tutorials, your Senior Thesis Advisor will usually give you a grade of X for the Fall Semester, which serves as a placeholder until the Senior Thesis is completed. Then she or he will revise the X grade to a letter grade in the Spring. This is to your advantage, as it gives the Thesis students more time before they are graded. Note that the Honors designation on your Senior Thesis has no automatic relationship with the grades you receive for your Senior Thesis Tutorials; Honors is determined by the Thesis Readers, while your Tutorial grades are determined solely by your Senior Thesis Advisor.

**Transcripts:** You should know that the Registrar's Office prepares your transcript using a special format for CSS students. In addition, you should check your transcript before including it in applications for jobs or graduate school; information sometimes gets lost in the shuffle, especially transfer credits (especially from overseas programs), completion of Incompletes, clearing of X grades, and Audits.