STRUCTURE OF THE SOPHOMORE YEAR

Along with this document, we are e-mailing the CSS calendar for next year, which will also be on the CSS webpage, as well as a letter outlining the upcoming year in the CSS for your class. You will also be given documents outlining the first assignments for the appropriate tutorial.

In time the full syllabi for the sophomore courses will be available on the CSS website. Be in touch with your tutors about any possible changes to the syllabi.

Your CSS faculty advisor, now and for the rest of the year (and generally for the rest of your time at Wesleyan), will be the tutor for your first trimester tutorial.

Choosing Courses for the Sophomore Year

In the fall, you will be taking the sophomore colloquium (CSS 271) as well as your first trimester tutorial for which you have been assigned (CSS 220 or 230 or 240). You may be preregistered for a non-CSS course for the fall. Once drop/add has begun you may change the non-CSS course or add an additional non-CSS course (with partial or full credit), but you should consult your CSS advisor about all the courses you will be taking in the fall. Remember that, even though you will not be taking the Social Theory Colloquium in the spring, you will be preparing for the Sophomore Comprehensive Exams (Sophomore Comps) in late April/early May. Due to the Comprehensive Exams, it is wise for you to avoid courses where the main work (perhaps a research paper) is due at the end of the semester.

During preregistration in the fall for spring semester classes, sophomores will be pre-enrolled in the second and third trimester CSS tutorials. **Note that you will actually have begun the second tutorial during the fall semester before you are pre-enrolled prior to the pre-registration period.**

Economics Requirement

If you have already taken ECON 101 or ECON 110 and received a grade of C- or better, you have satisfied the Economics requirement for CSS. In addition, if you have taken the AP exams or the IB exam in Economics and received a score of 4 or 5 on BOTH AP (Microeconomics and Macroeconomics) exams or a score of 5 or higher on the IB exam, you have satisfied the Economics requirement. Please be sure that your AP or IB scores are registered in your student WesPortal for verification purposes.

If you have not yet taken an Economics course at Wesleyan and you are unable to use AP or IB
exam scores to satisfy the Economics requirement, you must enroll in ECON 101 or ECON 110 (for which a full-year of college-level calculus is required) in the upcoming fall semester.

If you have already taken one of the introductory Economics courses at Wesleyan in your freshman year but you did not achieve a grade of C- or higher, you must enroll in another Economics course in the upcoming fall semester. This second course would normally be a 200-level elective in Economics. To fulfill the Economics requirement by the end of your fall semester, you must have achieved a grade in your second Economics course that is sufficiently high so that the average in the two Economics courses is at least C-. If you fail to achieve an average grade of C- or higher in your two Economics courses, you will be required to leave the CSS at the end of the fall semester. If you have any questions about the Economics requirement or your own status, please write to the CSS Co-Chairs.

General Education Expectations

Due to the heavy load of required courses for CSS sophomores, you are not required to fulfill Stage I expectations by the end of the sophomore year. Instead, you should satisfy Stage I and be on your way toward satisfying Stage II by the end of the junior year. CSS students who do not complete Stage I of the General Education expectations by the end of the sophomore year must, by the start of spring preregistration for fall courses in the junior year, submit for approval of their advisor and the CSS Co-Chairs a plan for completing the expectations of both Stage I and Stage II by graduation. To graduate with a CSS major, a student must be Stage II Compliant no later than the end of the senior year.

GENERAL NOTES

Absences and Late Papers

Sophomores must attend all tutorials and submit a completed paper prior to class. Likewise, they must attend every session of the colloquium and submit assignments on time. Absence from classes undermines a common learning experience; failure to finish papers on time breaks the chain of effort and criticism on which the tutorial method depends. An absence from any tutorial or the colloquium for any reason or a failure to complete a paper on time will be reported to the CSS Co-Chairs and the student will be given a warning. A second absence or late paper within that tutorial or in the colloquium for any reason will result in the student being placed under review. Depending on the circumstances, a review for failure to attend class can result in separation from the CSS major. Late papers initiate the late-paper procedures described on the CSS web page at: https://www.wesleyan.edu/css/formajors/latepapers.html.
Grades

The sophomore tutorials and colloquium are ungraded, instead you will receive evaluations, both written and oral. At the end of the year there is a Comprehensive Examination on the material of these courses, graded in the CSS mode (High Distinction, Distinction, Commendable, Satisfactory, Conditional Pass, Unsatisfactory). This single grade is the only grade to be recorded on the transcript for sophomore year; letter grades in courses taken outside the CSS will not appear on the transcript but will be converted to pass/fail (CR/U) grades. This policy is intended to reduce stress in the sophomore year, while encouraging you to explore new subjects and take challenging courses across the curriculum. During Drop/Add in the fall and during preregistration for the spring, you should choose the CR/U mode of grading if it is available for your courses.

- One exception is any Economics course that you are using to satisfy the Economics requirements. Such a course should be taken graded.
- If the student wishes to apply for a certificate or complete a minor or major that requires a record of the grade, sophomores could register for courses on a graded basis. The letter grade will be converted to CR/U for the CSS transcript after the semester is over. This grade conversion allows the grade to remain in the records of the department or program that requires courses be taken for a letter grade.
- The CSS will send an email to outside-CSS Course Instructors to let them know that if a course is taken initially for a letter grade, the letter grade will be converted to CR/U afterwards.