The Marianna Brown Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Richard Scheines, Bess Family Dean
Sharon Carver, Associate Dean for Educational Affairs
Joseph E. Devine, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
Kelli Maxwell, Associate Dean for Student Success
www.hss.cmu.edu (http://www.hss.cmu.edu)

The Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences consists of undergraduate programs in English, History, Information Systems, Modern Languages, Philosophy, Psychology, Social and Decision Sciences, and Statistics & Data Science, as well as those offered by the Carnegie Mellon Institute for Security and Technology. Dietrich College also offers a student-defined major option, numerous interdepartmental majors, the intercollege Bachelor of Humanities and Arts program, and honors and pre-professional programs.

The college embodies one of the most varied groups of students, faculty, staff and alumni in the Carnegie Mellon University community, all united by a common goal: confronting and solving society’s most complex problems. We learn through experience, and we work without silos or walls. Our students and faculty work across traditional boundaries, collaborating with other disciplines to pursue the thrill of discovery. Dietrich College is a place to explore different points of view. And a place to do work that matters.

At Dietrich College, we approach education differently. We mash up the traditional liberal arts with analytical and computational approaches. Beginning in their first year, our undergraduates confront real-world problems like democracy and data, racism or environmental justice through Grand Challenge Seminars (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/programs/grand-challenge/) that are co-taught by faculty from disciplines across the college and university. In addition, students are required to take General Education (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/gened/) courses tied to specific learning goals. These courses help students to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills that are essential to their careers, citizenship and life. In addition to the required courses, students’ schedules also allow for broad exploration of our majors and minors (https://cmu-staging.andrew.cmu.edu/dietrich-2/academics/degrees-majors-minors/). Experiential learning programs (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/prospective/undergraduate/experiential-learning.html) – like internships, undergraduate research, study abroad and community service – enhance our students’ undergraduate education.

Dietrich College students develop deep disciplinary knowledge — but that’s just the beginning. Students learn how to work on teams involving many disciplines. The knowledge landscape changes rapidly, and what students learn today may be outdated tomorrow. At Dietrich, students “learn how to learn,” discovering how to communicate, think and understand the world in ways that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

Dietrich College alumni report that the skills they learned while in college have helped them land opportunities in a highly competitive job market. Just as importantly, those skills helped graduates follow their passion and succeed in new endeavors outside a more traditional career path. Among the 90% of the Dietrich College class of 2022 (https://www.cmu.edu/career/outcomes/post-grad-dashboard.html) reporting, 94% found employment, entered graduate school or pursued other interests, like volunteering or military service.

Degree and Program Options

Dietrich College offers a wide range of majors and minors. In addition, there are a number of special programs which add breadth and enhance a student’s overall experience.
## Dietrich College Majors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Name of Major (Degree Options)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Mellon Institute for Security and Technology</td>
<td>International Relations and Political Science (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Literature and Culture (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Creative Writing (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Film and Visual Media (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Professional Writing (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Technical Writing and Communication (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Global Studies (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (1)</td>
<td>Social and Political History (B.A./B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (2)</td>
<td>Economics and Politics (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (3)</td>
<td>Economics and Statistics (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (4)</td>
<td>Environmental and Sustainability Studies (additional major only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (5)</td>
<td>Ethics, History, and Public Policy (B.A./B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (6)</td>
<td>Health Humanities (additional major only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (7)</td>
<td>Information Systems (B.S.) (by admission)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (8)</td>
<td>Linguistics (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (9)</td>
<td>Psychology and Biological Sciences (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental (10)</td>
<td>Statistics and Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Chinese Studies (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>French and Francophone Studies (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>German Studies (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Hispanic Studies (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Japanese Studies (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Russian Studies (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Logic and Computation (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Philosophy (B.A.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Cognitive Science (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Psychology (B.A./B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Decision Sciences</td>
<td>Behavioral Economics (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Decision Sciences</td>
<td>Decision Science (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Decision Sciences</td>
<td>Policy and Management (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics and Data Science</td>
<td>Statistics (B.S.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes:

1. Offered jointly by the Undergraduate Economics Program and the Carnegie Mellon Institute for Security and Technology
2. Offered jointly by the Undergraduate Economics Program and the Department of Statistics and Data Science
3. Offered jointly by the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Mellon College of Science
4. Offered jointly by the Departments of History and Philosophy
5. Offered jointly by the Departments of English, Modern Languages and Philosophy
6. Offered jointly by the Department of Biological Sciences and the Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition
7. Offered jointly by the Departments of Psychology and Biological Sciences
8. Offered jointly by the Department of Statistics and Data Science and the Department of Computer Science
9. Offered jointly by the Department of Statistics and Data Science and the Department of Mathematical Sciences
10. Offered jointly by the Department of Statistics and Data Science and the Departments of Psychology and Biological Sciences
Additional Majors

Dietrich College students may pursue additional majors and/or minors in the college, as well as in other Carnegie Mellon colleges. An additional major refers to the completion of the requirements for a second major while also completing the requirements for the primary major and degree.

Most Dietrich College majors are also available as additional majors; two (Environmental and Sustainability Studies and Health Humanities) are available only as additional majors. Students from outside Dietrich College can pursue additional majors offered by the college, and would be required to complete only those courses in the college's general education program that are prerequisites to courses required for the Dietrich College major in question.

Minors

Minors are like majors in that they consist of coherent programs of study in a department, or across departments. Minors differ from majors in the number of the courses required and in the breadth and depth of the curriculum in the minor’s area(s) of study. Dietrich College students can also pursue minors offered and made available by other Carnegie Mellon colleges and departments.

There are two types of minors in Dietrich College: departmental minors, which are housed in a single Dietrich College academic department; and interdepartmental minors, which are sponsored by more than one academic department and administered through the faculty advisor’s academic department. The college’s minors are available to students from all colleges in the university.

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<tr>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Creative Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Humanities Analytics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Film and Visual Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Professional Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Technical Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Social and Political History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Mellon Institute for Security and Technology</td>
<td>Cybersecurity and International Conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Mellon Institute for Security and Technology</td>
<td>International Relations and Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Mellon Institute for Security and Technology</td>
<td>Military Strategy and International Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Mellon Institute for Security and Technology</td>
<td>Politics and Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>African and African American Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>Environmental and Sustainability Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>Gender Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>Health Care Policy and Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>Linguistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>Neural Computation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>Religious Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>Science, Technology and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental</td>
<td>Student-Defined (by admission)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Applied Multilingual Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Arabic Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Chinese Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>French and Francophone Studies</td>
</tr>
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<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>German Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Hispanic Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Immersive Technologies in Arts and Culture</td>
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<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Japanese Studies</td>
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<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>Russian Studies</td>
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<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
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<td>Logic and Computation</td>
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<td>Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Rationality, Uncertainty, and Choice: Formal Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Societal &amp; Human Impact of Future Technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Cognitive Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Multiple Degrees

"Multiple degrees" is defined as more than one undergraduate degree granted by the university (whether simultaneous or sequential). One diploma is awarded for each degree; each degree has one primary major associated with it, and the possibility of an additional major and/or minor.

Dietrich College undergraduate students who wish to earn an additional undergraduate degree with a primary major also from Dietrich College must:

- Satisfy all requirements for the primary major to be linked to the additional degree.
- Complete at least 90 units beyond the total number of units required for the first degree. If the major associated with the additional degree requires less than 90 units, the student would earn additional elective units to reach the 90-unit minimum. If the major associated with the additional degree requires more than 90 units, the student would perform exceed the 90-unit minimum in order to fulfill all of the requirements for the additional degree’s primary major.
- Comply with Carnegie Mellon's Statute of Limitations Policy: All units required for an undergraduate degree, whether earned in residence, transferred from another institution or granted via advanced placement, must have been earned within eight (8) years prior to the date on which the degree is granted.

Non-Dietrich College undergraduate students at Carnegie Mellon who wish to earn an additional undergraduate degree with a Dietrich College primary major must complete all of the requirements listed above, plus any portion of the Dietrich College general education program not already fulfilled by prior undergraduate course work.

Bachelor of Arts & Bachelor of Science

Some Dietrich College majors lead to a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree and others lead to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree option. In some majors students may choose between a B.A. and a B.S. degree. B.A. degree programs usually require less course work in technical and/or quantitative disciplines, and more depth and breadth in various humanities and social science fields, and (in some cases) the arts. In contrast, B.S. degrees are offered in majors requiring more technical, quantitative or scientific competencies.

Dietrich College General Education Program

*For students entering prior to Fall 2021, click here (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/gened/previous-curriculum) for the catalog description of the General Education Requirements.

For students entering Fall 2021 and later*

Non-Dietrich College undergraduate students at Carnegie Mellon who wish to earn an additional undergraduate degree with a Dietrich College primary major must:

- Complete at least 90 units beyond the total number of units required for the additional degree.
- Fulfill all of the requirements for the additional degree's primary major.

The Dietrich College General Education curriculum (GenEd) provides robust training and knowledge that complements and strengthens the skills learned in a student’s primary major. The GenEd program contains several unique features including: 1) the anchoring of the curriculum on an explicit set of measurable learning outcomes; 2) a focus on creative multi and interdisciplinary approaches to complex problems; 3) the integration of instruction in core competencies like writing and data science across the entire four-year curriculum; 4) ensuring holistic advising is available to every Dietrich student; 5) the expansion of experiential learning opportunities through research and creative inquiry, paid internships opportunities, study abroad, and community engagement; and 6) the commitment to iterative program-level assessment that includes direct measures of student learning.

The GenEd is built on the foundation of 15 high level learning areas and nearly 50 specific student learning outcomes that guide the program. More information about the learning areas can be found on our GenEd website (www.cmu.edu/dietrich/gened/).

Curriculum Requirements

The GenEd curriculum requirements total just above one third of a student’s overall degree requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category Type</th>
<th>Units Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disciplinary Perspectives</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course Categories

1. Foundations (54 units total)

There are six (6) foundations requirements, designed to teach both competencies that transcend disciplinary boundaries and the foundational knowledge and skills particularly important for Dietrich College students to acquire.

Required in Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Category</th>
<th>Units Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Analysis</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Communication requirement may be satisfied through one of the following options:

1. 76-101 (Interpretation and Argument) or 76-102 (Advanced First-Year Writing)
2. Choose 2 mini courses: 76-106 (Writing about Literature, Art, and Culture), 76-107 (Writing about Data), or 76-108 (Writing about Public Problems).

The Data Analysis requirement must be satisfied through the completion of 36-200 (Reasoning with Data). Advanced Standing (AP, IB, Cambridge, Transfer) credit will be accepted for this requirement.

Required in Years 1-3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Category</th>
<th>Units Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computational Thinking</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contextual Thinking</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercultural and Global Inquiry</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Inquiry</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A list of courses for each of the above requirements can be found on the GenEd website (http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/gened/).

2. Disciplinary Perspectives (42 units total)

There are five (5) disciplinary perspectives requirements, designed to provide a broad reflective understanding of disciplines both within and outside of the College.

Required in Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Category</th>
<th>Units Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required in Years 1-4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Category</th>
<th>Units Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logic/Mathematic Reasoning</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required in Years 1-4 (6 units in one of the following three disciplines):

- Design
- Business
- Engineering

A list of courses for each of the above requirements can be found on the GenEd website (http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/gened/).

3. Special Seminars and Topics (27 units total)

The Special Seminars and Topics offer opportunities for students to engage in high impact learning practices to ensure transformative and integrative learning.

Required in Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Category</th>
<th>Units Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Challenge Seminar</td>
<td>9 units</td>
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</tbody>
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Required in Years 1-3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Category</th>
<th>Units Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equity and Justice</td>
<td>9 units</td>
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Required in Year 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Category</th>
<th>Units Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Capstone</td>
<td>9 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For undergraduates whose chosen major does not require an individual or small group capstone project, the General Education’s senior capstone is strongly recommended, but not required. To fulfill the 9-units, these students should first explore capstone options with their academic advisor and Dietrich’s capstone coordinator before proposing an alternative requirement that showcases their best senior year work.

A list of courses for each of the above requirements can be found on the GenEd website (http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/gened/).

Dietrich College Senior Honors Program

Joseph E. Devine, Director and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
Location: Baker Hall 154F
www.hss.cmu.edu (http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/undergraduate/programs/shp/)

From its inception in 1982, the Dietrich College senior honors program (http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/undergraduate/programs/shp/) has provided outstanding undergraduate students with the opportunity to work individually with faculty members throughout the college on original research and creative projects. The honors program is a senior-year program. Admission is based on achievement of a cumulative GPA of at least 3.50 in one’s major and 3.25 overall, endorsement of a thesis proposal by the faculty member who will serve as thesis advisor, and department head approval. Honors students enroll in an honors thesis course sequence for both semesters of the senior year (9 units per semester). Upon successful completion of the honors thesis, a student qualifies for graduation with Dietrich College Honors, and will have this designation as well as the thesis title noted on the final transcript.

Students have found the honors program to be a challenging and enriching experience in allowing for focused, individualized work on a sustained independent project. In the opportunity it provides to demonstrate one’s capacity for independent and original work, the senior honors program experience helps significantly in developing the ability to present one’s intellectual or creative self to others, including prospective employers or graduate and professional school programs.

The Honors Research Scholarship Program (http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/undergraduate/programs/shr/) is an optional component for students who have applied and been accepted into the college’s Senior Honors Program. Scholars spend the summer before their senior year undertaking early-stage research and development of their thesis topics. Financial support through a stipend and related funds for research-related expenses allows scholars to apply themselves full-time to their projects during these summer months. This in turn enables scholars to build a strong foundation and momentum for their honors thesis as the fall semester of the senior year gets underway, and ultimately leading to completion of the project by the end of the spring semester. Students apply for this scholarship program in the spring of the junior year, simultaneous with submission of an application and thesis project proposal for the Dietrich College Senior Honors Program.

Community Engagement Fellowship

Kimberly Piatt, Director of Experiential Learning
Location: Baker Hall 160
https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/programs/community-engagement-fellowship/index.html (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/programs/community-engagement-fellowship/)

The Dietrich College Community Engagement Fellowship was launched in Fall 2022 and provides students with the opportunity to develop their leadership skills while also learning how to create positive change in their communities. The program spans 5 semesters - Fall, Spring, Summer, Fall, Spring during which students complete a combination of coursework and experiential learning activities. The program curriculum includes:

- 66-148 (3 Units): Fall Semester: Introduction to Community Engagement
- 66-214 (6 Units): Spring Semester: Connecting with the Pittsburgh Community
- 66-300 (6 Units): Fall Semester: Using Collective Leadership to Pursue Community Goals
- 66-4XX (6-9 Units): Spring Semester: Community Engagement Fellowship Capstone Course

At the end of the fellowship, students will engage in a capstone project during which they connect their specific area of passion to what they have learned through the fellowship. This project is flexible and will depend on the student. Students will be expected to present their capstone project to a panel of stakeholders.

Students in the fellowship receive exclusive access to courses and are able to build fruitful relationships with a cohort of peers and community leaders. Students also receive $3,000 to support their involvement in the community. Additional opportunities, like board membership, conference attendance and others are also offered as part of the experience.

The application process for each 12-student cohort occurs in the Spring. Any student with a primary major in Dietrich or those pursuing a BHA degree may apply. Students should be in good academic standing but students may request an exception by speaking with the Director of Experiential Learning. Students interested in applying must have at least 2 years as an undergraduate student remaining so that they are able to complete the full sequence of courses.

Humanities Scholars Program

Therese Tardo, Director
Location: Posner Hall 252
www.cmu.edu/dietrich/hsp (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/hsp/)

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Students in the fellowship receive exclusive access to courses and are able to build fruitful relationships with a cohort of peers and community leaders. Students also receive $3,000 to support their involvement in the community. Additional opportunities, like board membership, conference attendance and others are also offered as part of the experience.

The application process for each 12-student cohort occurs in the Spring. Any student with a primary major in Dietrich or those pursuing a BHA degree may apply. Students should be in good academic standing but students may request an exception by speaking with the Director of Experiential Learning. Students interested in applying must have at least 2 years as an undergraduate student remaining so that they are able to complete the full sequence of courses.
Since 2001, the Humanities Scholars Program (HSP) has provided an opportunity for students to use the tools of humanistic inquiry to describe, analyze and interpret human behavior and the world. While the university is broadly known for its technological prowess and its interdisciplinary ethos, the humanities at Carnegie Mellon are also a vital part of the intellectual ecology of the university. Humanities faculty have joint appointments in various departments across campus: every other college, school, or department on campus, and they collaborate across disciplines in the arts, engineering, and the sciences. At Carnegie Mellon, the Humanities Departments (English, Modern Languages and Cultures, History, and Philosophy) are integrated into the university’s broader academic environment to an unprecedented extent. Interdisciplinary work with technological, scientific, and artistic programs across campus are frequently the nexus by which new scholarly approaches and programs emerge in a changing intellectual landscape. For example, philosophers and computer scientists develop models of artificial intelligence, historians and engineers record emerging environmental patterns and solutions, linguists and cultural theorists help demarcate the patterns of recorded thought.

The Humanities Scholars Program invites a small cohort of students—usually no more than twenty—to work together to investigate the issues that confront contemporary society. The director helps select candidates in collaboration with the Academic Advisory Center and its Associate Dean during their first year at Carnegie Mellon, and they then start the program during their sophomore year with a series of two academic seminars that draw upon the expertise of humanities faculty and the broader intellectual depth of the campus. The Humanities Scholars Program sponsors campus-wide programs, often in collaboration with other programs, such as the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, the College of Fine Arts, and the Institute for Politics and Strategy. The Humanities Scholars experience culminates in a student’s senior year with a capstone project. Students have the ability to use the resources of the program to further their own research, engage with the community, and develop their own areas of expertise. The program is supported by endowment funding from the university as well as from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations in order to support outstanding undergraduate research in the humanities at the university.

For further information, students should contact the Director, Therese Tardio, tardio@andrew.cmu.edu

Quantitative Social Sciences Scholars Program

Mark Patterson, PhD Director
Location: Porter Hall 223 B
www.cmu.edu/hss/qssps (http://www.cmu.edu/hss/qssps/)

The Quantitative Social Sciences Scholars Program (QSSS) offers a unique opportunity in undergraduate education at Carnegie Mellon. In recent years, advances in computing power, increasingly powerful models of human behavior, and the exponential growth of data sets recording human economic and social activity have created exciting new possibilities for entrepreneurs, policymakers, and scholars seeking insight into human social behavior. Firms throughout the economy can now use data analytics to identify new markets, avoid errors, and improve efficiency. Policymakers can use the same techniques to shape the direction and expand the impact of social policies designed to promote the public good. Social scientists can also use these techniques to create a broader and deeper scientific understanding of human behavior that serves as the foundation upon which both entrepreneurs and policymakers can build.

The QSSS program is designed to help outstanding undergraduates impact society through the use of these techniques. It does so by laying out a structured program of training in advanced quantitative techniques that can be broadly applied across a range of social science disciplines and topics. Students combine this methodological training with more traditional coursework in a Dietrich College major of their choice. The program equips students to undertake sophisticated analysis of their own, and features an integrative senior thesis project that applies their methodological training to a research question of their own choosing. Students may apply for entry to the QSSS program during the spring of the first year. Applications consist of a student transcript, and statement of interest.

The QSSS program is not a freestanding major or a minor, per se. It is a program designed to be taken in conjunction with a social sciences or humanities major in Dietrich College. In addition to two seminars completed in the sophomore year, students complete coursework in a concentration area of their choice; selecting specialization in economics, statistics and regression, choice modeling, quantitative policy analysis, computational modeling, or psychometrics and measurement. Concentration areas typically consist of 3-4 courses each. Finally, in the senior year, students complete a two-semester senior thesis paper working in collaboration with a faculty member of the Dietrich College.

The program recruits students with a range of interests across the social sciences to create a cohesive interdisciplinary learning community. Majors that could fit well with this program include (but are not limited to) economics; behavioral economics, policy and organizations; decision science; policy and management; international relations and politics; statistics; statistics and machine learning.

Student-Defined Program

Joseph E. Devine, Director and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
Location: Baker Hall 154

www.cmu.edu/dietrich/undergraduate/student-defined-majors.html (http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/undergraduate/student-defined-majors.html)

For students whose educational goals cannot be as adequately served by the curricula of existing programs, the college provides the opportunity to self-design a major or minor. The procedure for establishing such a major centers on a written proposal, submitted to the college dean's office. This proposal consists of two parts:

Program description and rationale: A description of the components of the proposed program of study; a presentation of the objectives of the program of study, why it represents a coherent and (given available faculty, courses, and other resources) viable course of study, and the reason(s) why these objectives cannot be accomplished within one or more of the college's existing programs.

The curriculum: Presentation of a complete outline of all courses that will comprise the requirements for the major or minor, categorized according to that component of the major program to which each belongs (e.g., mathematics prerequisites; research methods; theoretical perspectives; etc.), and second, a semester-by-semester outline that indicates when each course is to be taken (or, for any already taken, when taken). The minimum requirement for graduation is, as with all majors in the college, 360 units of credit.

Proposals and curricula are evaluated for clarity of focus, coherence and depth in related areas, and viability within the context of the college and university offerings. Proposals should generally be developed no later than the sophomore year, and approved majors begin their program generally no later than the junior year.

As with all other Dietrich College majors, Dietrich College student-defined primary majors must fulfill all of the college's general education requirements.

Student Success & Experiential Learning

Student Success

Kelli Lammie Maxwell, Associate Dean for Student Success
Location: Baker Hall 160

Dietrich College is committed to ensuring students have the programs, opportunities, and resources necessary to reach their personal and academic goals. We view a college education as more than a major or job training, but as an opportunity for a broadened development of mind and character, and as an opportunity to build a strong foundation for students’ lives and careers. We work to ensure equitable and transparent policies and procedures for students as well as opportunities for students to connect with faculty and staff throughout the College. Through the Academic Advisory Center and major departments, we provide four-year holistic advising that assists students with academic choices, career development, opportunities outside of the classroom, as well as physical and mental well-being; and through Experiential Learning, we also offer a number of Dietrich College-specific and university-wide opportunities and programs to ensure students have access to high-impact experiences outside of the classroom, like internships, community service, undergraduate research, and study abroad.

Academic Advisory Center

Andrew Ramey, Director of Advising
Location: Baker Hall 160
https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/advisory-center/

The Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences Academic Advisory Center (AAC) is responsible for advising and monitoring the progress of undeclared Dietrich students prior to and through major declaration. The AAC provides an accessible, welcoming environment where students can seek information and advice, and counsel about planning semester course schedules, fulfilling the college’s general education program requirements, and exploring the various majors and minors available. Advisors help students learn to successfully navigate the Carnegie Mellon environment, become self-motivated and independent learners, and make viable, informed and confident academic and personal decisions. This kind of relationship is vital to a student’s ability to progress, grow and thrive in a new and demanding educational environment. Additionally, the AAC serves as the office of student records for Dietrich College. Acting on behalf of the College Council, the Center Director oversees adherence to university and college academic policies and procedures.

Experiential Learning

Kimberly Piatt, Director of Experiential Learning
Location: Baker Hall 160
https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/prospective/undergraduate/experiential-learning.html

Experiential Learning occurs when a student participates in an opportunity that allows them to apply what they are learning in the classroom to a real-world context. This may include internships, undergraduate research with a faculty member, community engaged learning, study abroad or work-based learning through structured consulting.
Internships-for-Credit

An internship-for-credit is a supervised, professional work experience with clear links to a student’s academic program, performed primarily or totally outside of a regular course structure, and for which a student earns academic credit. Students doing an internship for academic credit must be registered through the academic department of the faculty member supervising the internship, and must register for the internship course during the term (including the summer) when the internship work is being performed. There is no additional tuition charge for credit-bearing internships that are taken during the academic year as part of a normal, full-time course load. Students registered for internships during the summer will be billed for tuition at the per-unit rate set by the university.

To receive academic credit, the internship:

• must conform to the criteria for internships-for-credit (https://www.naceweb.org/internships.html) set by the National Association of Colleges and Employers and the U.S. Department of Labor;
• requires the involvement of a Carnegie Mellon faculty sponsor and an on-site supervisor in the design, oversight and evaluation of the internship;
• must include regular or periodic meetings between the student, the faculty sponsor, and/or the internship site supervisor to monitor progress and offer feedback on student performance;
• requires an end-product for submission to the faculty sponsor. This usually takes the form of a paper, but may also include a presentation, or some other approved form;
• may be taken for a regular letter grade or pass/no credit as per the policy of the department through which the internship course is taken. With department approval, the internship may be counted toward program requirements;
• can vary from 3-18 units in any one semester, and is limited only by the college rule of a maximum of 27 units of internship credit that can be applied to graduation requirements.

Additional policies and practices regarding internships-for-credit vary among the college’s academic departments. Departments are not obligated to allow internship credit for its majors, and are free to determine whether an internship may be used to fulfill requirements or serve only as an elective. An internship-for-credit is a graded experience. Each department will determine appropriate criteria for the grade if an internship is approved for credit.

Credits for internships are generally earned according to the following scale:

• 9 units = the equivalent of 1 day (9-12 hours) per week during a full semester
• 18 units = the equivalent of 2 days (12-20 hours) per week during a full semester

A Dietrich College student may not earn more than 18 units of internship credit during a single semester or count more than 27 units of internship credit toward fulfillment of graduation requirements.

In instances when the internship sponsor requires that a student receive academic credit from the home institution, the student should contact the Dietrich College Director of Experiential Learning for information and advice about available options.

Dietrich College Internship Opportunity Grants

www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/resources/internship-opportunity-grants.html (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/resources/internship-opportunity-grants.html)

Dietrich College encourages students to pursue interesting and professionally relevant internship opportunities. Often, however, the very positions that provide students with the most challenging and high-quality work experiences are either unpaid or modestly paid. To help compensate students for taking on work experiences that will be invaluable in helping them define and move toward their career goals, the Dietrich College Internship Opportunity Grant Program seeks to make it more financially possible for students to take advantage of such worthwhile internship opportunities.

Undergraduates with primary majors in Dietrich College, as well as BHA students, are eligible and encouraged to apply. Current sophomores and juniors receive preference.

NOTE: Graduating seniors are not eligible.

Students are expected to find their own internships. There are many resources available to help in finding internships, including the Career and Professional Development Center’s internship database. Preference for grants is given to students who find positions in the public sector or non-profit agencies.

For more information, including application timeline and instructions, see: www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/resources/internship-opportunity-grants.html (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/resources/internship-opportunity-grants.html)

Dietrich College Pittsburgh Summer Internship Program

www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/programs/summer-internship-program.html (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/programs/summer-internship-program.html)

The Dietrich College Pittsburgh Summer Internship Program is designed for undergraduates who have not yet had a meaningful internship and are seeking to engage and connect with non-profit organizations and start-ups in Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh-area companies and organizations host Dietrich College students for a 10-12 week summer internship, working around 20 hours per week. Students that secure an internship through the program receive a $3,000 stipend provided by the college.

Because of the program’s strong local focus, all interns are required to work in the City of Pittsburgh during the summer, not remotely, so as to ensure that they get the most out of this experience. Participants are also required to attend professional development workshops hosted by the program and focused on a variety of topics including communication, professional etiquette, giving/receiving feedback, and networking.
Carnegie Mellon University Washington Semester Program

Audrey Kurth Cronin, Director, Trustees Professor of Security and Technology
acronin@andrew.cmu.edu, Posner Hall 385A

Emily Half, Deputy Director
ehalf@andrew.cmu.edu; 412-268-7082, Posner Hall 391

Ashley Barnes, Washington Program Manager
ashleyba@andrew.cmu.edu; 202-608-8316, 100 Maryland Ave NE, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002

www.cmu.edu/cmist (http://coursescatalog.web.cmu.edu/schools-colleges/dietrichcollegeofhumanitiesandsocialsciences/www.cmu.edu/cmist/)

The Carnegie Mellon University Washington Semester Program (CMU/WSP), sponsored by the Carnegie Mellon Institute for Security and Technology (CMIST), is a semester-long program in which students live, intern, and take CMU classes in Washington, DC. Full-time undergraduates from any course of study at the university may participate in the program. Students earn forty-eight units for the Carnegie Mellon University Washington Semester Program, interning about twenty-four hours per week in any sector or field of interest within Washington, DC, while taking classes taught by Carnegie Mellon faculty.

From embassies to nongovernmental organizations, think tanks to advocacy organizations, government agencies to congressional offices, and consulting firms to media outlets, Washington, DC, is the center for many political, international relations, and public policy activities. Students in the program come into direct contact with political, business, and community leaders and learn about the most pressing policy issues of the day.

Through this experiential learning program, CMU/WSP participants develop professional and networking skills, explore how coursework connects to the real world, learn to give and receive constructive feedback in the workplace and classroom, and intentionally reflect on their learning and growth. Every CMU/WSP student is paired with a Washington, DC-based alumni mentor to share career advice and tips about life in DC. CMIST also sponsors events and policy-oriented opportunities in Washington for students participating in the program to further enrich their experience and enhance their understanding of how Washington functions as a hub of international and policy decision making.

Students should contact the Washington Program Manager to discuss the specifics of the program and the deputy director to discuss how the CMU/WSP may fit into their curriculum. Students who participate in the CMU/WSP may qualify for a minor in Politics and Public Policy (https://www.cmu.edu/ips/undergraduate/20degrees/minors/minor-in-politics-and-public-policy.html).

Applications (https://www.cmu.edu/ips/washington-dc-semester-program/application.html) are accepted on a rolling admission basis with a final deadline of October 1, for spring semester participation, and March 1, for fall semester participation.

Curriculum

Students who are admitted to the CMU/WSP will be enrolled in the 3 unit (pass/no pass) course 84-215 Tomorrow’s Professionals in the mini semester directly preceding their time in DC.

During the semester in Washington, all students enroll in the following core seminars (24 units).

Core Seminars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>84-360</td>
<td>CMU/WSP: Internship Seminar</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-450</td>
<td>Policy Seminar</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-451</td>
<td>Policy Seminar II</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students must enroll in 24 units from the below list of elective seminars. Offerings vary by semester.

Elective Seminars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>84-313</td>
<td>International Organizations and Law</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-330</td>
<td>The Shading of Democracy: The Influence of Race on American Politics</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-331</td>
<td>Money, Media, and the Power of Data in Decisionmaking</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-334</td>
<td>The History and Practice of Economic Statecraft</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-335</td>
<td>US China Relations</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-336</td>
<td>Implementing Public Policy: From Good Idea To Reality</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-337</td>
<td>Biomedical Science Research, Policy, and Governance</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-339</td>
<td>Seminar in Public Policy Research</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Academic Standards, Regulations and Protocols

Graduation Requirements

Eligibility for graduation in Dietrich College requires that a student:

1. satisfy all Dietrich College general education requirements,
2. satisfy all course requirements in a Dietrich College primary major,
3. achieve a cumulative quality point average of at least 2.00 for all courses taken (or, alternatively, for all courses taken after the 1st year),
4. earn at least 360 units with a minimum of 180 units taken at Carnegie Mellon University,
5. be recommended (certified) for graduation by the faculty of the student’s primary major department,
6. meet all financial obligations to the university, and
7. qualify for graduation within eight years of matriculation as a degree candidate.

The college reserves the right to modify these academic standards, regulations, and protocols.

Graduation with University Honors

Dietrich College students who achieve an overall QPA of at least 3.50 will be recommended for graduation with University Honors.

Graduation with College Honors

Students who successfully complete a senior honors thesis under the auspices of the Dietrich College Senior Honors Program qualify for graduation with Dietrich College Honors.

Double-Counting Courses

Double-counting refers to instances when a course taken to fulfill one requirement counts simultaneously toward a requirement in another major or minor program. While the college encourages study in complementary areas where majors and minors frequently share requirements in common, it also wants to keep clear the meaning and integrity of the labels “major” and “minor.” To preserve the integrity of these definitions, double-counting is permitted in Dietrich College on a very limited basis, and only in those instances when the course(s) in question represent only a small portion of the second program.

The college and its departments have developed program-specific guidelines for this practice that appear throughout the Dietrich College section of this catalog, and particularly in the case of major and minor programs that students frequently pursue in combination.

Dietrich College Credit Policy for Non-Carnegie Mellon Courses

The following policies govern the practice of Dietrich College undergraduates taking courses elsewhere and requesting that credits for these courses transfer to their Carnegie Mellon University academic record. Courses taken elsewhere will be considered for transfer credit if the institution offering them is fully accredited, and if the courses in question are judged to be acceptable for the purposes proposed by the student.

Approval

Dietrich College undergraduates who wish to take courses at another institution and request that credits for these courses transfer to their Carnegie Mellon University record should familiarize themselves with Dietrich’s transfer credit policies (http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/advisory-center/transfercredit/cmu-course-credit.html). Students must receive approval before taking any courses at another institution in order to guarantee that they will receive transfer credit upon successful completion of the course(s).

Limits

Undergraduate students may a maximum of 180 units and transfer these back for credit toward the Carnegie Mellon degree.
Exceptions
These limits do not apply to courses and credits taken through cross-registration via the Pittsburgh Consortium for Higher Education (PCHE), and approved study abroad or exchange programs. Exceptions to these restrictions may be made only by way of written petition to the Dietrich College Office of Undergraduate Studies.

In general, approved courses taken elsewhere will transfer as elective credit, unless otherwise approved by the college or relevant academic department.

Grades
Courses taken elsewhere must be taken for a regular letter grade (not pass/no credit or pass/fail) in order to be granted transfer credit. As a matter of college policy, Dietrich College students must earn a final grade of at least "C" in order for the credit to transfer. A "C-" grade is not transferable when its equivalency is below a 2.00 on a 4.00 scale, or 70%. In cases when courses proposed for transfer credit are to apply to requirements in a Dietrich major or minor program, the program's department may set a higher minimum final grade in order for credit to transfer. Only units, not grades, transfer for courses taken elsewhere, and thus do not affect a student's Carnegie Mellon GPA. Ungraded or pass/fail courses may receive credit if the transcript key indicates that the mark represents a grade of C or better. Students should consult their academic advisor before taking courses at another institution for which they want to receive transfer credit.

External Transfer Students
For students entering Carnegie Mellon and Dietrich College as external transfers, the same 180-unit limit on transfer credit applies. A candidate for the bachelor's degree must complete a minimum of four semesters of full-time study, or the equivalent of part-time study, comprising at least 180 units of coursework at Carnegie Mellon. If a degree has already been obtained at another institution, courses that count toward that degree may not be used again as transfer credit toward a Carnegie Mellon University undergraduate degree.

Internal Transfer Students
This policy applies retroactively to students who enter Dietrich College through internal transfer. Courses previously approved for transfer credit may be re-evaluated if courses or grades change. On a case-by-case basis, students may petition to take these courses for transfer credit to be obtained in advance.

While on academic suspension, students are considered to be on a mandatory "leave of absence" and are governed by College and University policies concerning leaves of absence (https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/student-leave.html).

Course Overloads
Overloading is defined as taking more than the equivalent of five full-semester courses in one semester; for Dietrich College students this usually means registering for more than 50 units in one semester.

Eligibility to overload is defined as having a QPA of at least 3.25 in the last completed semester, based on a course load of at least 45 factorable units, and a current cumulative QPA of at least 3.00. Students new to the college and university (i.e., first-year students and new external transfer students) may not overload during their first Carnegie Mellon semester.

Eligibility to overload based on QPA does not automatically allow the student to register for an overload. Rather, students must complete an overload petition, and meet with their primary academic advisor to discuss the proposed overload. If approved, the academic advisor will increase the student's unit maximum for the relevant semester.

The first opportunity to register for a course overload is after registration week for the proposed overload semester. Registration week for the spring semester is usually the third week in November; for the fall semester, it is usually the third week in April. Consult the official university academic calendar for the exact dates.

If as a result of final grades for the current semester a student approved to overload for the next semester falls below the QPA overload eligibility criteria, the academic advisor may withdraw the overload permission. Students thus affected are responsible for resolving this in consultation with their academic advisor.

Physical Education and Stuco* Courses
A maximum of nine units of credit for any combination of Physical Education (69-xxx) and Stuco (98-xxx) courses may be counted as credit toward graduation requirements. Physical Education and Stuco courses are not included when calculating a student's QPA or when calculating units to determine eligibility to carry a course overload.

*Stuco (http://www.cmu.edu/stuco/) refers to "student-led courses"—i.e., courses designed by students, and approved to be offered for academic credit.

Internships-for-Credit
An internship-for-credit is a supervised, professional work experience with clear links to a student’s academic program, performed primarily or totally outside of a regular course structure, and for which a student earns academic credit. Students doing an internship for academic credit must be registered through the academic department of the faculty member supervising the internship, and must register for the internship course during the term (including the summer) when the internship work is being performed. There is no additional tuition charge for credit-bearing internships that are taken during the academic year as part of a normal, full-time course load. Students registered for internships during the summer will be billed for tuition at the per-unit rate set by the university.

To receive academic credit, the internship:

• must conform to the criteria for internships-for-credit (https://www.naceweb.org/about-us/advocacy/position-statements/position-statement/us-internships/set by the National Association of Colleges and Employers and the U.S. Department of Labor
• requires the involvement of a Carnegie Mellon faculty sponsor and an on-site supervisor in the design, oversight and evaluation of the internship;
• must include regular or periodic meetings between the student, the faculty sponsor, and/or the internship site supervisor to monitor progress and offer support at least on a weekly basis;
• requires an end-product for submission to the faculty sponsor. This usually takes the form of a paper, but may also include a presentation, or some other approved form;
• may be taken for a regular letter grade or pass/no credit as per the policy of the department through which the internship course is taken. With department approval, the internship may be counted toward program requirements.
• can vary from 3-18 units in any one semester, and is limited only by the college rule of a maximum of 27 units of internship credit that can be applied to graduation requirements.

Additional policies and practices regarding internships-for-credit vary among the college's academic departments. Departments are not obligated to allow internship credit for its majors, and are free to determine whether an internship may be used to fulfill requirements or serve only as an elective. An internship-for-credit is a graded experience. Each department will determine appropriate criteria for the grade if an internship is approved for credit.

Credits for internships are generally earned according to the following scale:
• 9 units = the equivalent of 1 day (9-12 hours) per week during a full semester
• 18 units = equivalent of 2 days (12-20 hours) per week during a full semester

A Dietrich College student may not earn more than 18 units of internship credit during a single semester or count more than 27 units of internship credit toward fulfillment of graduation requirements.

In instances when the internship sponsor requires that a student receive academic credit from the home institution, the student should contact the Dietrich College Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies for information and advice about available options.

Dietrich College Dean's Honor List
Each semester the college recognizes those students who have attained outstanding semester quality point averages by naming them to the Dietrich College dean's honor list.

Students who complete at least 45 factorable units and attain a semester QPA from 3.50 through 3.74 are named to the Dean’s List, with Honors. If the semester QPA is 3.75 or higher, students are named to the Dean’s List, with High Honors.

Students who complete at least 36 or up to 44 factorable units and attain a semester QPA of 3.75 or higher are named to the Dean’s List, with Honors.

In addition, it is generally the case that students who are not eligible for the dean's list who receive one or more "Incomplete" grades at the time when final semester grades are recorded.

Transferring into Dietrich College
Undergraduate students in other Carnegie Mellon colleges who wish to transfer (http://www.cmu.edu/hss/advisory-center/transfer/international.html) to Dietrich College apply through the college's Academic Advisory Center (https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/advisory-center/), located in Baker Hall 160. If approved, the transfer is into the college first and then into a primary major. Decisions regarding
transfers will be based on evidence of adequate prior academic performance and on the applicant's prospects for success in the college and intended major.

The earliest point when undergraduates are considered for transfer into Dietrich College is after mid-semester grades are available in the second semester of the first year. Students interested in transferring to Dietrich College should begin the process well before the course registration period for the upcoming semester. Prior to submitting a transfer application, students are encouraged to meet with representatives in the department where they are hoping to pursue a primary major.

Course Failures and Course Repetitions

Students who fail a required course must repeat and pass it (or take and successfully complete another approved course that fulfills the requirement). If a failed course is to fulfill a prerequisite to more advanced coursework, within a specific course sequence, the failed course must be repeated before moving on to higher level course. **Exception:** Dietrich College students who do not successfully complete their first-year seminar will be registered for another first-year seminar where space is available.

Failed courses that are repeated, and completed, or courses that are passed but repeated in order to obtain a higher grade, remain on the student's record and are included in calculating the student's QPA. Students who repeat a course that they have already passed will not be able to apply the second set of units for the course toward graduation requirements.

Academic Actions

In order to maintain good academic standing, Dietrich College students must attain at least minimum quality point averages for each semester (as well as cumulatively), and also make and maintain adequate progress toward completing their degree requirements. Minimum quality point averages for good academic standing are 1.75 in the first year and 2.00 thereafter. “Adequate progress towards graduation” generally means that students are successfully completing 36-52 units per semester so that at the end of eight semesters they will have accumulated the minimum of 360 units required for graduation, have a cumulative QPA of at least 2.00, and fulfilled all college General Education and primary major course requirements.

When a student fails to meet minimum performance criteria, it normally results in an “academic action.” Depending on the circumstances, one of the following actions is taken: academic warning, academic probation, continued probation, suspension, or drop.

Academic Warning

Academic Warning serves to alert the student that the college is concerned about one or more actions they have taken or have failed to take despite meeting the college's minimum QPA threshold to maintain good standing. A student receives an academic warning when they meet any of the following criteria: repeatedly failing to attain minimum-level passing grades in prerequisite courses; earning a QPA between 1.75 and 1.99 in the first year; failing to complete the first-year general education requirements by the end of the student’s fourth semester; failing to complete C@CM by the end of the first semester; failing to make sufficient progress through their declared primary major, or the general education program; having two consecutive semesters failing to complete a minimum of 36 units per semester; receiving multiple Incomplete grades in a semester; receiving Incomplete grades over two consecutive semesters; or taking leaves of absence in each of two consecutive semesters.

Academic Probation

A student is placed on academic probation when performance fails to meet the minimum standard. The term of academic probation is one semester, and signifies to the student and the college’s insistence that academic performance return to at least the minimum acceptable level, and to improve the overall QPA. If, after one semester, the college's concerns have not been alleviated, the student is removed from academic probation and returned to good academic standing when both the semester and cumulative quality point averages meet at least the stated minimum, and when adequate progress toward completing degree requirements is being made. A student who has had one semester on probation and is not yet meeting minimum requirements but is making significant progress in this regard may be continued on academic probation.

Academic Suspension

Academic suspension is the usual action taken when a student fails to meet the minimum semester or cumulative requirements for two consecutive semesters. In general, a first-year student will be suspended if the semester and overall QPAs are below 1.75; for sophomores, juniors, and seniors, if these are below 2.00. Failure to maintain adequate progress toward graduation may also be a contributing factor in such decisions.

The minimum period of academic suspension is normally two semesters (not including summer), during which a student on academic suspension is expected to reflect on the circumstances leading up to the suspension, identify the issues that prevented them from achieving academic success, and take actions that address these issues and demonstrate sufficient readiness to return to the university and successfully resume their studies. These actions could include a work or internship experience, academic course work at another college or university, and/or other supportive services as appropriate.

Midway through the semester before a suspended student is eligible to return to the university, the student will be contacted via email by the Associate Dean for Academic Success or designee with detailed instructions about the process for requesting approval to return and re-enroll.

Once cleared to return from academic suspension, the Enrollment Services office will be notified and the student will be eligible to enroll. While on academic suspension, students are considered to be on a mandatory “leave of absence,” and are governed by college and university policies concerning such leaves. See subsequent discussions of “Leave of Absence and Withdrawal from the College.” Students returning from academic suspension do so on final academic probation.

Academic Drop

A student is dropped for academic reasons from the college and the university, and is not permitted to re-enroll when a student, already on final academic probation, continues to perform at levels below the minimum set by the college for good academic standing, and shows no indication of being able to reach an acceptable level of performance or maintain steady progress toward completing graduation requirements.