

LEARNING RESOURCES

Bridgewater State College's undergraduate program provides fundamental knowledge in different areas of study as well as specialized, in-depth knowledge and skills in a major area. Each student acquires the knowledge and skills to communicate effectively, think logically, work quantitatively, and evaluate and assimilate information from a variety of sources. These skills are critically important to a life of learning and personal and professional growth.

The core of the Bridgewater State College academic experience is the study of liberal arts. Every student, regardless of major, completes the core curriculum – a general course of study that provides a foundation for studies in each major. Distribution requirements include fine and performing arts, humanities, natural sciences and social/behavioral sciences. Most of the core curriculum is completed during the first two years of college, with the last two years focused on the major field of study.

Emphasis is placed on reading, writing and oral communication skills. Business executives rank proficiency in communication as the most important skill an employee can possess. The ability to collect and integrate information, organize one's ideas, express these ideas logically and clearly, and respond to the ideas of others is rooted in language skills.

The college has a rich and varied array of majors, minors and program options. For the undergraduate student, there is a broad spectrum of more than 100 such possibilities.

THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

The Academic Achievement Center houses a variety of programs and services that support the adjustment to college and the academic success of students. The Academic Achievement Center is located on the ground floor of the Maxwell Library and includes the following programs:

The Haughey Academic Advising Program

The advising program serves freshmen and all other students who have yet to declare an academic major. Freshmen are introduced to the advising program during orientation and participate in a number of group and individual advising sessions throughout the academic year. The focus of the advising program is on helping each student plan a program of study and make a successful and happy transition to college life.

Enrichment Program

A variety of services is available to help strengthen those skills most essential to effective learning both in college and throughout life.

The program is based on the college's commitment to provide students with every opportunity to build upon strengths they have while correcting any deficiencies. This assistance is provided through specialized courses in English and mathematics and through resources such as Studying and Research Services, the Writing Studio, Mathematics Services, Communication Laboratory, Second Language Services and Disability Resources. Tutorial assistance is also provided.

Students needing assistance may be referred by faculty or staff. A student may also request special help, which the college may provide.

Learning Assistance Services

Students may receive assistance through the following services offered in the Academic Achievement Center:

Communication Lab – Students are assisted with preparation of oral presentations through services that teach strategies for topic selection, outline development and research, as well as through opportunities for presentation practice.

Mathematics Services – Students participate in individual or small-group tutoring and have access to a variety of video and computer materials to support mastery of mathematics concepts and skills.

Studying and Research Services – Students are helped to develop strategies for managing the demands of college courses and skills for completing demanding course assignments.

Writing Studio – Students are provided individualized assistance to strengthen skills at all stages of the writing process.

INTRODUCTORY COLLEGE SKILLS

Courses – Students may be assigned to a class or to Introductory College Skills courses as a result of a review of the students' high school records, SAT scores and performance on various placement examinations generally given during Freshman Orientation. A student may also request this assistance, which the college is pleased to provide.

The course or courses will be graded on a (S) satisfactory/ (U) unsatisfactory basis and will not be calculated in the student's cumulative quality point average. Students assigned to any of these courses must complete the course successfully before attempting any other course in that area. (The credit earned in any Introductory College Skills course may not be used to satisfy Core Curriculum Requirements nor may it be applied toward the minimum number of credits required for graduation in any major.)

FRSK 100 Introductory College Skills: Intrusive Advising

– A specialized learning/advising program for freshmen offered by the Academic Achievement Center and conducted in a small group setting. Students who wish further information about this course should contact the Academic Achievement Center.

FRSK 101 Introductory College Skills: Writing

– The course will consist of an intensive review of basic communication skills, chiefly those of reading and writing. Students who wish further information about this course should consult with the chairperson of the Department of English or the Academic Achievement Center.

FRSK 102 Introductory College Skills: Mathematics

– Fundamental principles of algebra and geometry. Students who wish further information about this course should consult with the chairperson of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, or the Mathematics Laboratory director, or the director of the Academic Achievement Center.

CONTINUING AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

The Office of Continuing and Distance Education works closely with the academic schools to provide credit courses offered after 4 PM, off campus or on weekends, during intersession and during the summer. The office is responsible for all undergraduate and graduate courses offered via distance learning. Continuing and Distance Education also provides noncredit online courses and certificate programs.

Continuing and Distance Education offers students an opportunity to complete a degree started years ago, take courses around a busy work and family schedule, further their knowledge, gain professional experience or learn something new for personal enjoyment. For more information, contact the Continuing and Distance Education Office at 508.531.2788 or visit the Web site at www.bridgew.edu/cde.

TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Bridgewater State College strives to remain in the forefront of educational technology. A wireless network across campus, an array of technology-enhanced courses, classroom and laboratories that integrate technology, a robust residence network service, and a program for student notebook computers combine to give Bridgewater State College students an advantage in our technologically based society. See "The Educational Environment" section of this catalog for additional details.

THE COMPUTER NOTEBOOK PROGRAM

The college's computer notebook program, initiated in fall 2004, builds upon the college's strengths in technology to engage all students at Bridgewater State College in a technology-rich educational experience and to help students develop skills that will be invaluable before and after graduation. Students can access the Internet using the college's wireless network, find and view course information and communicate with their classmates, and stay connected at home to keep up on e-mail and homework.

Beginning with freshmen entering in the Fall of 2004 and applying to all subsequent entering classes, the college requires new full-time undergraduate students to own a notebook computer. This policy also applies to full-time transfer students whose accumulated credits place them in a graduating class for which notebooks are required. Students may purchase a computer on their own that meets the minimum specifications or may purchase their notebook through the college's agreement with a selected vendor offering competitive prices and the standard suite of office software. More information about the notebook program can be found at <http://notebooks.bridgew.edu/>.

RESIDENCE NETWORK

The residence network (ResNet) service provides all resident students with high-speed Internet access, reduced long distance telephone charges, voice mail, and cable TV, which includes HBO, NESN and movie channels that air on Residence Life Cinema. Every month, 16 recently released feature films are available for viewing.

The ResNet program is handled by one payment each semester, which provides for all support needed to ensure the availability of these services. Further information on the ResNet program can be found at <http://resnet.bridgew.edu/>.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

THE HONORS PROGRAM

The Honors Program at Bridgewater State College encourages gifted and highly motivated students to reach their highest potential through critical thinking, scholarship and research. Small classes and close student-faculty relations provide for the vigorous and thorough exchange of ideas, while the program as a whole works to create an atmosphere fostering intellectual, artistic and academic achievement.

The program does not require students to complete additional course work beyond the credit hours necessary for graduation; instead, students earn honors credits by taking honors sections of regular courses and/or honors colloquia during their freshman and sophomore years, and by undertaking individualized research programs with faculty mentors during their junior and senior years. For information on funds available to support student research, see "The Office of Undergraduate Research and the Adrian Tinsley Program for Undergraduate Research" below.

Honors students meet with the director or assistant director once a semester to discuss their work in the program. For all honors work completed with a grade of B (3.0) or higher, students receive honors credit on their transcripts, and those who complete the program receive an honors degree – a goal worth serious effort both for the intrinsic satisfaction it brings and the advantages it provides at a time of strong competition for graduate and career opportunities.

Commonwealth and Departmental Honors

Students can participate in the Honors Program in two ways: by undertaking all of the requirements listed for Commonwealth Honors or by undertaking the requirements listed only under Junior and Senior Years for Departmental Honors. Commonwealth Honors thus runs throughout a student's undergraduate career, whereas Departmental Honors takes place only in the student's last two years. Commonwealth Honors includes the requirements for Departmental Honors; a student might undertake only Departmental Honors if he or she transferred to Bridgewater State College or developed an interest in pursuing honors work after the freshman year.

A complete description of the opportunities and requirements for the Honors Program is available at www.bridgew.edu/honors/program/ or the "Undergraduate Academic Programs" section of this catalog.

The Undergraduate Academic Experience

THE OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND THE ADRIAN TINSLEY PROGRAM FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

The Adrian Tinsley Program for Undergraduate Research (www.bridgew.edu/atp/), with the support of the Office of Undergraduate Research, provides opportunities to Bridgewater State College undergraduates who wish to pursue research, scholarship or artistic work under the guidance of a full-time faculty or librarian mentor. Through ATP, students design and develop research projects, learn new research skills, gain a more sophisticated understanding of the nature of academic research, and have opportunities to present their research and creative work at regional and national conferences. The outcome of the program is for students to graduate with the self-confidence, motivation and ability to conduct independent scholarship and research.

The Tinsley Program supports a variety of undergraduate projects, conducted over the course of a semester, summer or longer, involving research or other forms of scholarship or artistic work in all disciplines. The project may include laboratory research in the physical and life sciences; research in education, mathematics and business; scholarship in the humanities and social sciences; and stage performances, displays or research in the visual arts and design.

The Tinsley Program provides year-round support of undergraduate research through a variety of competitive opportunities:

Summer Grants are awarded to students for work done over 10 weeks of the summer on an in-depth, research project conducted under the supervision of a BSC faculty or librarian mentor. The grant includes a stipend awarded to the student, who may also apply for additional money for research expenses, and a stipend for the faculty or librarian mentor.

Semester Grants are awarded each semester to offset the costs of research-related supplies and travel.

Travel Grants support students who present their research at regional or national conferences, and fund travel, lodging, registration and related fees.

The National Conference on Undergraduate Research. Bridgewater State College traditionally sends a number of students to the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), which is held in different cities each year. Students may use their travel grants to attend the conference and present their work.

The Undergraduate Research Symposium takes place in April each year in the Moakley Center and showcases undergraduate research through oral and poster presentations and displays. Faculty, staff, students, administration and guests are welcome.

The Undergraduate Review: A Journal of Research and Creative Work publishes undergraduate research annually. For more information and submission guidelines, see www.bridgew.edu/atp/ur.htm.

Midyear Symposium for First and Second Year Students takes place on the last day of the fall semester each

year and showcases first experiences in research by individuals and groups at the college. Faculty, staff, administration and guests are welcome.

The Graduate Application Reimbursement Program reimburses students who have previously received an ATP summer or semester grant for up to \$250 worth of fees for applications to graduate schools.

Additionally, The Office of Undergraduate Research features outside sources of funding for undergraduate research, opportunities to present regionally and nationally, and to publish research and creative work by undergraduates in national undergraduate journals. Students interested in these or the Tinsley Program can contact the office at 508.531.2436 or by visiting the OUR Web site at www.bridgew.edu/our.

THE BRIDGE: A STUDENT JOURNAL OF FINE ARTS

The Bridge is a journal of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama and visual art created and published by undergraduate students and alumni. Once each year, students and alumni are invited to submit their creative works which are competitively selected by a student editorial board. For more information, contact *The Bridge* at thebridgejournal@bridgew.edu, or at 508.531.2983.

INTERNSHIPS

Internships consist of both on- and off-campus work experience with a site supervisor/employer for academic credit under the guidance of a faculty member or noncredit through the Internship Program. Internships allow students to gain career-related experience while in college, an important factor in finding the first professional position. Students interested in internships should first check with their academic department if they wish to receive credit. Credited internships are usually tied to a student's academic major. Students need to have completed a specific number of credit hours and go through a formal approval process before credit can be awarded. To determine possible internship sites, students should check with their academic department as well as the Office of Career Services' Internship Program, which maintains a database of internship opportunities in the region. Some students who choose to do an internship but do not need credit may want to meet with the career services internship coordinator to help locate opportunities, prepare for the internship interview, develop a cover letter and resume and learn important tips for getting the most from the experience. These services are offered to any student looking for an internship whether or not it is for credit. For further information, see the "Academic Programs" section of this catalog.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SERVICE-LEARNING

Bridgewater State College believes firmly in the relevance and importance of experiential learning in all of its academic programs. Service-learning is a teaching method that uses community service to help students gain a deeper understanding of course objectives, acquire new knowledge and engage in civic

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activity. A number of faculty incorporate service-learning into their courses. The college has established a center for Community Service and Service-Learning in the Campus Center to develop community contacts and collect and disseminate information on service-learning and volunteer opportunities.

In addition, various student leadership programs at Bridgewater State College include community service components. Projects include Habitat for Humanity, Jumpstart, Earth Day projects, domestic and international alternative spring break programs, Old Colony Big Sister Big Brother, programs that focus on homelessness and poverty, Meals on Wheels and many more.

CHILDREN'S PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENTAL CLINIC

For more than 36 years, Bridgewater State College has sponsored the Children's Physical Developmental Clinic (CPDC), a nationally recognized academic program that fosters professional development, service learning and leadership development. The CPDC affords students from all majors a challenging opportunity to volunteer as clinicians working with children and youth with disabilities, ages of 18 months to 18 years.

The aim of the clinic program is to improve the "total development" of children with disabilities by enhancing vital physical, motor and aquatic skills and patterns. In addition, the program stresses the improvement of children's self esteem by strengthening emotional-social aspects of their personalities through successful involvement in play, recreation and sport activities.

Over a hundred students serve as clinicians and group leaders each semester, making the CPDC the largest student organization on campus. Over the years, BSC students have determined that the CPDC not only augments their professional preparation; but, upon graduation, is most critical to them when seeking employment and entrance to graduate school.

EXCHANGE AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Bridgewater State College students can study at many universities in the world, including those in countries such as Brazil, Spain, France and Portugal. Bridgewater State College has exchange programs in Brazil, Canada, China, England, Ireland, Japan and Jordan. Students have the opportunity to study in Canada at more than a dozen institutions, including McGill University. Scholarships are available, and financial aid may be used for all travel programs.

Through the National Student Exchange, students may spend up to one year attending a college or university in another state at the in-state tuition rate. The National Student Exchange directory describes more than 175 institutions involved in this program. For further information contact the Office of Study Abroad, www.bridgew.edu/studyabroad.

CAMPUS LIFE

GETTING STARTED: ORIENTATION FOR NEW STUDENTS

Bridgewater State College's orientation program has been designed to introduce new students and their families to the campus community. Through collaborative efforts between the divisions of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, orientation provides programs that are conducive to the academic and developmental success of new students. The goals of orientation are to develop and coordinate programs that promote academic success, to enhance personal and social development, and to provide families and their students with information about services, support systems and issues facing college students.

Orientation is divided into two different programs. The initial program in June is a comprehensive two-day, overnight introduction to the college with an emphasis on placement testing, academic advising and registration for fall classes. Students also have an opportunity to meet with faculty and staff and learn about the resources available at the college. A one-day concurrent family program provides parents with information about services, support systems and resources for their students.

The second program is prior to the opening of classes in the fall when students are given the opportunity to meet new friends, learn the traditions of Bridgewater State College and receive assistance with transition to college life.

COLLEGE EVENTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Literally hundreds of interesting programs, projects and events are available at Bridgewater State College throughout each year. Academic, cultural and social activities and programs are sponsored each year by students, faculty, staff and alumni of the college and include, but are certainly not limited to Homecoming, Parents Day, Convocation, the Massachusetts Hall of Black Achievement at Bridgewater State College, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration and Breakfast, Awards for Excellence, Springfest and the Holiday Concert.

Consult the Bridgewater State College Web site, the numerous bulletin boards across the campus, as well as college publications, for information on campus events as they arise.

CULTURAL, SOCIAL, ATHLETIC AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to classroom instruction, Bridgewater State College offers students a full social, cultural, athletic, recreational and religious life. Art exhibits, lectures, concerts, movies, plays, workshops and sports events make for an active campus schedule. (Please refer to the college Web site www.bridgew.edu for a complete listing of clubs, organizations and a calendar of campus events.)

Through programs sponsored by the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership, the Student Government Association, the Program Committee and other organizations,

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members of the college community have opportunities to attend events featuring significant public figures and internationally acclaimed performing artists.

The Art Building and Maxwell Library feature galleries where exhibits are displayed and the Rondileau Campus Center offers special programs such as performances by the college Choral Society and the Bridgewater State College Dance Company. For students who enjoy the theater, Bridgewater State College has much to offer. Major productions are presented by students in the Department of Theater and Dance throughout the year.

Bridgewater State College has a strong athletic tradition which has grown to include 21 intercollegiate varsity sports teams, a full range of intramural athletic programs and a number of club sports programs. The Adrian Tinsley Center features a state-of-the-art fitness center, a walking track and multi-sport surfaces. The college is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III, the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) and the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference (MASCAC).

Community members keep abreast of events and programs through a variety of campus media. The student newspaper, *The Comment*, and the college's home page focus on news and feature stories highlighting campus life and individual achievements.

The campus radio station, WBIM-FM, provides coverage of events plus a full range of musical and special interest programming. Resident students have access to a cable television local access channel offering college news and information. The Office of Institutional Communications maintains a Campus Events Line 508.531.1768, a weekly recording of campus events.

RELIGIOUS LIFE

The college supports student pursuit of spirituality both individually and in groups. The college provides groups of students the opportunity to form student organizations so they may utilize college facilities for meetings and events as well as request funding from the Student Government Association. The Catholic Center (122 Park Avenue) and the Christian Fellowship Center (29 Shaw Road) are independent entities that offer students both group and individual opportunities for worship and service.

SERVICES TO STUDENTS

Students face many decisions involving housing, finances, health, work, academic programs, post-undergraduate study and career goals. The Office of Student Affairs provides assistance in making these decisions through personal and career counseling, off- and on-campus housing information, health services, child care center, social activities and student advocacy. *The Bridgewater State College Student Handbook* provides detailed information about these services. It is available at www.bridgew.edu/handbook/.

CHILDREN'S CENTER

The Children's Center provides high-quality care and education to preschool-aged children. Open from the beginning of the fall semester in September through the end of Summer Session II in August, the center offers nine different enrollment options ranging from two half days to five full days. This model program, accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, is also available for observation, fieldwork and data collection. The Children's Center is located in the Burnell Campus School, Room 135. For additional information contact the Children's Center at 508.531.1244, www.bridgew.edu/childrenscenter/ or by e-mail at childrencenter@bridgew.edu.