

WHY AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CURRICULUM?

BECAUSE THE WORLD IS INTERDISCIPLINARY. All careers and endeavors require a blend of capabilities and a breadth of understanding to really work. That's why we've built our curriculum to help you see the connections between and among fields of study and ways of learning—to give you the context of how and why the world's systems and cultures operate as they do. And how they can operate differently.

How the Skidmore Curriculum Works
It begins with you getting a foundation in expository writing and quantitative reasoning, the basic skills you'll need to explore, analyze, and communicate. Your focus on integrative learning begins immediately with Skidmore's First-Year Experience. FYE engages you deeply in your academic work through your

Electives

ELECTIVES—the opportunity to explore and engage in a wide range of subjects, topics, and activities.
There are more than 1,000 courses to choose from (see page 26)—Interested in learning Chinese? The origins of classical physics? How about advanced photography? Or performing in a jazz, choral, classical, or drumming ensemble? At Skidmore, you can round out your education.

What's a Tang? A very cool museum, one of the first of its kind anywhere. Having just celebrated its tenth anniversary, the Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery stimulates creativity, encourages interdisciplinary thinking and collaboration, and gets students and visitors excited about the past, present, and future of our life experiences. With innovative and sometimes controversial exhibitions like *Molecules That Matter* and *Staging the Indian: The Politics of Representation*, the Tang gets people to react, think, and create differently.



Joseph Kaifala '08
B.A., International Affairs and Law and Society
M.A., International Affairs, Syracuse University

Imprisoned at six with his father by Liberian militants, Joseph knows injustice and human cruelty firsthand. But instead of feeling victimized, the one-time president of Skidmore's International Affairs Club is using the experience as a springboard for global change.

"I want to be a force for good by getting into international humanitarian law, perhaps with the UN," says Joseph. "Growing up with war makes it clear how important international codes and conducts are. My dream is to be elected to the African Union."



All-College Requirements

choice of one of nearly 50 diverse Scribner Seminars, each limited to 16 students and taught by faculty who serve not only as teachers but also as mentors and advisors. These professors will help you make informed choices about courses (electives and requirements), cocurricular experiences, and toward a course of study leading second major. These concentrations receive increasing focus in your junior and senior years.

The result? The knowledge and the ability, the perspective and the passion to successfully pursue the rest of your life.

FALLS EQUALLY INTO THREE AREAS:

FOR MOST STUDENTS, COURSE WORK AT SKIDMORE

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Your Major

Your chance to focus on one subject area, often supplemented by a second major or minor. Students typically choose a major by the end of sophomore year, after having explored some of the College's nearly 60 majors, including interdepartmental and self-determined options. More than 60% of Skidmore students choose a second major or a minor.

ALL-COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS—a foundation built of fundamental skills, interdisciplinary perspectives, and broad exposure to the liberal arts and sciences.
Foundation (Skills): Expository Writing: 1 or 2 courses
Quantitative Reasoning: 1 or 2 courses

Foundation (Interdisciplinary Perspectives):
First-Year Experience: Your choice of one of nearly 50 Scribner Seminars in an area of interest; seminars limited to 16 students; professor serves as mentor/advisor.
Foundation (Exposure to the Arts and Sciences):
Natural Science: 1 lab course exploring the natural world
Social Science: 1 course focusing on patterns of human behavior and social structure
Arts: 1 course engaging in the creation or performance of artistic work
Humanities: 1 course examining human culture as expressed in historical tradition, literature, and languages
Culture-Centered Inquiry: 1 course in a foreign language and 1 course designated either Cultural Diversity or Non-Western Culture



Courtney Mattison '08
B.A., Marine Biology and Ceramic Sculpture
M.A. Candidate Environmental Studies, Brown University

"Courtney's senior project, 'Fragile Beauty: An Artistic Exploration of Our Endangered Coral Reef Ecosystems,' was both informative and visually stunning—a wonderful blend of sculpture and science. Says the self-determined major, 'We can understand how climate change warms oceans or how carbonic acid acidifies seawater, but this knowledge has a far better chance of stimulating reform if art illuminates our emotional ties to the problems. Science and art combined provide a powerful tool to explore, appreciate, and change the world for the better.'"

A TRULY INNOVATIVE ART CURRICULUM