

HARVARD COLLEGE



APPLICATION FOR
VISITING UNDERGRADUATES

Would you like to spend a term or a year studying at Harvard? If so, our Visiting Undergraduate Student Program may interest you.

Who May Apply

If you are currently enrolled in a full-time, undergraduate degree program in the United States or abroad, if you have a strong academic and personal record, and if your intellectual interests will be well served by the courses offered at Harvard, you may apply to study here as a Visiting Student. Applicants are usually, but not always, in their third or fourth year of undergraduate study.

Harvard College offers a coeducational undergraduate program which welcomes applications from both women and men.

Academic Programs

The curriculum at Harvard College offers a wide variety of courses in the arts and sciences, almost all of which are open to Visiting Undergraduate Students (VUS). The following fields of study are available to students here:

African & African-American Studies	History of Art & Architecture
Anthropology	Human Evolutionary Biology
Applied Mathematics	Linguistics
Astronomy and Astrophysics	Literature
Biochemical Sciences	Mathematics
Biology	Molecular & Cellular Biology
Chemical and Physical Biology	Music
Chemistry	Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations
Chemistry and Physics	Neurobiology
Classics	Organismic & Evolutionary Biology
Computer Sciences	Philosophy
Earth and Planetary Sciences	Physics
East Asian Studies	Psychology
Economics	Religion (Comparative Study of)
Engineering Sciences	Romance Languages & Literatures
English & American Literature and Language	Sanskrit and Indian studies
Environmental Science and Public Policy	Slavic Languages & Literatures
Folklore & Mythology	Social Studies
German Languages and Literatures	Sociology
Government	Statistics
History	Visual and Environmental Studies
History and Literature	Women, Gender & Sexuality (Studies of)
History and Science	

In addition to the departmental offerings, Visiting Undergraduate Students may take courses offered under the Core Curriculum and the new Program in General Education. More information, along with a complete version of the Courses of Instruction, is available online at www.registrar.fas.harvard.edu/courses. Most of the more than 3,000 courses offered to undergraduates are available to Visiting Undergraduate Students, who usually find a wide selection of choices of interest to them.

There are, however, a few limitations. Because some courses are taught for degree candidates only, VUS are not permitted to enroll in tutorials (designated 97, 98, or 99 in the catalogue), individual study courses (sltr), or thesis supervision.

Limited enrollment courses (e.g., studio courses and proseminars) and graduate level courses (designated as 200 or 300 level in the catalogue) are open to Visiting Undergraduate Students only when spaces are available. A VUS is not, of course, a candidate for any Harvard degree.

Other Resources

Most of the resources of Harvard are open to Visiting Undergraduate Students. The Harvard College libraries, the various museums, the Science Center labs, and the theaters provide unparalleled resources for students here. In addition to their academic programs, many VUS take advantage of the extracurricular activities open to undergraduates and the rich cultural and historical setting available in Cambridge and Boston.

The Academic Calendar at Harvard

The academic year at Harvard includes a fall and spring term. The fall term runs from early September to late December and the spring term from late January to late May. Visiting Undergraduate Students sometimes need to make arrangements with their own colleges for adjustments, since they must be here for registration and exams on a calendar that is different from their own.

The Study Rate for Visiting Undergraduate Students

The normal course rate for Harvard students is four courses per term: however, VUS may enroll in one, two, or three courses, or elect to study a full four course program. No matter how many courses you choose, however, your plan of study must meet the approval of both your own college advisor and the Committee on Visiting Undergraduate Admissions. Ordinarily, your own college must also agree to give you transfer credit for the work you undertake here. Visiting Undergraduate Student enrollment is limited to four courses per term, for a maximum of two terms.

If you need assistance in choosing appropriate Harvard courses, you may consult an academic advisor here who is available for counseling Visiting Undergraduate Students.

International Visiting Undergraduate Students are required by United States immigration laws to enroll in a full time program of study.

Housing

Visiting Undergraduate Students are not offered College housing and should use the Harvard Real Estate services website to locate housing during their enrollment at Harvard. Please go to <http://hreslandlord.roommateclick.com/index.asp> to create a profile and begin viewing private listings.

Deadlines for Applications

Visiting Undergraduate Students are considered twice a year for either fall or spring term admission. If you wish to apply for the fall term or for the academic year, you should submit your application by the deadline of APRIL 15. If you wish to apply for the spring term, the deadline is OCTOBER 15. The Committee will consider late applications beyond the deadlines if circumstances warrant. Please consult the VUS Admissions Office about your situation if the deadline has passed.

College Costs

Anticipated semester and full-year tuition costs can be found at the following website:

<http://www.admissions.college.harvard.edu/apply/vus/information.html>.

Scholarships, loans, or any forms of Harvard College financial aid are not available for Visiting Undergraduate Students.

How to Apply

Links to these instructions and forms for applying as a Visiting Undergraduate Student can be found online at <http://www.admissions.college.harvard.edu/apply/vus/forms.html>.

To apply for admission, please submit the following credentials to the Committee on Visiting Undergraduate Admissions.

- **Visiting Undergraduate Student application with a check or money order for \$75.00 (USA) payable to Harvard University.**
- **Official high school transcript.** Students from international, rather than U.S., secondary school systems must send a certified copy of appropriate exam results: e.g., the British 'A' levels, the French Baccalaureate, the International Baccalaureate, etc. Credentials must be in English or accompanied by a translation.
- **Official college transcript.** For admissions purposes, transcripts issued directly to the student, and so marked, are acceptable: photocopies made by the applicant are not. If transcripts will be mailed by the institution directly to the Committee on Visiting Undergraduate Admissions, please provide a stamped, addressed envelope to your registrar to ensure proper delivery.
- **Two faculty recommendations** from instructors within your special areas of study at your current school.
- **Dean's permission form from the degree-granting institution.** This form is to be used to certify that you are currently in good academic standing and that, upon satisfactory completion of the courses taken at Harvard, your college will grant credit toward your degree.

Letters should be sealed in addressed, stamped envelopes provided by the applicant. Recommenders and deans should also sign over the envelope flap. Letters may be returned to the applicant to be mailed with the application, or they may be mailed directly to the Office of Visiting Undergraduate Admissions, if the recommender prefers.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE APPLICANT TO ENSURE THAT THE APPLICATION IS COMPLETE AND MADE IN A TIMELY MANNER. APPLICANTS ARE URGED TO MAINTAIN COMPLETE RECORDS OF ALL MATERIALS SUBMITTED TO AND RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF VISITING UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS.

It is strongly recommended that candidates submit the results of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT I) or the ACT, either as listed on the official high school transcript or reported directly from the College Board (code #3434) or the American College Testing Service (code #1840). Applicants are also encouraged to submit the results of any SAT II: Subject Tests or A.P. Tests that they have taken.

In addition, students whose native language is not English ARE REQUIRED to submit TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) scores not more than three years old.

For information about dates, times, and exam centers for all tests, please consult the testing agencies directly.

Candidates for Visiting Undergraduate Student admission will not be interviewed. Applicants with unanswered questions or concerns should call or write the Office of Visiting Undergraduate Admissions, 86 Brattle St., Cambridge, MA 02138, (617) 495-9707, or e-mail adm-vus@fas.harvard.edu.

Considerations in Selection

The Committee looks for students with strong educational reasons for study at Harvard and for evidence of academic strength and personal integrity. The Committee will select only students with a coherent plan of study and with well documented reasons for studying here. Your academic preparation for your proposed plan of study will be taken into consideration, and the approval of your current college or university is also important. The availability of space in the courses you wish to undertake will also be a factor.

Notification of the Committee's Decision

Students who apply by October 15 will be notified by early December. Students who apply by April 15 will hear in late June. The Committee on Visiting Undergraduate Admissions will give careful consideration to all candidates; however, once the decision has been made, all decisions are final. Decision letters are mailed to the recipients' mailing addresses; decisions are not delivered via e-mail.

Admissions Policy

As a matter of policy, Harvard does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national or ethnic origin, political belief, veteran status or handicap in the administration of admission policies.

FOR STUDENTS WISHING TO APPLY AS TRANSFERS TO HARVARD COLLEGE

Harvard College has indefinitely suspended its transfer admissions process. You can read more at the following website: <http://www.admissions.college.harvard.edu/apply/transfer/index.html>. Updates regarding this decision will be posted on the same website upon release.

The Visiting Undergraduate Student program is available specifically for students who wish to take advantage of academic and other opportunities available at Harvard for a term or a year and then return to their own colleges. **Students who are currently enrolled as Visiting Undergraduates will not be considered for transfer admission.**

Other Programs of Interest

Students who wish to enroll as visiting students, but have already earned a Bachelor's Degree, may apply to:

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Office of Special Students
Holyoke Center
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-5392

Students interested in evening courses for personal enrichment, professional enhancement, or for the purpose of earning a degree, should contact:

Harvard University Extension School
51 Brattle Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-4024

For information about Summer Session courses contact:

Harvard Summer School
51 Brattle Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-4024

Information about the English as a second Language Program may be obtained from:

English as a Second Language
51 Brattle Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-2693

www.harvard.edu