



Stern College for Women

Established in 1954 through a major gift from the late industrialist Max Stern, in memory of his parents, Emanuel and Caroline Stern, Stern College for Women is the college of arts and sciences for women of Yeshiva University. The rigorous curricula prepare women for careers, graduate study, and leadership in their communities while embodying the unique concept that the values of Judaism are relevant to the general culture of Western civilization.

The college provides academic majors in 20 arts and sciences disciplines, all leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree. It also awards the Associate in Arts degree in Jewish Studies. In addition, YU offers programs in conjunction with the university's graduate schools as well as with other leading universities. For information on these programs visit <https://www.yu.edu/pathways>.

As part of the curriculum leading to the bachelor's degree, all students progressively obtain a strong mastery of Jewish texts through the Rebecca Ivry Department of Jewish Studies, which offers a broad selection of courses ranging in skill level from elementary to advanced. Designed to deepen ethical and philosophical insight and values, this Department affords valuable training in research methods and independent work.

The college's location at Yeshiva University's Israel Henry Beren Campus in the heart of midtown Manhattan adds immeasurably to students' educational experiences. New York—the cultural and economic capital of the world—offers opportunities like no other place. The college has approximately 1000 students from some two dozen states and a number of other countries.

Now in the second half of its first century, Stern College for Women has developed a broad set of educational programs, internships, and research opportunities as well as cultural enrichment programs to develop the talents and respond to the interests of the individual student—graduating women well prepared both to contribute to society and take on the challenges of tomorrow.



DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: BACHELOR OF ARTS

- A. **Credit Requirement:** Each student must complete 128 credits.
- B. **Residency Requirements:** Students must be in residence full time at Stern College in New York for at least six semesters and must complete at least 84 credits, including 60% of their major and, if applicable, minor, at Stern College. Transfer students should consult with an academic advisor regarding their residency requirements.
- Up to 12 credits of approved courses at YU's Graduate Schools may apply toward residency.** The normal amount of time for the completion of the degree is four years; students are expected to complete all work within six years of the date of admission, excluding Leaves of Absence.
- C. **Grade Requirements:** Students must achieve a grade point average of 2.000 or better in all studies, including the major and, if applicable, the minor, and a grade of C- or better in all courses used to meet the major and, if applicable, the minor.
- D. **Administrative Requirements:** Each student must file an Application for Graduation during the registration period of the semester in which the student completes all requirements.
- E. **Bachelor of Arts Course Requirements:** Students are required to complete courses in general education, Jewish studies, and in their majors.

All majors at Stern College lead to a degree of Bachelor of Arts. Majors in various business areas leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science are offered through Sy Syms School of Business.

I. General Education Requirements– 16 courses

The "Notes" column of the course schedule indicates which category below a given course fulfills.

Modes of Expression**

6 credits

2 courses

English 1100 or 120H
Speech 1010



Yeshiva University

Undergraduate Catalog for Women 2024-2026

Foundations and Contemporary Perspectives of History, Philosophy and Social Sciences

12 credits

4 courses (from 4 different areas)

Economics
History
Philosophy
Political Science
Psychology
Sociology

Interpreting Literature and the Arts

9 credits

3 courses (from at least 2 different areas)

Art History – 1050 may not be combined with 1051 or 1052
English – all literature courses (excluding composition, writing and media courses)
Music 1111 and all Music History courses
Foreign Language (above the 1101 elementary level)**

Science and Technology

6-8 credits

2 courses

Biology 1006, 1011, 1012
Chemistry 1010, 1045, 1046
Physics 1031, 1032 or, 1051, 1052
Science 1060

Quantitative Skills

3-4 credits

1 course

Computer Science
IDS 1010
Mathematics
Statistics

Electives

12 credits

4 courses

All liberal arts courses of at least 2 credits.
Jewish Studies do not count towards this requirement.
A maximum of two Sy Syms School of Business courses may count toward this category.

* Check the catalog and/or course schedule for prerequisites.

** **Hebrew may not be used to satisfy Interpreting Literature and the Arts.**

*** Each major emphasizes writing in the area.



II. Major Requirements - See *Fact Sheets and department websites*. Only one course in the major may count toward the general education requirements, with the exception of a science major in which the first-year sequence counts toward the Science and Technology category. Exceptions may also apply toward the Quantitative Skills requirement.

III. Jewish Studies Requirements

The courses in the disciplines of Bible, Hebrew language, Jewish history, Jewish philosophy, and Judaic studies offered at Stern College constitute the Jewish Studies Program.

Courses are available at all levels from those presupposing little previous knowledge to those requiring proficiency in the use of primary texts.

- SCW/SSB students are required to complete 22 courses in Jewish Studies (JS), except as indicated Exceptions below.
- A minimum of two Jewish Studies courses is required in each semester of attendance.
- A minimum of 16 credits in Jewish studies must be taken in residence on the Beren Campus.

JEWISH STUDIES DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

Courses that meet the distribution requirement are designated courses that must be taken on the Beren Campus. These courses are designated as **"Fundamentals"** in the course schedule and the course attributes in Banner.

Bible (Fundamentals)	2 course minimum
Judaic Studies (Fundamentals)	2 course minimum
Jewish History (Fundamentals)	1 course minimum
Jewish Philosophy (Fundamentals)	1 course minimum

Hebrew Language (based on results of placement exam):

HEBR 1010	3 courses
HEBR 1020	2 courses
HEBR 1030	1 course



Exceptions:

• **Students pursuing 3-2 Combined Programs in Occupational Therapy, Optometry, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant and Podiatry** (3 years on campus or one year in Israel and two years on campus):

- Those doing three years on the Beren Campus take a total of 17 JS courses [3 JS courses during semesters 1-5 and 2 JS courses in semester 6].
- Those who earn credit for one year of study in Israel take 2 JS courses per semester during each of the four remaining semesters on campus.
- Both groups meet the JS distribution

• **Shana Bet students** may opt to take a 1 credit Beit Midrash class for up to two semesters. This will count as the second of their 2 JS classes. Note that the class will not count towards their distribution requirement. Interested students should contact Dr. Deena Rabinovich at drabinov@yu.edu to see if they qualify for this class.

Shana Bet Two Semester:

Such student must take a minimum of 8 JS courses on Beren campus to meet the 2 JS class/semester minimum for all full-time students.

Of those 8 courses,

- 3 JUDS on the advanced level; two of which double dip toward distribution and major
- 3 BIBL on the advanced level; two of which double dip toward distribution and major
- 1 JHIS counts toward distribution but not major
- 1 JPHI counts toward distribution but not major

Distribution requirements must be completed on the Beren Campus.

Only Jewish Studies courses designated as “Fundamentals” in the course attributes in Banner can fulfill the specific distribution requirements. All Jewish Studies courses of **2 or more credits** count toward the total number of 22 required courses.

• **Transfer students and students interested in other combined/joint programs** should meet with the JS academic advisor regarding their JS requirements.

Katz/AA degree recipients who are transferring to Stern/Syms:

- Those students who have spent a year of study in Israel will be required to take 2 JS courses a semester during each of the remaining four semesters on the Beren campus.



Yeshiva University

Undergraduate Catalog for Women 2024-2026

- Those students who have not spent a year of study in Israel will take 3 JS courses for their first semester on the Beren campus and two JS courses for their remaining three semesters on the Beren campus.

MAJORS

Each student must select one subject as a major. A second major is permitted. Subjects in which the student may major are listed below. Additional information and updates on majors are available in the Academic Advisement Center and on departmental web sites.

Biochemistry	Mathematics
Biology	Music
Chemistry	Philosophy
Computer Science	Physical Sciences
Education-Childhood 1-6	Physics
Education-Early Childhood	Political Science
English (Tracks: Literature; Creative Writing, Media Studies)	Pre-engineering
History	Psychology
Jewish Studies (Tracks: General/Jewish Education)	Shaped Major (ie, Art History, Studio Art)
	Sociology
	Speech Pathology/Audiology

The university offers academic and pre-professional advisement. See the section on Academic Advisement and Career Development for details. Information on combined and joint degree programs can be found in the section on Joint and Combined Programs.

Only one course in the major may count toward the general education requirements, with the exception of a science major in which the first-year sequence counts toward the Science and Technology category. Exceptions may also apply toward the Quantitative Skills requirement.



Yeshiva University

Undergraduate Catalog for Women 2024-2026

Each student must take at least 60 percent of the required credits in the major at Stern College.

The approvals of both the Chair of the department in which the student is majoring, and the Office of the Dean are necessary for a substitution of one course for another in the requirements for the major.

Stern College courses in which a student has earned grades of below C- may not be used to meet the requirements of her major.

MINORS

A student may choose a minor in a discipline and have it listed on her BA transcript. Areas in which it is possible to minor are listed below:

American Studies	Mathematics
Art History	Music
Studio Art	Philosophy
Biology	Physics
Chemistry	Political Science
Computer Science	Psychology
Economics	Public Health
Education	Sociology
English	Women's Studies
History	Writing
Jewish Studies	
Mathematics	

Students also may select the business minor offered through Syms School of Business. At least 60 percent of the credits toward a minor must be taken at Stern College or Sy Syms.

Only courses in which the student has earned grades of C- or better may be counted toward the minor.



DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: ASSOCIATE IN ARTS

Jewish Studies

- A. **Credit Requirements:** The student must complete 17 Jewish studies courses totaling a minimum of 34 credits. These requirements must be completed within six years of admission. Students in a Sy Syms School of Business Bachelor of Science program, or in a joint or combined program, must also meet these requirements to receive the AA degree.
- B. **Residency Requirements:** The student must have prior or simultaneous receipt of a bachelor's degree from Stern College or Sy Syms School of Business. At least 11 Jewish studies courses totaling 22 credits must be taken at Stern College.
- C. **Grade Requirements:** Students must achieve an overall average of 3.000 or better in all Jewish studies courses taken on campus for the AA degree.
- D. **Administrative Requirements:** Each student must file an Application for Graduation during the registration period of the semester in which the student completes all requirements.

PLACEMENT

Hebrew Placement: Before registration, each student is assigned to the appropriate level of study—elementary, intermediate, or advanced—based on a written placement exam. (A student will not receive credit for courses on a level lower than the one in which she has been placed.) Even the elementary-level courses presuppose the student's ability to read Hebrew text and to write the Hebrew alphabet in cursive script.

Mathematics Placement: A placement examination in Mathematics, which may be taken online, is required of all students wishing to study biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, and physics.

Foreign Language Study Students studying a new language beginning with the elementary level must take the entire year's sequence. A student who wishes to continue a foreign language taken in high school should use the following general rule: one year of high school study is equivalent to one semester of college study. The first semester of an elementary course is open only to students with no previous course work in the language.



Yeshiva University Undergraduate Catalog for Women 2024-2026

Students will not receive credit for college language courses that duplicate what they have studied in high school.

WORKLOAD

The average number of credits for a full semester's work toward the bachelor's degree is 15 to 18.

The maximum workload is 21 credits (max 7 courses) per semester. This includes courses taken at FIT, as part of YU Pathway's programs, Azrieli and/or Bernard Revel graduate schools, as well as approved courses at another university. Summer workload rules differ.

Students on probation may take no more than six courses or 17 credits per semester.

A full-time student is defined as one who is enrolled for at least 12 credits toward the B.A. degree during a 15-week semester.

S. DANIEL ABRAHAM HONORS PROGRAM

The S. Daniel Abraham Honors Program at Stern College stresses writing and critical analysis, cultural enrichment, research, leadership training, and individual mentoring. The program challenges high-achieving students, while giving them enhanced opportunities for research and personal growth.

Admission to the Program

Students typically apply to and are accepted into the Honors Program prior to their arrival at Stern College. The application process is very competitive. As a guide, the average GPA for Honors acceptees is a 94. The average SAT score is a 1460 (Critical Reading and Math) and the average ACT score is a 32. Students applying to the Honors Program are considered for one of the academic scholarships available to applicants who show outstanding promise.

For more about the admissions process click <https://www.yu.edu/admissions/honors>.

In addition, a limited number of spaces are available each year for students already on campus; such students may apply in early June for entry the following fall. To be eligible for consideration, students must have a GPA of at least 3.85 and submit the special application available from the director of the Honors Program. There are no financial awards given to students already at SCW who join the honors program.



Yeshiva University Undergraduate Catalog for Women 2024-2026

The Program

Honors Courses

Students take at least five honors courses from offerings in the humanities, Jewish studies, natural sciences, and social sciences, as well as interdisciplinary seminars. Summer honors courses are also offered in Europe, Israel, and the United States.

Cultural Enrichment

Students in the program attend concerts, operas, plays, and ballets; enjoy walking tours and guided trips to museums; and visit such “only in New York” destinations as the UN headquarters..

Leadership Sessions

In training workshops led by community leaders and other professionals, students learn networking, negotiating, time management, conflict resolution, and other important skills.

Speaker Series

Outstanding speakers, drawn from a broad array of fields, including the arts, politics, education, media, and medicine, are invited to address the honors students.

Mentors

Each honors student is matched with a faculty member in the area of her major. This faculty mentor offers individualized guidance and oversees the student’s Senior Project.

Senior Project

Each honors student completes a three-semester-long research project and essay, focusing upon a research question she selects with the help of her mentor.

Additional information about the Honors Program is available at

<https://www.yu.edu/stern/ug/honors>