

Concourse Program

Concourse is a highly structured and integrated program for freshmen covering the standard core curriculum in mathematics, physics, chemistry, and humanities. The structure of Concourse follows that of the standard curriculum with scheduled lectures, recitations, problem sets, and quizzes. Small class size (limited to 60 students) and extensive personal interaction with senior faculty and tutors provide students with the intimate atmosphere of a small school while retaining all of the excitement and resources of a large institution such as MIT.

Personnel Information

Members of the Concourse faculty for AY2004 were the following: Dr. Shepard Doeleman, research scientist, Haystack Observatory; Mr. Edward Early, graduate student, Department of Mathematics; Dr. Harold Larson, research associate, Department of Materials Science and Engineering; Dr. John Lewis, senior lecturer, Department of Mathematics; Dr. Jeremy Orloff, lecturer, School of Science; Ms. Ana Ramos, undergraduate, Department of Materials Science and Engineering; Dr. Robert M. Rose, professor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering; Dr. Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno, writer-in-residence, Program in Writing; Jorg Scholvin, graduate student, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; Dr. Jeremy M. Wolfe, senior lecturer, Brain and Cognitive Science and professor of ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School; and Mr. David Zych, lecturer, School of Engineering. Fourteen undergraduates in the fall and nine undergraduates in the spring were employed as graders and teaching assistants in chemistry, physics, calculus, and differential equations.

Staffing changes for the coming year are as follows: For lecturer and principal instructor in 8.02 Physics, David Zych replaces Shepard Doeleman; for 3.091 Recitations, Jeremy Mason replaces Dr. Harold R. Larson and Ana Ramos; for 18.02 Recitations, Benjamin Stephens replaces Edward Early.

Enrollment

Interest in the program increased sharply over previous years. Approximately 130 freshmen applied for fall term and since our maximum is 60, a lottery was held. Enrollment for spring term was also up by over 50 percent from the previous year.

Teaching and Curriculum

9.00 Introduction to Psychology (HASS-D, Category 4, CI-H) continues to be highly successful. As in past years, we have had to run three sections of this course because of the CI requirement.

21.731 Writing and Experience (HASS, CI-HW) was again offered during the spring term.

SP.314 Love and Aggression (HASS-D, Category 1, CI-H) was offered in the spring term, taught by a team comprising an experimental psychologist and a writer-in-residence at MIT.

All other Concourse offerings were as in previous years.

Robert M. Rose

Director

Professor of Materials Science and Engineering

More information about Concourse can be found on the web at <http://web.mit.edu/concourse/>.