

Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Education Office

The Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (HASS) Overview Committee (HOC), to which the HASS Education Office provides all administrative and clerical support, continued licensing HASS-D subjects this year—new and renewal—as well as approving new HASS Communication Intensive (CI-H) subjects and dealing with many other HASS curriculum issues. The HOC discussed evaluation of CI-H subjects; a pilot project will begin in Fall 2004. SHASS associate dean and HOC chair professor Charles Stewart, who serves on the recently appointed Task Force on the Undergraduate Educational Commons, established to review the General Institute Requirements (GIR), solicited committee members' input regarding the HASS component of the GIR. The committee will continue to be involved in this review in the upcoming year. The director of the HASS Education Office, Dr. Bette Davis, serves as *ex officio* member of the HOC, and administrative assistant Amy Devin took the minutes. In addition to working with the HOC, the office has continued its normal work, which includes producing the *HASS Guide* each term, handling HASS concentrations and minors, the Harvard Cross-Registration Program, and compiling various statistics for the dean. We also maintained five databases—the CI-H, HASS Minor, Course 21 majors, Harvard Cross-Registration, and mailing list databases.

Dr. Davis has continued to be involved with the undergraduate exchange component of the Cambridge-MIT Exchange (CME), traveling to Cambridge in early October to facilitate MIT students' receiving HASS credit for papers done at the University of Cambridge.

HASS Enrollment Statistics by Field and Subject—Recent Trends

Total enrollments in all HASS subjects were down—from 9,861 a year ago to 9,610, despite the increase in HASS subjects offered—469, compared to 454 in 2002–2003 (Table 1). There were 20 more autonomous sections—575 for AY03 versus 595 for AY04. The number of HASS-D subjects taught was up slightly, to 119, compared to 111 last year. The two fields with the largest overall enrollments were the same as last year, in the same order: 1,629 in economics (down from 1,737 last year) and 1,523 in foreign languages and literatures (down from 1,613 last year). Fields with the third and fourth highest enrollments also remained the same: literature (951) and writing (764). These were followed by political science (713) and music (628, excluding 6-unit music performance subjects). The various HASS disciplines experienced a considerable range of enrollment changes—some saw a significant drop, some remained stable, and some saw significant increases. linguistics and political science had the largest percentage increases over last year, at 34% (from 140 to 187) and 30% (from 549 to 713), respectively. These were followed by science, technology, and society at 17% (from 266 to 310) and visual arts at 9% (from 139 to 152). Other increases were slight (less than 5%).

HASS Concentrations: Patterns of Popularity

In 2003–2004, students submitted 2,165 HASS concentration proposals and 1,148 completion forms (Table 2), compared to 2,249 proposals and 1,245 completion forms last year. Once again, economics and foreign languages and literatures led in the number of completed HASS concentrations in 2003–2004: 322 students completed concentrations in economics (compared to 363 last year), and 221 completed concentrations in foreign languages and literatures (compared to 245 last year). The next two most popular HASS concentration fields are music, with 97 completed concentrations, and political science, with 55, followed by writing (53), philosophy (49), psychology (47), and history (41).

HASS Minor Programs

AY2004 showed an increase in the total number of HASS minor applications from all graduating classes—467, compared to 432 last year (Table 3). The number of HASS minors received by the Class of 2004 was also up—225, compared to 186 last year. The two most popular fields among the applications filed were the same as last year: economics (182) and music (55). There were 48 minors in foreign languages and literatures (4 in Chinese, 15 in French, 10 in German, and 19 in Spanish), 24 in political science, 21 in writing, 19 in literature, and 16 in comparative media studies. The 225 HASS minors received by members of the Class of 2004 were in 23 fields.

Harvard Cross-Registration

The number of MIT undergraduates cross-registered for courses at Harvard decreased slightly in 2003–2004: 250 students took 283 subjects at Harvard, compared to 263 students enrolled in 280 subjects in 2002–2003. Last year there was an increase in these enrollments, the previous year they decreased, and the year prior to that there had been a sizable increase; they seem to fluctuate for no obvious reason. As usual, foreign languages were the most popular field of study, although they constituted a smaller portion of the total number of subjects than they have previously. Ninety-seven of the 283 subjects were in 18 different foreign languages. The most popular language was Chinese (14 enrollments), followed by French (12), Arabic (11), Urdu-Hindi (9), and Italian and Portuguese (7 each). Other languages had between one and six students enrolled. The most popular field outside foreign languages was biology (21). Other popular fields were government (19), psychology (17), economics (15), and English (13), followed by chemistry, history, and religion (9 each).

Undergraduate Degrees Granted in SHASS

Seventy-eight students received the SB degree in SHASS this year, down from 92 last year. Of these, 44 degrees were in economics (Course 14) and one was in political science (Course 17). During the period September 2003–June 2004, a total of 25 students completed the SB degree in humanities (Course 21). Five of these students received joint degrees, four in 21-E and one in 21-S. Another 17 received degrees in a specified field within Course 21. Four students received the SB in philosophy and four received the SB in linguistics and philosophy (Course 24). Three students were awarded the SB in comparative media studies.

Undergraduate Majors in SHASS

The four departments in SHASS had 148 undergraduate majors this year (Table 4); this figure includes first degrees only. Seventy-seven of these students are majoring in economics and 23 in political science. Thirty-eight students majored in humanities for their first degree in 2003–2004; of these, nine were joint majors (seven in 21-E and two in 21-S.) Of the specified majors within humanities, writing had the most majors (10), followed by music (7) and literature (6). Ten undergraduates had a first degree in philosophy or in linguistics and philosophy. Four students majored in comparative media studies.

Honors and Awards Granted to Undergraduate Majors in SHASS

Among the more notable honors achieved by SHASS majors this year were:

- Todd Anderson ESG Teaching Award: Rachel Elizabeth Dillon '04
- The Boit Manuscript Prize—Poetry, 1st prize: Aaron Parness '04
- The Boit Manuscript Prize—Fiction, 2nd prize: Jean Young Choi '06
- The Boit Manuscript Prize—Essay, 2nd prize: Rachel Dillon '04
- The Robert A. Boit Writing Prize—Poetry, 3rd prize: Jessica Young '06
- The Robert A. Boit Writing Prize—Short Story, honorable mention: Bethany D. Patten '06
- Burchard Scholars: Johnathan Boysielal '05, Jesse Collins '06, Marion Dumas '06, Erkkko Etula '05, Raphael Farzan-Kashani '06, Nao Gamo '05, Mahni Ghorashi '05, Elizabeth Greenwood '05, Tristan Hayeck '06, Haruka Horiuchi '05, Samuel Hwang '05, Jessica Lee '05, Laurel Yong-Hwa Lee '05, Emily Levesque '06, Kathy Li '05, Marta Luczynska '06, Farhan Merali '05, Adam Miller '06, Dinsha Mistree '05, Juliana Olmstead '06, Aarti Patil '06, Mary Presley '05, Lara Rogers '05, Kenneth Roraback '06, Swati Saini '05, Thomas Schilling '06, Smita Singh '05, Tai-Weng Sio '05, Beckett Sterner '06, Stephan Stiller '06
- Undergraduate Economics Association Award for Excellence in Writing: 1st prize: Alexander Batalles '04; 2nd prize: Jeffrey Greenbaum '04; 3rd prize: Andreea Cepoiu
- I. Austin Kelly III Essay Prizes: Ethan M. Fenn '04, Mahni M. Ghorashi '05
- I. Austin Kelly III/Richard Douglas Traveling Fellowships: Jennifer J. DeBoer '05
- Vera List Prize for Visual Arts: 2nd place, Tiffany Kanaga '04
- Phi Beta Kappa: Georgiana Andreea Cepoiu '04, Hogan Chen '04, Jessie Qian Ding '04, Ethan Michael Fenn '04, Jonathan Reed Harris '04, Anne Eunhae Lee '04, Matthew Richard Levy '04, Andrew Palmer McPherson '04, Aaron Joseph Parness '04, Irit Rappley '04, David Gordon Seif '04
- Outstanding Political Science Undergraduate Thesis Award: Kaitlin Lewis '04

– Jeffrey L. Pressman Award: Matthew Brooks '05, Samantha Neuwirth '06, John Velasco '05

– William L. Stewart Jr. Award: John R. Velasco '05

– Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts: Andrew P. McPherson '04

– Anthony and Rosina Sun Fellowship: Geoffrey Kigongo '06

Bette Davis

Director

More information about the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Education Office can be found on the web at <http://web.mit.edu/shass/inside/deansoffice.shtml>.

Table 1. Enrollment in Humanities, Arts, and Social Science Subjects, 2003–2004

Field	Elective Subjects			HASS-Distribution			Total Enrollment		
	#Subjects	(#Sections)	#Students	#Subjects	(#Sections)	#Students	#Subjects	(#Sections)	#Students
Anthropology	14	(14)	136	4	(4)	84	18	(18)	220
Archaeology	6	(6)	92	1	(1)	28	7	(7)	120
Economics	21	(41)	1,554	3	(3)	75	24	(44)	1,629
Foreign Languages & Literature	67	(98)	994	26	(42)	529	93	(140)	1,523
History	27	(27)	250	13	(13)	257	40	(40)	507
History of Art & Architecture	4	(4)	30	4	(4)	93	8	(8)	123
Linguistics	6	(6)	49	2	(2)	138	8	(8)	187
Literature	33	(34)	286	18	(30)	665	51	(64)	951
Music ^a	27	(31)	347	7	(13)	281	34	(44)	628
Philosophy	16	(16)	200	7	(7)	375	23	(23)	575
Political Science	19	(19)	278	9	(9)	435	28	(28)	713
Psychology	6	(6)	172	1	(1)	321	7	(7)	493
STS	15	(15)	137	5	(5)	173	20	(20)	310
Theater Arts ^a	18	(24)	255	3	(3)	44	21	(27)	299
Urban Studies	12	(12)	174	3	(3)	60	15	(15)	234
Visual Arts	10	(10)	93	2	(4)	59	12	(14)	152
Women's Studies	13	(13)	29	4	(5)	67	17	(18)	96
Writing	32	(56)	670	6	(9)	94	38	(65)	764
Other Subjects	4	(4)	54	1	(1)	32	5	(5)	86
Totals	350	(436)	5,800	119	(159)	3,810	469	(595)	9,610

^a Music and Theater Arts 6-unit performance subjects are not included in these statistics.

Notes:

1. Figures were obtained from the MITSIS system, which shows the final tally for each class.
2. The numbers shown are for undergraduate subjects which normally satisfy the HASS Requirement; they do not include subjects allowed by petition.
3. (#Sections) refers to the number of autonomous class sections; it does not apply to subjects which meet in a single lecture and divide into discussion sections.
4. For joint subjects, figures are given for the subject number under which students enrolled.
5. HASS-D Language Option subjects (Level III or IV languages) are included in the HASS-D figures.

Table 2. Concentrations in All the Fields of Humanities, Arts, and Social Science^a, June 2004

Fields of concentration	Class of 2007		Class of 2006		Class of 2005		Class of 2004		Totals in fields	
American Studies	(0)	0	(2)	0	(2)	0	(2)	2	(6)	2
Ancient & Medieval Studies	(0)	0	(1)	0	(3)	0	(4)	3	(8)	3
Anthropology	(0)	0	(8)	0	(9)	0	(18)	18	(35)	18
Archaeology	(0)	0	(3)	0	(4)	1	(11)	11	(18)	12
Black Studies	(0)	0	(3)	0	(2)	1	(0)	0	(5)	1
Comparative Media Studies	(0)	0	(9)	0	(27)	4	(17)	16	(53)	20
East Asian Studies	(0)	0	(8)	0	(15)	0	(22)	20	(45)	20
Economics	(0)	0	(116)	3	(201)	34	(300)	285	(617)	322
Ethnic Studies	(0)	0	(1)	0	(1)	1	(3)	3	(5)	4
Foreign Languages ^b	(0)	0	(95)	0	(153)	24	(207)	197	(455)	221
History	(0)	0	(15)	0	(30)	3	(39)	38	(84)	41
History of Art & Architecture	(0)	0	(0)	0	(3)	1	(11)	11	(14)	12
Labor in Industrial Society	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(1)	1	(1)	1
Latin American Studies	(0)	0	(0)	0	(4)	0	(5)	5	(9)	5
Linguistics	(0)	0	(2)	0	(13)	3	(14)	14	(29)	17
Literature	(0)	0	(13)	1	(34)	5	(33)	32	(80)	38
Middle Eastern Studies	(0)	0	(1)	0	(1)	0	(2)	2	(4)	2
Music	(0)	0	(29)	1	(68)	14	(91)	82	(188)	97
Philosophy	(0)	0	(12)	0	(25)	5	(45)	44	(82)	49
Political Science	(1)	0	(15)	0	(30)	5	(51)	50	(97)	55
Psychology	(0)	0	(12)	0	(22)	2	(46)	45	(80)	47
Religious Studies	(0)	0	(0)	0	(1)	1	(0)	0	(1)	1
Russian Studies	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(1)	1	(1)	1
Science, Technology, & Society	(0)	0	(13)	0	(9)	2	(22)	22	(44)	24
Theater Arts	(1)	0	(5)	1	(9)	1	(30)	30	(45)	32
Urban Studies	(0)	0	(7)	0	(9)	0	(25)	24	(41)	24
Visual Arts & Design	(0)	0	(2)	0	(4)	0	(11)	10	(17)	10
Women's Studies	(0)	0	(3)	0	(7)	2	(12)	12	(22)	14
Writing	(0)	0	(9)	0	(15)	2	(53)	51	(77)	53
Special Concentrations	(0)	0	(0)	0	(1)	1	(1)	1	(2)	2
Total	(2)	0	(384)	6	(702)	112	(1,077)	1,030	(2,165)	1,148

^a The parenthetic figure is the number of proposed concentrations in the given class and field; the figure to its right is the number of these concentrations that have been completed.

^b Figures for subfields of Foreign Languages and Literatures are below:

Chinese	(0)	0	(19)	0	(25)	3	(34)	31	(78)	34
ESL	(0)	0	(0)	0	(1)	0	(3)	3	(4)	3
Foreign Lang & Theory	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0
French	(0)	0	(18)	0	(30)	5	(36)	35	(84)	40
German	(0)	0	(10)	0	(14)	2	(17)	16	(41)	18
Intl Literatures & Cultures	(0)	0	(1)	0	(3)	0	(2)	2	(6)	2
Japanese	(0)	0	(14)	2	(26)	8	(37)	35	(77)	43
Other Languages	(0)	0	(5)	0	(1)	0	(11)	11	(17)	11
Russian	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0
Spanish	(0)	0	(28)	0	(53)	6	(67)	64	(148)	70
Total	(0)	0	(95)	2	(153)	24	(207)	197	(455)	221

Table 3. HASS Minor Applicants for Classes of 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007

Field	Applications	Candidates^a
Ancient & Medieval Studies	2	1
Anthropology	4	2
Applied International Studies	9	0
Comparative Media Studies	16	6
Economics	182	102
Foreign Languages		
Chinese	4	2
French	15	7
German	10	2
Spanish	19	11
History	14	6
History of Art & Architecture	2	1
Linguistics	3	0
Literature	19	8
Music	55	24
Philosophy	9	1
Political Science	24	7
Psychology	15	10
Public Policy	11	6
Regional Studies Minor Programs		
African & African Diaspora	0	0
East Asian Studies	6	3
European Studies	1	0
Latin American Studies	2	1
Middle Eastern Studies	0	0
Russian Studies	0	0
Science, Technology & Society	8	5
Theater Arts	11	5
Urban Studies and Planning	3	1
Women's Studies	2	2
Writing	21	12
Total	467	225

^a Includes February and June 2004, and September 2003 candidates

Table 4. Undergraduate Majors

Year	Economics	Humanities ^a	Linguistics & Philosophy	Political Science	Total
1994–1995	81	56	8	40	185
1995–1996	101	49	6	19	175
1996–1997	99	31	8	31	169
1997–1998	111	41	12	30	194
1998–1999	91	55	6	18	170
1999–2000	93	29	14	15	151
2000–2001	84	25	10	16	135
2001–2002	82	23	11	34	150
2002–2003	80	31	6	23	140
2003–2004	77	38	10	23	148

^a These figures do not include double majors who registered first in a course other than Humanities. (If double majors are included, the figure is 74.)

Table 5. Graduate Students

Year	Economics	Hist & Soc Study of Sci & Tech	Linguistics & Philosophy	Political Science	Comparative Media Studies ^a	Total
1994–1995	130	29	65	122	—	346
1995–1996	138	27	63	107	—	335
1996–1997	132	28	68	123	—	351
1997–1998	122	31	65	120	—	338
1998–1999	121	33	69	116	—	339
1999–2000	129	31	68	90	5 ^a	323
2000–2001	134	26	70	99	13	342
2001–2002	140	23	68	85	20	336
2002–2003	135	28	67	79	21	330
2003–2004	130	28	65	76	18	317

^a 1999–2000 was the first year of the new graduate program.