

Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Academic Administration

AY2011 was a busy and productive year for [Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences \(HASS\) Academic Administration](#) (formerly the HASS Education Office), as overseen by the HASS academic administrator, Liz Friedman, and the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS) associate dean, Kai von Fintel.

Due to the revision of the HASS Requirement, much of the year was spent in transition. On May 20, 2009, the MIT Faculty voted to shift responsibility for the HASS Requirement from SHASS to the new Subcommittee of the Committee on the Undergraduate Program on the HASS Requirement (SHR). As of AY2011, overview of the HASS Requirement is handled by the subcommittee staff within the Office of Faculty Support, and all HASS Requirement policy matters are now under the purview of SHR. There are two exceptions to this rule: (i) the Subcommittee on the Communication Requirement licenses communication-intensive HASS and HASS writing classes, and (ii) the SHASS Education Advisory Committee (SHEAC, formerly the HASS Overview Committee) will continue to license HASS Distribution (HASS-D) subjects until they are phased out entirely in AY2015. SHEAC will be charged primarily with advising the SHASS dean on educational matters.

As part of this shift, the HASS Education Office closed on July 1, 2010. Most of the education office's responsibilities were divided between Liz Friedman and Patty Fernandes, advisor for Communication and HASS Requirements. Most of the education office's routine HASS Requirement-related tasks are now handled by the SHR staff in the Office of Faculty Support. However, Friedman continues to handle all higher-level academic advising for students, faculty, departments, programs, and sections. As HASS academic administrator, Friedman serves as the central advisor for HASS matters, replacing the education office in that regard. She continues to serve as liaison between departments and the dean's office, particularly in regard to HASS minors, major departures, and joint degrees. She also continues to oversee the Harvard/MIT Cross-Registration Program and to advise students on HASS through the Cambridge-MIT Undergraduate Exchange.

HASS Enrollment Statistics by Field and Subject: Recent Trends

Total enrollments in all HASS subjects increased in AY2011 to 10,279, compared with 10,038 in AY2010 and 10,001 in AY2009. More HASS subjects were offered than last year: 561, compared with 555 in AY2010 and 542 in AY2009. The number of HASS-D subjects remained the same as last year at 125 (which was down from 139 in AY 2009). The two fields with the largest overall enrollments were the same as last year: Foreign Languages and Literatures (1,884, up from 1,848 last year) and Economics (1,593, up from 1,553 last year). The next highest enrollments were in Literature (795), Music (782, not including six-unit performance subjects), and Writing and Humanistic Studies (765). For a full breakdown of enrollments in HASS-elective and HASS-D subjects, refer to Table 1a. For a breakdown of the revised distribution component designations, see Table 1b.

Now that the School is less involved with the HASS Requirement, it seems appropriate to report section enrollments separately. Table 1c shows enrollments in departments, programs, and sections within SHASS for AY2011. These numbers include subjects that are not designated as HASS electives, but are taught in SHASS fields. Enrollment numbers are calculated according to the subject number under which students registered; thus, subjects that are jointly listed with non-SHASS units are not fully represented. Nevertheless, it shows that 11,408 students were enrolled in SHASS subjects (under the SHASS subject numbers), and 744 subjects were offered by SHASS fields in AY2011. Economics continues to record the highest enrollments (2,589), Foreign Languages and Literatures the second highest (2,129), and Music the third highest (1,286).

HASS Concentrations

In AY2011, students submitted 1,952 HASS concentration proposal forms, and 1,144 HASS concentration completion forms, compared with 2,146 proposals and 1,070 completion forms in AY2010, and 2,126 proposals and 1,083 completion forms in AY2009. Once again, Economics and Foreign Languages and Literatures led in the number of completed HASS concentrations: in AY2011, 302 students completed concentrations in Economics (compared with 293 last year) and 236 completed concentrations in Foreign Languages and Literatures (compared with 219 last year). For a breakdown by languages, see Table 2. The third most popular HASS concentration field was Music, with 105 completed concentrations. The next most popular concentrations were History (52), Psychology (50), Political Science (49), and Literature (47).

HASS Minor Programs

The number of active HASS minors in AY 2011 decreased to 326, compared with 414 in AY 2010. The number of HASS minors in the Class of 2011 was also down, from 223 in AY2010 to 198 in AY2011. This decrease in minors may be partially attributed to the rising number of majors in SHASS. The 198 HASS minors in the Class of 2011 were in 30 fields. The three most popular fields for minor applications filed were Economics (73), Music (38), and Applied International Studies (33). There were 61 minor applications in Foreign Languages and Literatures, including 14 each in French and Japanese, 12 in Spanish, 11 in Chinese, and 10 in German. The next most popular fields for minor applications were Political Science (17), Literature (15), Public Policy (10) and Theater Arts (10). (See Table 5.)

Harvard/MIT Cross-Registration Program

The number of MIT undergraduates who cross-registered for courses at Harvard University decreased this year: 174 students enrolled in 195 subjects, compared with 200 students enrolled in 226 subjects in AY2010, and 175 students enrolled in 187 subjects in AY2009. Enrollments fluctuated for no clear reason. Foreign Languages maintained its rank as the most popular field. In AY2011, 84 students enrolled in Foreign Languages, 40 more than in the next most popular field, Sciences.

The 84 foreign language subjects included a total of 21 different languages. The most popular language was Russian (14), followed by Italian (11) and Igbo (10). The

most popular fields outside foreign languages were Mathematics (14), Biology (13), Psychology (11), Economics (10), and Government (10).

Undergraduate Degrees Granted in SHASS

One hundred and twenty students received the SB degree in SHASS in AY2011, compared with 89 in AY2010, and 82 in AY2009. Of these, 65 majors were in Economics (Course 14), followed by 16 in Political Science (Course 17), nine in Comparative Media Studies (CMS), and seven each in Music and Writing.

Undergraduate Majors in SHASS

The four departments in SHASS had 288 active undergraduate majors in AY2011, according to figures compiled by the HASS academic administrator by June 30, 2011; the figures include non-primary degrees and second majors. Using the more complete statistics, 156 of these majors were in Economics, 40 in Political Science, 25 in CMS, 13 in Linguistics, and 12 in Music. (See Table 3.)

Honors and Awards Granted to Undergraduate Majors in SHASS

Among the notable honors achieved by SHASS students in AY2011 were:

Boit Manuscript Prize, First Prize: Anna Waldman-Brown (Course 21W), Class of 2011

Burchard Scholars: Zachary Barryte (CMS), Class of 2013; Dorota Chapko (Course 21A), Class of 2012; Linda Xinlin Chen (Course 24: Philosophy), Class of 2012; Melina Flores (Course 24: Linguistics), Class of 2012; Katelyn Gao (Course 14), Class of 2012; Elizabeth George (Course 21M), Class of 2012; Judith Vasquez (Course 17), Class of 2012

Enterprise Poets Prize for Imagining a Future, Second Prize: Anna Waldman-Brown (Course 21W), Class of 2011

Fulbright Scholarship: Anna Waldman-Brown (Course 21W), Class of 2011

DeWitt Wallace Prize for Science Writing for the Public, Honorable Mention: Sean Faulk (Course 21W), Class of 2011

Prize for Writing Science Fiction, Second Prize: Emilio Jasso (Course 21W), Class of 2011

Jeffrey L. Pressman Awards for Summer Research or Internship in United States Domestic Politics or Policy: Russell Spivak (Course 17), Class of 2013

Kelly-Douglas Grant: Dora Gao (Course 21: Ancient and Medieval Studies), Class of 2011

Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Award: Jennifer Lai (Course 21M), Class of 2011

Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts: Adrianna Tam (Course 21M), Class of 2011

Peter S. Donaldson Literature Prize for Excellence in Literary Studies: Jabe Ziino (Course 21L), Class of 2011

Political Science Summer International Research or Internship Awards: Judith Vasquez (Course 17), Class of 2012; Susan Virgem (Course 17), Class of 2011

Robert A. Boit Writing Prize for Poetry, Second Prize: Anna Waldman-Brown (Course 21W), Class of 2011

S. Klein Prize for Science Writing, First Prize: Anna Waldman-Brown (Course 21W), Class of 2011

Stephen M. Meyer Outstanding Undergraduate Political Science Thesis Award: Tess Wise (Course 17), Class of 2011

Phi Beta Kappa: Abdulla Al-Sabah (Course 14); John Boghossian (Course 14); Margaret Ding (Course 14); Lucas Goodman (Course 14); Syndie Kim (Course 14); Jennifer Lai (Course 21M); Hongyi Li (Course 14); Karen Li (Course 14); Jing Li (Course 14); Allison Moore (Course 14); Fangfei Shen (Course 21W); Cory Smith (Course 14); Suniti Sundaram (Course 14); Adrianna Tam (Course 21M); Teerawut Wannaphahoon (Course 14); Steven White (Course 14); Spencer Williams (Course 14); Roger Wong (Course 14); Andrew Yoon (Course 14)—all Class of 2011

Undergraduate Economics Association Prize for Excellence in Writing—First Prize: Itai Turbahn, Class of 2011; Second Prize: Spencer Williams, Class of 2011; Third Prize: Jonathan Garrity, Class of 2011.

Kai von Fintel
Associate Dean
Professor of Linguistics

Table 1a. Enrollment in Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Subjects, 2010–2011

Field	Elective Subjects		HASS Distribution		Total Enrollment	
	Subjects	Students	Subjects	Students	Subjects	Students
Anthropology	17	143	6	131	23	274
Archaeology	5	88	1	32	6	120
Art, Culture, and Technology	8	76	2	69	10	145
Comparative Media Studies	14	169	2	82	16	251
Economics	25	1,526	2	67	27	1,593
Foreign Languages and Literatures	93	1,182	29	702	122	1,884
History	31	232	13	209	44	441
History of Architecture and Art	1	10	4	112	5	122
Linguistics	7	66	2	211	9	277
Literature*	37	290	21	505	58	795
Music*	31	408	10	374	41	782
Philosophy	16	204	5	216	21	420
Political Science	23	285	7	197	30	482
Psychology	9	443	1	37	10	480
Science, Technology, and Society	15	124	7	344	22	468
Theater Arts*	23	318	1	22	24	340
Urban Studies	21	263	2	45	23	308
Women's and Gender Studies	11	54	3	54	14	108
Writing	35	646	7	119	42	765
Other subjects	14	224	0	0	14	224
Total	436	6,751	125	3,528	561	10,279

Notes:

1. Enrollments are for all HASS (elective and distribution) subjects, which students take to fulfill the 8-subject HASS Requirement.
2. Numbers shown are for undergraduate subjects, which normally satisfy the HASS Requirement; they do not include subjects allowed by petition.
3. For joint subjects, figures are given for the subject number under which students enrolled.
4. Figures were obtained from the MIT Student Information System, which shows the final tally for each class.
5. Independent Activities Period HASS-elective subjects and enrollments are included.

*Music and Theater Arts 6-unit performance subjects, 6-unit Literature Samplings, and other 6-unit courses are not included.

Table 1b. Enrollment in Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Subjects According to the Revised HASS-Distribution Designations, 2010–2011

Humanities, Arts, or Social Sciences	Enrollments	Count
HASS-A	1,893	120
HASS-H	4,686	293
HASS-S	3,655	144
Uncategorized	55	5

Notes:

1. Enrollments are for all HASS (elective and distribution) subjects, which students take to fulfill the 8-subject HASS Requirement.
 2. Numbers shown are for undergraduate subjects, which normally satisfy the HASS Requirement; they do not include subjects allowed by petition.
 3. For joint subjects, figures are given for the subject number under which students enrolled.
 4. Figures were obtained from the MIT Student Information System, which shows the final tally for each class.
 5. Independent Activities Period HASS-elective subjects and enrollments are included.
- * Music and Theater Arts 6-unit performance subjects, 6-unit Literature Samplings, and other 6-unit courses are not included.

Table 1c. Enrollment in School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Fields, 2010–2011

Field	Subjects	Students
Anthropology	33	311
Comparative Media Studies	34	279
Economics	81	2,589
Foreign Languages and Literatures	152	2,129
History	49	459
Linguistics	36	485
Literature	65	841
Music	66	1,286
Philosophy	31	474
Political Science	67	753
Science, Technology, and Society	37	526
Theater Arts	28	359
Women's and Gender Studies	15	110
Writing	50	807
Total	744	11,408

Notes:

1. Enrollments are for subjects offered by departments, programs, and sections in the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.
2. Numbers shown are for undergraduate and graduate subjects with six or more units assigned. Subjects with fewer than six units assigned and subjects with "units to be arranged" are not included.
3. For joint and "meets with" subjects, figures are given for the subject number under which students enrolled.
4. Figures were obtained from the MIT Student Information System, which shows the final tally for each class.
5. Independent Activities Period HASS-elective subjects and enrollments are included.

Table 2. Concentrations in Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences as of June 30, 2011

Fields of concentration	Class of 2014		Class of 2013		Class of 2012		Class of 2011		Total	
	P*	C**	P*	C**	P*	C**	P*	C**	P*	C**
Ancient and Medieval Studies	0	0	2	0	6	1	13	10	21	11
Anthropology	0	0	2	0	8	2	14	14	24	16
Archaeology and Archaeological Science	0	0	0	0	2	0	4	3	6	3
Art, Culture, and Technology***	0	0	1	0	5	0	10	10	16	10
Comparative Media Studies	1	0	3	0	17	1	29	26	50	27
Development Economics	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	4	2
Economics	0	0	32	2	105	16	303	284	440	302
Ethics	0	0	1	0	3	2	7	6	11	8
Ethnic Studies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Foreign Languages and Literatures+	9	0	73	3	174	29	233	204	489	236
History	0	0	5	0	18	5	49	47	72	52
History of Architecture and Art	0	0	3	0	3	0	6	6	12	6
Linguistics	0	0	2	0	14	6	22	20	38	26
Literature	0	0	4	0	26	6	44	41	74	47
Music	0	0	17	0	59	8	105	97	181	105
Philosophy	0	0	6	0	22	5	32	29	60	34
Physical Imagination (Dance)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Political Science	0	0	5	0	19	3	49	46	73	49
Psychology	0	0	6	0	31	2	54	48	91	50
Regional Studies:										
African and African Diaspora Studies***	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	4	1
American Studies	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
Asian and Asian Diaspora Studies***	0	0	3	0	5	1	19	19	27	20
Latin American and Latino Studies***	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	2
Middle Eastern Studies	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	5
Russian and Eurasian Studies***	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	4	1
Religious Studies	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2
Science, Technology, and Society	0	0	5	0	33	2	36	34	74	36
Special Concentration	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Theater Arts	0	0	4	0	15	0	27	24	46	24
Urban Studies and Planning	0	0	3	1	19	2	26	25	48	28
Women's and Gender Studies	0	0	2	0	9	2	9	8	20	10
Writing	0	0	3	0	20	0	30	26	53	26
Total	10	0	182	6	623	95	1,137	1,043	1,952	1,144

*P=Proposed concentrations in the given class and field.

**C=Number of proposed concentrations that have been completed.

Field of Concentration	Class of 2014		Class of 2013		Class of 2012		Class of 2011		Total	
	P*	C**	P*	C**	P*	C**	P*	C**	P*	C**
+Figures for Foreign Languages and Literatures subfields are below:										
Chinese	0	0	19	1	40	5	54	46	113	52
English Language Studies	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	3	2
Foreign Languages and Theory	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
French	6	0	19	0	33	6	44	36	102	42
German	2	0	8	0	25	3	15	11	50	14
International Literatures and Cultures	0	0	2	1	3	0	3	3	8	4
Japanese	0	0	9	1	26	6	29	26	64	33
Other Languages	0	0	2	0	7	2	9	6	18	8
Portuguese	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	4	3
Spanish	1	0	13	0	38	6	74	71	126	77
Total	9	0	73	3	174	29	233	204	489	236

***Effective AY2012, the following concentration fields have been renamed and are listed under their new titles:

Black Studies has been renamed African and African Diaspora Studies

East Asian Studies has been renamed Asian and Asian Diaspora Studies

Latin American Studies has been renamed Latin American and Latino Studies

Russian Studies has been renamed Russian and Eurasian Studies

Visual Arts and Design has been renamed Art, Culture, and Technology.

Table 3. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Minors as of June 30, 2011

Field	All Minors	Minors Awarded*
Ancient and Medieval Studies	3	3
Anthropology	1	1
Applied International Studies	33	16
Art, Culture, and Technology**	3	1
Comparative Media Studies	6	3
Economics	73	57
Foreign Languages and Literatures		
Chinese	11	4
French	14	6
German	10	3
Japanese	14	5
Spanish	12	4
History	5	1
History of Architecture and Art	0	0
Linguistics	4	2
Literature	15	11
Music	38	26
Philosophy	5	3
Political Science	17	13
Psychology	8	5
Public Policy	10	8
Regional Studies Minor Programs:		
African and African Diaspora Studies	1	0
Asian and Asian Diaspora Studies**	4	0
Latin American and Latino Studies**	3	2
Middle Eastern Studies	0	0
Russian and Eurasian Studies**	0	0
Science, Technology, and Society	7	4
Theater Arts	10	5
Urban Studies and Planning	6	6
Women's Studies	4	1
Writing	9	8
Total	326	198

*Includes February and June 2011, and September 2010 graduates.

**Effective AY2012, the following minor fields have been renamed and are listed under their new titles:

Visual Arts and Design has been renamed Art, Culture, and Technology

East Asian Studies has been renamed Asian and Asian Diaspora Studies

Latin American Studies has been renamed Latin American and Latino Studies

Russian Studies has been renamed Russian and Eurasian Studies.

Table 4. School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Undergraduate Majors, AY2001–AY2011

Year	Economics	Humanities	Linguistics and Philosophy	Political Science	Total
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
2004–2005	60	46	10	39	155
2005–2006	64	38	10	16	128
2006–2007	70	26	11	18	125
2007–2008	68	32	8	20	128
2008–2009	82	39	5	14	140
2009–2010	90 (154)	37 (92)	6 (11)	17 (35)	150 (292)
2010–2011	95 (156)	33 (75)	4 (17)	19 (40)	151 (288)

Note: Figures not in parentheses are from the Registrar's "Y" Report as of October of the previous year, and do not include non-primary degrees or second majors. Figures in parentheses were calculated in July, after Commencement, and include non-primary degrees, second majors, and any majors which were declared between October and July.

Table 5. School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Graduate Students, AY2001–AY2011

Year	Economics	HASTS*	Linguistics and Philosophy	Political Science	Comparative Media Studies	Science Writing**	Total
2000–2001	134	26	70	99	13	—	342
2001–2002	140	23	68	85	20	—	336
2002–2003	135	28	67	79	21	7	337
2003–2004	130	28	65	76	18	7	324
2004–2005	132	28	67	77	16	6	326
2005–2006	121	27	72	80	21	7	328
2006–2007	122	28	70	68	20	11	319
2007–2008	114	30	73	68	20	7	312
2008–2009	115	29	71	69	24	9	317
2009–2010	118	30	66	68	12	7	301
2010–2011	119 (128)	28 (34)	68 (77)	57 (78)	3 (1)	7 (14)	282 (332)

*MIT doctoral program in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society (HASTS).

**AY2003 was the first year of the Graduate Program in Science Writing.

Note: Figures not in parentheses are from the Registrar's "Y" Report as of October of the previous year. Figures in parentheses were calculated in July, after Commencement.