Master of Arts in Regional Studies East Asia (MARSEA)

STUDENT HANDBOOK
2021 – 2022

Updated on July 22, 2021
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About the Weatherhead East Asian Institute

Since its establishment in 1949, Columbia University's East Asian Institute has been a major center for research, teaching, and publishing on modern and contemporary Asia which includes China, Hong Kong, Japan, Mongolia, Taiwan, Tibet, the Korean peninsula, and the countries of Southeast Asia. The Institute is affiliated with Columbia University's Schools of Business, Law, Architecture, Social Work, International and Public Affairs, Arts and Sciences, and Barnard College, bringing together over 50 full-time faculty, a diverse group of visiting scholars and professionals, and students from the United States and abroad.

In January 2003, the East Asian Institute was renamed the Weatherhead East Asian Institute to honor the generosity of the Weatherhead Foundation.

The Institute's mission is to train new generations of East Asia experts in the humanities and social sciences and to enhance understanding of East Asia in the wider community.

Faculty and scholars at the Institute are distinguished by their interdisciplinary and multinational focus. Resources available to the Institute community include Columbia University's renowned C.V. Starr East Asian Library and the Institute's extensive ties to the business, diplomatic, legal, and media communities in New York City, the nation, and abroad.

The importance of East Asian Studies at Columbia has been recognized by a wide variety of funding sources, including the U.S. Department of Education, which, since 1960, has designated Columbia University as an East Asian National Resource Center. Through its many programs, conferences, seminars, and publications, the Institute creates an international forum for discussion about cultural, economic, historical, and political issues involving the Asia Pacific region.

Columbia University
Weatherhead East Asian Institute
International Affairs Building
420 West 118th Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10027
Tel: (212) 854-2592
Fax: (212) 749-1497
<http://weai.columbia.edu>
About the Master of Arts in Regional Studies - East Asia (MARSEA) Program

The Weatherhead East Asian Institute administers Columbia University’s Master of Arts in Regional Studies–East Asia (MARSEA) program through the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. MARSEA provides intensive and interdisciplinary exposure to the politics, international relations, modern history, and cultural and social formations of the region with a country and trans-regional focus. 3 years of modern Chinese, Japanese, or Korean language or 2 years of Tibetan language are required for completion of the degree.

In addition to the language requirement, the degree program requires completion of a minimum of 30 credits, including a master's thesis and 8 courses from a wide range of offerings in Anthropology, Business, Economics, History, International Affairs, Literature, Law, Political Science, and Sociology. Candidates must take the yearlong MARSEA core seminar (total of 2 courses), 2 courses on the modern history of their country of specialization, courses in at least 2 different disciplines, and at least 1 course on an East Asian country or sub-region other than their country of specialization. Students will normally complete more than 30 credits in order to meet these requirements.

The program is tailored to meet the needs of persons entering professional careers, mid-career professionals, and students preparing for entry into doctoral programs, as well as those pursuing a professional degree, such as the J.D. or M.B.A., who want to gain East Asian regional expertise.

The Master of Arts in Regional Studies-East Asia (MARSEA) is directed by faculty and staff of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute. Their contact information is as follows:

**MARSEA Director 2021-2022**

**Xiaobo Lu**  
Professor of Political Science, Barnard College  
International Affairs Building 917  
xl29@columbia.edu

**MARSEA Academic Director**

**Kim Brandt**  
Research Scholar (Japanese History)  
International Affairs Building 925  
(212) 854-9479  
lb28@columbia.edu

**Weatherhead East Asian Institute Student Affairs Officer**

**Elizabeth Peiffer**  
Program Coordinator, Student Affairs  
International Affairs Building 934  
(212) 854-9206  
ep3021@columbia.edu
MARSEA Degree Requirements

All students must declare China, Japan, Korea, or Tibet as their country of specialization while in the MARSEA program. In addition, the following requirements must be fulfilled in accordance with Columbia University’s Graduate School of Arts and Sciences degree requirements, <https://gsas.columbia.edu/student-guide/policy-handbook/requirements-ma-degree>.

Summary of Basic MARSEA Degree Requirements

- Proficiency equivalent to the 3rd year level of Chinese, Japanese, or Korean, or 2nd year level of Tibetan (language credit taken below the 4th year level may not be counted toward graduation)
- 2 courses of the yearlong MARSEA core seminar
- 2 modern history courses on the country of specialization
- 3 appropriate regional courses (at least 1 of which must be a colloquium or seminar)
- 1 elective (any graduate-level course, can be outside of East Asia)
- Master's thesis
- Minimum of 30 credits in total
- 2 residence units (equivalent to 2 full-time semesters at Columbia)
- No credits from an outside institution will be counted toward degree requirements
- No undergraduate level courses will be counted toward degree requirements (must be 4000-level and above)
- No courses may be taken for R credit or Pass/Fail (P/F)

Requirements for the China, Japan, Korea, or Tibet Specializations

- Language proficiency equivalent to the 3rd-year level of Chinese, Japanese, or Korean, or 2nd-year level of Tibetan. Language proficiency must correlate with the country of specialization, (i.e., a MARSEA student specializing in Korea must demonstrate 3rd-year level proficiency in Korean). MARSEA's language requirement may be met through coursework or by passing Columbia University's language placement examination.
- Yearlong MARSEA core seminar.
- Master's thesis with a focus on the country of specialization.
- 2 graduate-level courses in the modern history of the country or area of focus.
- 3 regional courses selected from at least 2 different fields: at least 1 of the 3 courses must focus on an Asia Pacific country or sub-region other than the student's area of specialization. These courses must include at least 1 colloquium and/or seminar. One language course at the 4th-year level or above may be counted towards this requirement. Courses dealing with the region as a whole or dealing with relations between East Asia and other countries (such as the US) may also be taken to fulfill this requirement.
• 1 graduate-level elective course which may focus on topics outside of East Asia.

Thesis Requirements

The MARSEA master’s thesis must be at least 35 pages in length (including footnotes and bibliography) and deal with a modern or contemporary topic in the social sciences that focuses on the Asia Pacific region. It must substantially incorporate the student's country of specialization, although other countries may be treated in the paper. The use of primary source material is strongly encouraged.

A thesis proposal, together with an Advisor Form (signed by the student's Thesis Advisor), must be submitted one semester before the student submits his or her thesis (i.e. to submit a thesis in the Spring semester, students should submit a proposal in the preceding Fall semester; to submit a thesis in the Fall semester, students should submit a proposal in the preceding Spring semester).

Thesis Advisor

Each student works with a faculty member who serves as their Thesis Advisor. As many students choose to expand a paper written for a seminar course into a thesis, the instructor of the course often serves as the Thesis Advisor. Students may, however, work with any faculty member of the Institute, or another Columbia University faculty member or course instructor.

Thesis Proposal and Thesis Submission Dates

*Please note any dates and deadlines are subject to change

Students Graduating in February 2022

Final Thesis Due: Monday, December 13, 2021

Students Graduating in May 2022

Thesis Proposal & Advisor Form Due: Friday, November 12, 2021
Final Thesis Due: Friday, April 22, 2022

The MARSEA thesis proposal should include the following:

- Title
- 500-word description of the topic, research methodology, and conceptual framework
- Preliminary bibliography

Thesis Submission and Review

One copy of the thesis must be submitted to the Thesis Advisor and another submitted to the Student Affairs Officer by the deadline. The thesis must be bound or in a report cover, not simply stapled. Both the Thesis Advisor and the MARSEA Academic Director’s approval are required for completion of the thesis requirement.
Residence Units

Students are required to complete 2 residence units at Columbia University. 1 full residence unit is equivalent to full-time registration for 1 semester. Although the program is designed to be completed in 2 semesters, students may take 1-2 years (or 2, 3, or 4 semesters) to complete the MA degree. Students must formally discuss their timeline for completion with the Director and Student Affairs Officer at the beginning of their program. Detailed information on residence units is available here: <http://gsas.columbia.edu/content/residence-unit-and-other-registration-categories>.

Foreign Language Requirement

Language proficiency equivalent to the third-year level of Chinese, Japanese, or Korean, or second-year level of Tibetan in a student's chosen region of specialization is a graduation requirement for MARSEA students. This requirement may be met in one of three ways:

- A student may demonstrate advanced or native proficiency in their chosen language by providing proof that the language was a substantive part of their education (e.g., in high school, college, or prior graduate degree).

- By passing a language proficiency exam. Incoming students are advised to take the language placement examination in the East Asia language of specialization at the beginning of the semester in which they enter the program (see below for more information).

- By achieving a grade of B or better in a Third Year Level II language course at Columbia.

Language Placement Examinations

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALAC), a department separate from WEAI, houses Columbia's programs in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tibetan, and Vietnamese languages. EALAC offers language placement examinations at the beginning of every semester for students to determine their language proficiency or test out of required language courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese Language Program</th>
<th>Placement test information</th>
<th>Fall 2021 Exam Part I: Online Multiple Choice and Writing) 8/25/21 - 8/31/21 &amp; Part II: Speaking Test) 9/3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director: Liu Lening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director: Haruo Shirane</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Korean Language Program</th>
<th>Placement test information</th>
<th>Fall 2021 Exam Part I: Online Multiple Choice Test) 8/16/21 - 8/30/21 &amp; Part II: Speaking Test) 9/2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director: Joowon Suh</td>
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<tr>
<th>Tibetan Language Program</th>
<th>Placement test information</th>
<th>To schedule a placement test, please contact Sonam Tsering.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director: Sonam Tsering</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please check the EALAC website for any updates regarding East Asian language placement examination schedules: <http://ealac.columbia.edu>
Application for Degree

In order to have the degree conferred, each student must submit an Application for Degree or Certificate. The application form may be found here: <http://registrar.columbia.edu/content/application-degree-or-certificate>.

Application for Degree deadlines are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month of Graduation/ Degree Conferral</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 2021</td>
<td>September 1, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2022</td>
<td>November 1, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2022</td>
<td>December 1, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2022</td>
<td>March 1, 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Courses and Registration

There are two resources for information about East Asia courses at Columbia University: the Weatherhead East Asian Institute Graduate Course Bulletin [https://weai.columbia.edu/content/east-asian-courses-graduate-level](https://weai.columbia.edu/content/east-asian-courses-graduate-level) and Columbia University's Directory of Classes [http://www.columbia.edu/cu/bulletin/uwb](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/bulletin/uwb). WEAI's Course Bulletin lists all graduate-level East Asia courses at the university, while the Directory of Classes is a comprehensive listing of courses university-wide. Additionally, academic departments and professional schools list discipline-specific courses on their websites. Students should review these resources and then discuss their course selection with the Director and Student Affairs Officer.

Below is an illustration of a course information summary page from the Directory of Classes. It has most of the information you will need to register and plan your schedule—including the call number, the day and time the class meets, the number of points of credit the course carries, whether instructor approval is required (in this case it is not), the instructor's name, and the department offering the course. To find more information about a course—including a description of the course's main themes—visit the website of the department or professional school offering the class. You can visit the department's home page simply by clicking on the link available on the Directory of Classes summary page for the class.

<img src="image-url" alt="Course Information Summary Page"/>
Student Services Online (SSOL)

Registration is the formal process of securing a seat in a class. Before a student may be certified as enrolled in good standing, he or she must also satisfy administrative obligations such as paying prior term bills and demonstrating compliance with New York State's public health law requiring immunity from measles, mumps, and rubella.

Students register for classes by means of an interactive online system called Student Services Online (SSOL) <https://ssol.columbia.edu>. Students are assigned registration appointments—you can only register during one of your appointed times. Your registration times can be viewed online and will be assigned prior to registration.

Here is an illustration of the SSOL menu screen, from which you can navigate to screens that allow you to view your grades, your schedule, your billing information, your registration appointments, and update your address.

### Student Data

- Academic Records
- Academic Profile
- Addresses: View and Update
- Degree Audit Report
- Grades and Registration Status
- Holds
- P/D/F Grading
- Registration Appointments and PIN
- Student Schedule

### Class Data

- Exam List

Courseworks

Another good resource for course information is Courseworks. Most instructors place information about their courses (including syllabi) online in Courseworks. Columbia students can log on at https://courseworks.columbia.edu and view information about the courses for which they are registered.
Registration Checklist

Before Registration

▪ Select courses from those offered in the Schedule of Classes at http://www.columbia.edu/cu/bulletin/uwb. Get the CALL NUMBER for the courses for which you wish to register.
▪ Check to make sure that you have not selected a course that is below 4000, as no undergraduate courses can be used to satisfy your MARSEA course requirements.
▪ Contact the relevant department with any questions about courses.
▪ You may need to obtain signatures from the department or course instructors requiring special approval. Please contact the Student Affairs Officer if you need assistance with this process.

During Registration

▪ Go online to https://ssol.columbia.edu during your appointment times.
▪ Enter your University Network ID (UNI) and Password.
▪ If you log on before your appointment time, the system will remind you of your next appointment.
▪ Register for your classes.
▪ Register in a billing category by specifying a full Residence Unit if you are a full-time student in your 1st or 2nd semester of the program. Register for Extended Residency if you have fulfilled the 2 Residence Unit requirement and are entering your 3rd or 4th semester.

Notes about Registration

▪ A late fee is charged for those who register for the first time during the first two weeks of the semester.
▪ A late fee is charged for those who register for the first time after the first two weeks of the semester.
▪ Please contact the Registrar's Office for updated information on late registration fees http://registrar.columbia.edu.

Topics Related to Registration

Approvals
To register for courses that require special approval, complete a registration form from the Registrar's Office https://www.registrar.columbia.edu/content/registration-adjustment-form-add-drop-classes and then contact the course instructor for signed approval. If you have any questions about this process, particularly about cross-enrollment in professional schools such as the Business or Law school, please contact the Student Affairs Officer.

Registration Changes
You may make changes to your course schedule during the first two weeks of classes.
**Classes taken for Pass/Fail or R may not count towards your degree**

All classes, unless otherwise permitted, must be taken for a letter grade.

**Directory of Classes**


**Vergil**

Vergil is an online course planner. [https://vergil.registrar.columbia.edu/](https://vergil.registrar.columbia.edu/)

**Full Classes**

It is not possible for the Weatherhead East Asian Institute or the Columbia University Registrar to register a student in a full class without the permission of the department and instructor.

**Holds**

The University permits many offices to place a "hold" against a student's enrollment. The reasons for holds vary from office to office. Financial holds, library holds, and deans' holds are most common.

**Non-Online Registration Courses**

Most courses are eligible for online registration. Some seminars or independent study courses, which require department or instructor approval, may not be eligible for online registration. To register for these courses you should contact the department and/or course instructor for the proper registration procedure.

**Time Conflicts**

You cannot take two or more classes whose scheduled times are the same and/or overlap by as little as one minute without the written permission of a Dean and the MARSEA Director.
Policies and Procedures

Changes in Programs of Study

Students are permitted to make fee-free changes in their schedules during the first two weeks of the Fall and Spring semesters. Any schedule changes after the first two weeks will carry a fee and, in most cases, tuition refunds will not be granted.

A student who wishes to drop courses after the first two weeks of classes or make changes to his or her program of study must obtain written approval from WEAI's Director through the Student Affairs Officer on a special registration form issued by the Registrar. Failure to attend classes or unofficial notification to the instructor does not constitute dropping a course and will result in a failing grade in the course. Students who drop courses will remain responsible for all tuition charges and any related late payment fees.

Immunization Requirements

COVID-19

Per University policy, all students must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before being granted access to University campuses and facilities (except in the case that you have requested and received a medical or religious exemption). In other words, all students are expected to complete the vaccination process and submit vaccine documentation on the Columbia University Health Portal by August 2nd, 2021 (or as soon as possible*), and at least 14 days before first accessing University facilities or participating in any University-approved activities.

Religious and medical exemptions to vaccination will be provided in accordance with New York State public health laws. Students who are seeking such exemptions should complete the request form available on the Columbia Health Immunization page: <https://health.columbia.edu/content/immunization-requirements>

More information can be found on the University's FAQs Regarding COVID-19 Vaccination page: <https://covid19.columbia.edu/content/faqs-regarding-covid-19-vaccination>

*For international students: The University understands that some international students may not have access to WHO-approved vaccines by the time they are scheduled to arrive at Columbia. Prior to the fall term, the University will have a system in place to support students, including allowing access to campus and residential spaces, options for receiving the vaccine after arrival, etc. Your ability to access campus spaces and register for classes will not be impacted as you complete the vaccination process here in New York (if necessary). You will need to take special precautions such as wearing a mask, social distancing, and regular testing until you are fully vaccinated.

Please check back on the University COVID-19 website as the fall term approaches for more details and please do pursue vaccination with a WHO-approved vaccine if it becomes available to you and you can complete the series between now and the fall term.
**Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)**
New York State requires that all college and university students enrolled for 6 or more points be adequately protected against measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR). Students born on or after January 1, 1957, must provide documentation of immunity. (Students born before January 1, 1957, are assumed to have had exposure and need not take further action.) For more information regarding the state law, students should contact the Health and Related Services Immunization Line at (212) 854-7210. Details on methods of documenting immunity are provided on the Columbia Health website, [http://www.health.columbia.edu/](http://www.health.columbia.edu/).

In very rare cases, a student may be granted exemption from the MMR requirements if he or she submits documentation about a medical diagnosis or religious orientation that precludes further immunization. All letters will be carefully reviewed and considered by the medical director of Health and Related Services. Please note: If you cannot provide evidence that you are immune to measles, mumps, and rubella, you will not be permitted to register for classes at Columbia University and may be charged a fine.

**Meningitis**
New York State public health law and University policy requires that students must also document that they either have received the meningococcal meningitis vaccine or have declined to receive it. This requirement applies before a student is permitted to register for their first term at Columbia.

*For MMR, Meningitis Decision, and COVID-19 vaccines students must submit their documentation upon admission or at least 30 days prior to their scheduled registration date. For this reason, a hold is placed on registration for all incoming students.*

**Seasonal Influenza**
Students are required to receive, or provide documentation they have received, the seasonal influenza vaccine between August 1 of the Fall term and May 1 of the Spring term. For students enrolled in the Fall, this requirement must be met before students are permitted to register for Spring courses. For students new to the University in the Spring term, this requirement applies before a student is permitted to register for their first term at Columbia.

For more information about these and other vaccination requirements and recommendations, please visit Columbia Health’s Immunization Requirements page: [https://health.columbia.edu/content/immunization-requirements](https://health.columbia.edu/content/immunization-requirements)

**Academic Standards**
Academic progress is determined by the successful completion of courses. MARSEA degree candidates must maintain a B average or higher and a Grade Point Average of 3.0 to remain in good standing. All courses must be taken for credit. No audited courses or courses taken for R credit or Pass/Fail may be counted toward completion of the degree requirements. Students desiring any of these marks must have written permission from the MARSEA Director. Academic records are reviewed each term to determine whether candidates are making satisfactory progress. Those who do not maintain a satisfactory average may be asked to discontinue their studies.
Academic Integrity

Students must avoid cheating on examinations, plagiarism, and improper citation and paraphrasing; they cannot purchase papers from or post papers on online term paper sites nor should they submit the same paper to more than one class. Failure to observe these rules of conduct can result in dismissal.

For more information on the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences' statement on Academic Integrity and Responsible Conduct of Research please see here: <https://gsas.columbia.edu/student-guide/research/academic-integrity-and-responsible-conduct-research>

For the Columbia University Faculty Statement on Academic Integrity please see here: <https://www.college.columbia.edu/academics/integrity-statement>

Leaves of Absence

Many reasons may compel students to discontinue their studies temporarily. Students requiring leaves of absence should work with the Student Affairs Officer to submit a formal request to the Institute Director explaining why leave is required. If the request is approved then a leave of absence form must be completed, signed by the Institute Director, and submitted to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. When ready to return, a student must notify the Student Affairs Officer and Institute Director. A returning candidate may be asked for an explanatory statement about the leave.

If a student's absence from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences has been less than 6 regular semesters (excluding Summer Sessions), the student may apply for readmission by completing an application and submitting it to the Student Affairs Officer at least 6 weeks before the beginning of classes during the semester in which they intend to re-enroll. If a student's absence has been 6 or more regular semesters, the student must also submit an update to their admissions statement indicating what they have done during their time away from Columbia, a description of their continued interest in the program, and a proposed timeline for accomplishing the remaining requirements of the MARSEA degree.

Withdrawal and Fees

A student in good academic standing who is not subject to discipline may withdraw formally from Columbia University, if necessary. Withdrawal is defined as the dropping of one's entire program in a given term as opposed to dropping a portion of one's program.

Formal withdrawal is ordinarily allowed only prior to the examination period. Withdrawal means that courses and grades are not listed on the student's record and that the student does not receive any credit.

Any student withdrawing must notify the Student Affairs Officer and Institute Director in writing. Approval from the Institute Director is required for all withdrawals. The student's responsibility, both academic and financial, continues in all courses for which the student has registered until he or she is notified by the Student Affairs Officer that the withdrawal has been approved and accepted.
Columbia University’s health service fee, health insurance premium, application fees, late fees, and special health fees are not refundable.

**CU Student Email Policy**

All students must create a Columbia email account *even if they plan to use another email service as their main email provider*. All formal correspondence from Columbia University and the Weatherhead East Asian Institute will be sent to students’ Columbia email accounts. Moreover, the University expects that every student will receive emails at his or her Columbia University email address and will read email on a frequent and consistent basis. According to University policy, a student’s failure to receive and read University communications in a timely manner does not absolve that student from knowing and complying with the content of such communications.

Columbia email addresses are linked to every student’s University Network ID (UNI), Columbia University’s primary identification granting access to digital services and resources across campus. For information about e-mail accounts and to activate your Columbia e-mail UNI please visit [http://www.columbia.edu/acis/accounts/create/current.html](http://www.columbia.edu/acis/accounts/create/current.html).

Students should familiarize themselves with [Columbia’s Student Email Communication Policies](http://www.columbia.edu/acis/accounts/create/current.html). Unauthorized attempts to gain access to any account or system not belonging to the student on any University system or on any system outside the University network are not permitted. No University system or network may be used for any purpose or in a manner that violates University statutes, policies, or federal, state or local law.
Important GSAS Offices, Addresses, and Contact Information

Academic Diversity and Inclusion
107 Low Memorial Library, MC 4303
gsas-diversity@columbia.edu
https://gsas.columbia.edu/our-intellectual-community/diversity

Admissions
107 Low Memorial Library, MC4303
gsas-admissions@columbia.edu
(212) 854-6729
https://gsas.columbia.edu/degree-programs/admissions

Financial Aid
107 Low Memorial Library, MC4303
gsas-finaid@columbia.edu
(212) 854-3808
https://gsas.columbia.edu/student-guide/financing-your-education

Graduate Career Development/ GSAS Compass
106 Low Memorial Library
gsas-compass@columbia.edu
https://gsas.columbia.edu/graduate-life/career-development

GSAS Compass is a new initiative in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences that offers a variety of career development services tailored to master's and doctoral students, including career development workshops, employer events, networking opportunities, and one-on-one advising.

Student Affairs
107 Low Memorial Library, MC 4304
gsas-studentaffairs@columbia.edu
(212) 854-4932
https://gsas.columbia.edu/graduate-life/student-life-well-being

Writing Studio
219M Lehman Library, International Affairs Building
https://gsas.columbia.edu/graduate-life/gsas-writing-studio
Additional Columbia University Offices

*Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS)*
Lerner Hall, 8th Floor
Appointments: (212) 854-2878
Clinician-On-Call (After-Hours Health Concerns): (212)854-2878, Press 1
Walk-In Counseling Hours and Locations: [http://www.health.columbia.edu/cps](http://www.health.columbia.edu/cps)

Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS) offers short-term individual counseling, referrals for long-term therapy, student-life support groups, medication consultation, and emergency consultation. CPS services are offered at *no additional cost* to students enrolled in Columbia Health and adhere to strict standards of confidentiality.

*Disability Services*
Main Office: Wein Hall, Main Floor, Suite 108A
(212) 854-2388
Virtual and in person (by appointment only)
[https://health.columbia.edu/content/disability-services](https://health.columbia.edu/content/disability-services)

*Gay Health Advocacy Project*
John Jay Hall, 3rd Floor
519 W. 114th St., Mail Code 3601
New York, NY 10027
212-854-6655
[https://health.columbia.edu/content/gay-health-advocacy-project](https://health.columbia.edu/content/gay-health-advocacy-project)

*Insurance Office*
John Jay Hall, 3rd Floor
519 W. 114th St.
Insurance Office: 212-854-3286
Immunization Compliance Office: 212-854-7210

*Medical Services*
John Jay Hall, 4th Floor
519 W. 114th St.
(212) 854-7426
[https://health.columbia.edu/content/medical-services](https://health.columbia.edu/content/medical-services)

*Sexual Violence Response*
Lerner Hall 700
(212) 854-3500
For urgent or after-hours support, please call the 24/7 helpline: (212) 854-HELP/4257
[https://health.columbia.edu/content/sexual-violence-response](https://health.columbia.edu/content/sexual-violence-response)

For more information about other offices and services available through Columbia Health, [click here](#).
Student Service Center / Office of the Registrar
210 Kent Hall
registrar@columbia.edu
(212) 854-4400
https://ssc.columbia.edu/

ID Center
204 Kent Hall
idcard@columbia.edu
(212) 854-4323

Financial Services
210 Kent Hall
sfs@columbia.edu
(212) 854-4206
https://www.sfs.columbia.edu/

International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO)
International House North, Ground Floor
524 Riverside Drive
(212)854-3587
http://www.columbia.edu/cu/isko

Columbia University's International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO) advises on immigration-related needs, providing advisory and documentation services as well as information on visas, employment, travel, and tax-filing obligations international students may have during their time at Columbia.

The Writing Center
310 Philosophy Hall
uwp@columbia.edu
(212) 854-3886
http://www.college.columbia.edu/core/uwp/writing-center

The Writing Center provides writing assistance to all Columbia students, although it is run by the Undergraduate Writing Program. Students may call to set up an appointment or drop in.

Earl Hall: Religious Life Advisors (RLA)
Religious Life Advisors (RLA) are clergy and lay people appointed by the University Chaplain to represent different faith traditions at Columbia University. Religious Life Advisors provide pastoral counseling to Columbia University students. For a list of pastoral care office hours please see the Office of the University Chaplain website.

Office of the University Chaplain
Earl Hall 202
(212) 854-1493
https://ouc.columbia.edu/
### MARSEA Academic Calendar  *Fall 2021 - Spring 2022*

#### FALL 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event or Deadline</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 15</td>
<td>Last day for Fall 2021 admitted applicants to request deferrals.</td>
<td>No deferrals may be requested or granted after August 15.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deadline for receipt of final official transcripts from Fall 2021 admitted students.</td>
<td>Click here for more information and instructions on how to submit your final official transcripts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 16</td>
<td>Early course registration begins in SSOL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 1</td>
<td>GSAS New Student Orientation (Virtual)</td>
<td>Time is TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Application for Degree forms due for students graduating in October.</td>
<td>Submit electronically to <a href="mailto:diplomas@columbia.edu">diplomas@columbia.edu</a> and CC/notify the Student Affairs Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 2</td>
<td>MARSEA Orientation</td>
<td>Time and Location TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, September 6</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 9</td>
<td>First Day of Fall 2021 Classes (students who are not registered for any courses by the first day of Fall classes will incur a late fee)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 9 to Tuesday, September 21</td>
<td>Change of Program Period for Fall 2021</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, September 17</td>
<td>Summer 2021 Thesis Submission Deadline (for October 2021 graduates)</td>
<td>Submit to Thesis Advisor and Student Affairs Officer, via email, by 5PM ET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, October 12</td>
<td>Last Day to Drop a Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, November 1</td>
<td>Academic Holiday &amp; Application for Degree forms due for February 2022 commencement</td>
<td>Submit electronically to <a href="mailto:diplomas@columbia.edu">diplomas@columbia.edu</a> and CC/notify the Student Affairs Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 2</td>
<td>Election Day – University Holiday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, November 12</td>
<td>Thesis Proposal and signed Advisor Form Due (For Spring 2022 Thesis Submission)</td>
<td>Submit to Student Affairs Officer, via email by 5PM ET</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event or Deadline</td>
<td>Details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, November 10 to Friday, November 12</td>
<td>Spring 2022 Course Advising Appointments</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, November 16 to Friday, November 20</td>
<td>Advance Registration for Spring 2022</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 24 to Friday, November 26</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 1</td>
<td>Application for Degree forms due for May 2022 commencement</td>
<td>Submit electronically to <a href="mailto:diplomas@columbia.edu">diplomas@columbia.edu</a> and CC/notify the Student Affairs Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 13</td>
<td>Fall 2021 Thesis Submission Deadline (for February 2022 graduates)</td>
<td>Submit to Thesis Advisor and Student Affairs Officer, via email, by 5PM ET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>End of the Year MARSEA Celebration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, December 13</td>
<td>Last Day of Fall 2021 Classes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 14 to Wednesday, December 15</td>
<td>Study Days</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 16 to Thursday, December 23</td>
<td>Final Examinations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 23</td>
<td>Fall 2020 Term Ends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, December 24 to Monday, January 17</td>
<td>Winter Holidays</td>
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**SPRING 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event or Deadline</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, January 17</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observed - University Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 18</td>
<td>First Day of Spring 2022 Classes (students who are not registered for any courses by the first day of Spring classes will incur a late fee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, January 28</td>
<td>End of Change of Program Period</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>WEAI Lunar New Year Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 9</td>
<td>February Degrees Conferred</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 22</td>
<td>Last Day to Drop a Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, March 14 to Friday, March 18</td>
<td>Spring Recess</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, April 22</td>
<td>Spring 2022 Thesis Submission Deadline (for May 2022 graduates)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Submit to Thesis Advisor and Student Affairs Officer, via email, by 5PM ET</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, May 2</td>
<td>Last Day of Spring 2022 Classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, May 6 to Friday, May 13</td>
<td>Final Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, May 13</td>
<td>Spring 2022 Term Ends</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>GSAS M.A. Convocation Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Columbia University Commencement Ceremony</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>WEAI Graduation Party</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Please note that all dates and deadlines are subject to change