

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

From admitted **DOUGLASS COLLEGE** students and their families

### **What courses are required to graduate from Douglass College?**

Proficiencies in English Writing, mathematics and a language other than English need to be fulfilled in order to graduate from Douglass College. There are also distribution requirements that form the basis of a liberal arts education and required classes for your selected major. There are a wide variety of courses from which to choose to complete these requirements.

### **How do I choose my courses?**

Course Selection Programs will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>. At this program, an advisor will help you understand your placement scores, and the general requirements for a liberal arts degree from Douglass. The advisor will guide you through a Course Selection Form, which will enable us to schedule you for an appropriate course of study for your first term.

### **How important are the placement tests, and what if I can't come in May?**

The placement tests in English, mathematics and language are required of all new students. Your performance on these tests determines which courses you will be eligible for in the fall. The tests cannot be retaken, so you should review before you take them. If you can't come in May, there are alternate dates and other testing options that can be arranged. Taking them as early as possible will facilitate the course selection process, maximize your opportunity to receive your first choice of classes, and (if necessary) allow you to make up any remedial work over the summer.

### **When do I submit my Admission Acknowledgement Form?**

The earlier you submit the acknowledgement form, the sooner we can get important information out to you. A long delay in returning the form may impact financial aid, course availability, and housing options. It is particularly important to be prompt if you intend to participate in any of the summer programs available at Douglass.

### **Are all my classes going to be on the Douglass campus with just women?**

With the exception of courses specifically for Douglass students, such as Shaping A Life, classes include men and women from various New Brunswick colleges. We will try to schedule as many of your classes in your first semester on the Douglass Campus, but there may be some exceptions. If you want to take an unusual course, have significant time restrictions, or submit your course selections materials late, you may need to travel to another campus.

### **Are there special academic opportunities for me?**

Yes, there is a wide range of special programs such as Project SUPER for students interested in math, science, or engineering; the Cultural Experience courses for students living in the Global Village; and the Public Leadership Education internships. In addition, Rutgers University offers an extensive Study Abroad program both during the academic year and in the summer. For qualified students, there are a number of courses with special honors sections and opportunities to do upper level honors and research work in specific disciplines.

### **I'm taking Advanced Placement courses; will I get credit for them?**

College credit will be granted for all Advanced Placement scores of 4 or 5. If you have taken previous college courses or college courses offered through your high school, you may be granted credit if the grade is at least a C and the content is comparable to a Rutgers University course. Credit for courses you have taken before you enter college may be used to fill Douglass College distribution requirements.

### **How big are the classes and who teaches them?**

Some classes are actually quite small. For example, Shaping A Life and Expository Writing sections would have only about 22 students. Other classes do meet in large lectures with smaller discussion meetings. A large lecture-based class would typically be taught by a full-time faculty member, with a teaching assistant leading the discussion periods. Advanced seminars might have just 10 to 15 students. Students are exposed to a wide variety of teaching styles and educational environments.

### **With so many choices and courses, will I be able to graduate in four years?**

Yes, you can graduate in four years if you plan your schedule wisely and take an average of fifteen credits (usually five courses) each term. Not all students do graduate in four years; many because they decided to take extra course work or complete a second major or have taken some time away from school to pursue other interests. The majority of Douglass College students do complete their degree in four years.

### **I want to be...**

#### **...an accountant, but the accounting major is in the School of Business. Can I still come to Douglass?**

Absolutely. You will need to apply to the School of Business in your second year. If you are admitted, your degree will be awarded jointly by Douglass College and the School of Business. Similarly, you can apply to the School of Communication, Information, and Library Studies to major in Journalism or Communication (SCILS), and earn a joint degree from Douglass and SCILS.

#### **...a teacher. Can I major in Education at Douglass?**

Douglass students become certified to teach through the dual degree program with the Graduate School of Education. You would complete your Douglass College requirements and a liberal arts major as well as the requirements for teacher certification and a masters degree in education in five years. Rutgers University does not offer an undergraduate major in education.

#### **...a doctor or lawyer. What are my chances of getting into a professional school if I come here?**

Douglass students who apply to medical and law schools have a very high acceptance rate, comparable to that of Rutgers University colleges. We have special pre-professional advisers who work closely with students from their first year until graduation. Douglass students are also eligible to apply for admission to a variety of programs offered jointly by UMDNJ and Rutgers University, such as the BA/MD program and Access-MED.

#### **...an engineer. Can I still come to Douglass College?**

Yes you can. Douglass College has a dual degree program in which students may earn a Bachelor of Science degree from the Rutgers College of Engineering and a Bachelor of Arts or Science from Douglass College in five years.

### **I don't know what I want to major in. What should I do?**

Come to Douglass College! We'll help you explore your options and find your own interests and direction. This is one of the ways in which the liberal arts distribution requirements will benefit you. Whether you know what you want to major in or not, you have the flexibility and the opportunity to discover exciting new academic and career choices and challenges.