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## THE UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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Small class size, a superb faculty, the extensive resources of the Maxwell Library and the John Joseph Moakley Center for Technological Applications, modern equipment and facilities, and a supportive network of advisers and counselors are the key elements of the academic environment at Bridgewater State College.

A wide variety of cultural, social, athletic and recreational activities complement the learning process and add different dimensions to the total academic experience at Bridgewater State College.

The college is committed to student success. Faculty and staff strive to help each student achieve full potential. The college's long tradition of academic excellence is built upon a foundation of challenging studies, a stimulating atmosphere, and a spirit of community and partnership. The rewards of success can be both personal and professional.

Recognizing that a narrow focus of learning is a serious threat to a student's economic and intellectual future, Bridgewater expects all students to pursue common patterns of study in addition to a major field of study.

Advancing technology, moving at breathtaking speed, adds infinite amounts of new information. The ability to assimilate complex ideas from a variety of sources requires fundamental knowledge in different areas of history, science, the arts, literature, language and philosophy as well as specialized, in-depth skill in one major area. A college education should provide a person with broad information of lasting value no matter what vocation is pursued. With most people changing careers as many as five times during their working lives, the importance of this foundation is obvious.

Liberal arts are the core of the Bridgewater experience. Every student, regardless of major, completes what are called the General Education Requirements (GERs)—courses of study in areas of knowledge and understanding of general significance. This exposure to broad fields of learning is a foundation for specific studies in

a student's major. Most Bridgewater students complete GERs during the first two years of college and spend the last two years in their major field of study.

An important part of this emphasis—in GER courses as well as in courses in the major—involves writing and improving writing skills. Language is our chief instrument of communication over time and space. The ability to express our ideas and react to the ideas of others is rooted in language skills. Technology has accelerated dramatically the need for people who can communicate quickly, clearly and effectively. Individuals who can write with confidence and skill have far more opportunity for success than those who cannot.

Business executives, in survey after survey, rank proficiency in communication as the most important skill an employee can possess. Bridgewater State College believes firmly in our obligation to prepare students for the world they will encounter and the demands and expectations they will confront.

The college has a rich and varied array of majors, minors and program options. For the undergraduate student, there are more than 100 such possibilities to help prepare for a career.

The academic experience available to students at Bridgewater State College can be summed up in a few words: Challenging . . . Comprehensive . . . Flexible . . . Outstanding . . . Opportune.

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### THE FACULTY

Bridgewater State College has an outstanding faculty of men and women who take their responsibility for teaching seriously. Faculty and students can work closely together because most classes are small in size (the average is less than 30 students). Many students assist faculty in research projects outside the classroom as well.

Bridgewater State College professors are recognized for their expertise. Ninety percent hold terminal degrees in their fields, and many faculty members serve as consultants and advisers to corporations, banks, health organizations, school systems and government agencies. Others provide leadership to professional societies and conduct pioneering research in their respective fields.

## LEARNING RESOURCES

### THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

The Academic Achievement Center houses a variety of programs and services that support the adjustment to college and the academic success of students. The Achievement Center is located on the ground floor of the Maxwell Library and includes the following programs:

#### The Haughey Academic Advising Program

The advising program serves freshmen and all other students who have yet to declare an academic major. Freshmen are introduced to the advising program during orientation and participate in a number of group and individual advising sessions throughout the academic year. The focus of the advising program is on helping each student plan a program of study and make a successful and happy transition to college life.

#### Enrichment Program

A variety of services is available to help strengthen those skills most essential to effective learning both in college and throughout life.

The program is based on the college's commitment to provide students with every opportunity to build upon strengths they have while correcting any deficiencies. This assistance is provided through specialized courses in English and mathematics and through resources such as Studying and Research Services, the Writing Studio, and Mathematics Services, a learning specialist and a learning disabilities specialist. Tutorial assistance is also provided.

Students needing assistance may be referred by faculty or staff. A student may also request special help, which the college may provide.

#### Introductory College Skills

**Courses**—Students may be assigned to a class or to Introductory College Skills courses as a result of a review of the students' high school records, SAT scores and performance on various placement examinations generally given during Freshman Orientation. A student may also request this assistance, which the college is pleased to provide.

The course or courses will be graded on a pass/fail basis and will not be calculated in the student's cumulative quality point average. Students assigned to

any of these courses must complete the course successfully before attempting any other course in that area. The credit earned in any Introductory College Skills course may not be used to satisfy General Education Requirements nor may it be applied toward the minimum number of credits required for graduation in any major.

**\*FS 100 Introductory College Skills: Intrusive Advising**—A specialized learning/advising program for freshmen offered by the Academic Achievement Center and conducted in a small group setting. Students who wish further information about this course should contact the Academic Achievement Center.

**\*FS 101 Introductory College Skills: Writing**—The course will consist of an intensive review of basic communication skills, chiefly those of reading and writing. Students who wish further information about this course should consult with the chairperson of the English department or the Academic Achievement Center.

**\*FS 102 Introductory College Skills: Mathematics**—Fundamental principles of algebra and geometry. Students who wish further information about this course should consult with the chairperson of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, or the Mathematics Laboratory director, or the director of the academic achievement center.

**Learning Assistance Services**—Students may receive assistance through the following services offered in the Academic Achievement Center:

**Communication Lab**—Students are assisted with preparation of oral presentations through services that teach strategies for topic selection, outline development, and research, as well as through opportunities for presentation practice.

**Mathematics Services**—Students participate in individual or small group tutoring and have access to a variety of video and computer materials to support mastery of mathematics concepts and skills.

*\*The credit earned in these particular courses may not be used to satisfy General Education Requirements, nor may it be applied toward the minimum number of credits required for graduation in any major.*

**Studying and Research Services**—Students are helped to develop strategies for managing the demands of college courses and skills for completing demanding course assignments.

**Writing Studio**—Students are provided individualized assistance to strengthen skills at all stages of the writing process.

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### PROGRESS

The Program for the Recruitment of Special Students (PROGRESS) provides a network of support services to admitted students who possess both the motivation and the potential necessary to achieve college success. PROGRESS students take the same courses and meet the same degree requirements as all students. Success is supported through the Haughey Academic Advising Program, individualized academic counseling, and Academic Achievement Center learning assistance services and tutorial services. PROGRESS students participate in a required Pre-College Workshop prior to the beginning of classes.

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### DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES

The college offers extensive computer facilities for instructional purposes and resources that range from a Zeiss Electron Microscope in the Department of Biological Sciences and an astronomy observatory in the Department of Earth Sciences and Geography to a writing laboratory offered by the Department of English.

Facilities for weaving, ceramics, sculpture and painting are available in the Department of Art, and flight simulators are provided in the Department of Aviation Science. These and many other modern resources support the educational mission of the college and insure that Bridgewater students can learn and apply contemporary knowledge and skills.

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### CLEMENT C. MAXWELL LIBRARY

Conveniently located on the west side of campus, the Maxwell Library is close to many of the college's classrooms and dormitories, as well as the Rondileau Campus Center. The Library is a hub of activity on campus, and provides seating and study space for students at tables, individual carrels, and open lounges.

A fully networked and integrated information and service center, the library houses three computer network areas as well as video and closed-circuit

television viewing stations. Access is provided to over 70 online bibliographic and informational databases, including 30 that offer full-text or selected full-text. The Library's selection includes databases from many major vendors, such as EBSCOHost, InfoTrac/Gale, FirstSearch, and Wilson, not to mention JSTOR, Project Muse, and others (the complete list can be viewed at [www.bridgew.edu/library/online.htm](http://www.bridgew.edu/library/online.htm)). For students, this means easy access to a large collection of high quality information resources anytime, anywhere, both on campus (including network-connected residence hall rooms) and off campus.

A core collection of print and microformat materials, including over 300,000 print volumes, current subscriptions to more than 1,500 periodicals and newspapers, and the complete ERIC microfiche collection, forms the backbone of the library's collections.

The Library is also home to Voyager, an integrated online library management system and its associated web-based online catalog, called Webster. Besides being a traditional library catalog, Webster also provides access to over 4000 full-text electronic books through the Library's subscription to NetLibrary, as well as links to selected electronic journals (connect to Webster at <http://webster.bridgew.edu>).

The Library is open 93 hours a week, and is staffed by professional and support personnel ready to assist students and other library guests with their reference and research needs.

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### JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS

The Moakley Center has been supporting the technology needs of Bridgewater State College students as well as the region's educators and businesses since its opening in 1995. The Moakley Center is a technology-integrated, 50,000-square-foot learning venue that focuses the power of technology on its guiding principle that education is a lifelong process.

Just inside, a 213-seat amphitheater features a full complement of the latest presentation technologies. Its television/video production facility grants access to digital editing and complete teleconference capabilities for students, businesses and educators alike. Several multimedia training rooms offer the latest in technology-enabled learning.

A variety of technology-based programs are located within the Moakley Center. The programs include the Teacher Technology Center; RiverNet Watershed Access Lab; CityLab Satellite; Center for Technical Education; Microsoft IT Academy; Courseware Development Center; Center for the Advancement of Research and Teaching (CART); and the GeoGraphics Lab.

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### COLLEGE EVENTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Literally hundreds of interesting programs, projects and events are available at Bridgewater State College throughout each year. Academic, cultural, and social activities and programs are sponsored each year by students, faculty, staff and alumni of the college and include, but are certainly not limited to: Homecoming, Convocation, Family Day, Hall of Black Achievement, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration, Awards for Excellence, Springfest and the Holiday Concert.

Consult the *Bridgewater State College Handbook*, the numerous bulletin boards across the campus, as well as college publications, for information on campus events as they arise.

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### CULTURAL, SOCIAL, ATHLETIC AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to classroom instruction, Bridgewater State College offers students a full social, cultural, athletic, recreational and religious life. Art exhibits, lectures, concerts, movies, plays, workshops and sports events make for an active campus schedule. (Please refer to the handbook and the college Web site [www.bridgew.edu](http://www.bridgew.edu) for a complete listing of clubs, organizations and a calendar of campus events.)

Through programs sponsored by the Student Activities Office, the Student Government Association, the Program Committee, and other organizations, members of the college community have opportunities to attend events featuring significant public figures and internationally acclaimed performing artists.

The Art Building and Maxwell Library feature galleries where exhibits are displayed and the Rondileau Campus Center offers special programs such as performance by the college Chorale Society and the Bridgewater State College Dance Company. For students who enjoy the theater, Bridgewater State College has much to offer. Major productions are presented by students in the theatre department

throughout the year. Professional theater companies perform at the college frequently.

Bridgewater has a strong athletic tradition, which has grown to include 22 intercollegiate varsity sports teams, a full range of intramural athletic programs, and a number of club sports programs. The Adrian Tinsley Center features a state-of-the-art fitness center, a walking track and new multi-sport surfaces. The college is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III, the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) and the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference (MASCAC).

Community members keep abreast of events and programs through a variety of campus media. The student newspaper, *The Comment*, and the official college newsletter, *Bridgewater Today*, focus on news and feature stories highlighting campus life and individual achievements, and the *Commuter Connection Newsletter* provides useful information for the commuting population.

The campus radio station, WBIM-FM, provides coverage of events plus a full range of musical and special interest programming. The college has its own homepage at [www.bridgew.edu](http://www.bridgew.edu) and resident students have access to a cable television local access channel offering college news and information. The Office of Public Affairs maintains a Campus Events Line (508) 531-1768, a weekly recording of campus events.

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### EXCHANGE AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Bridgewater has formal student exchange agreements with Acadia University (Nova Scotia, Canada); and Manchester Metropolitan University, Crewe & Alsager Campus, in England. Students also have the opportunity to study in Canada through the Quebec/New England Exchange at over a dozen institutions, including Bishop's University, Concordia University, the University of Laval, McGill University, the University of Montreal and the University of Sherbrooke. The Nova Scotia/New England Exchange provides exchange opportunities at eleven institutions, including Atlantic School of Theology, University College of Cape Breton, Dalhousie University, University of King's College, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, St. Francis Xavier University and Saint Mary's University.

Through the National Student Exchange students may spend up to one year attending a college or university in another state at the in-state tuition rate. The

National Student Exchange directory describes over 200 institutions involved in this program. For further information contact the Office of International and Exchange Programs, Maxwell Library, Room 21.

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## INTERNATIONAL STUDY TOURS

Short-term faculty-led study tours to international locations are designed as courses for undergraduate or graduate college credit. Each course is designed around one or more subject areas providing an opportunity for students to explore, firsthand, societies quite different from their own. These courses, which vary in length from 10 days to 5 weeks, are offered during winter intersession, spring break and the summer. All programs are led by Bridgewater State College faculty and taught in English. Contact the Office of International Exchange Programs, Graduate and Continuing Education, Maxwell Library, Room 21, (508) 531-6183 for information. Also visit [www.bridgew.edu/international](http://www.bridgew.edu/international).

Short-term international study tours for 2004 include: ***Cuban Life and Culture in Regional Context: Study Tour to Cuba*** (January 2004) studies the cultures, economy and politics in Cuba with visits to schools, museums, medical clinics, and AfroCuban cultural sites; ***Games and Sport of Arctic People: Study Tour to the Arctic*** (March 2004) focuses on the relationships that exist between traditional Arctic games and sport and family, religion, economics, education, art and politics; ***Ten Years After Apartheid: Study Tour to South Africa*** (June-July 2004) reveals the physical beauty, abundant wildlife and deeply embedded racial divisions of South Africa; ***Studio Art Workshop in France*** (summer 2004), a 10-day workshop in a French village with choice of creative photography or plein air painting; ***History Study Tour of Italy*** (summer 2004) examines the social, cultural, political and technical aspects of life in early modern walled cities and their territories; ***Bridgewater-at-Oxford*** (summer 2004) offers three weeks of study at Oxford University in England with a choice of Political Science/Law, Art History, English Literature or English History; and ***Understanding the Irish Diaspora: Study Tour to Ireland*** (summer 2004), examines the causes of migration, providing a context within which to understand the Irish American experience. Short-term Bridgewater State College courses are currently being developed to Spain and Russia.

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## CROSS REGISTRATION CAPS

College Academic Program Sharing is designed to provide full-time students attending a Massachusetts state college the opportunity to study at another Massachusetts state college in order to add a different or specialized dimension to their undergraduate studies. Students may take 3 to 30 semester hours of credit without going through formal registration procedures and without a formal transfer credit approval process. Courses taken under the CAPS program are not included in the student's GPA. For further information contact the Registrar's Office.

## SACHEM

Through the Southeastern Association for Cooperation of Higher Education in Massachusetts, qualified full-time students may cross-register for two courses each semester, one of which is not offered at their own institution, without going through formal registration procedures. Tuition is covered within the student's full-time tuition charge at Bridgewater State College. Schools participating in this program include Bristol Community College, Cape Cod Community College, Dean Junior College, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Massasoit Community College, Stonehill College, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and Wheaton College. Application for cross-registration must be made through the Registrar's Office.

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## ORIENTATION FOR NEW STUDENTS

Bridgewater's orientation program has been designed to introduce new students and their families to the Bridgewater community. Through collaborative efforts between the divisions of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, orientation provides programs that are conducive to the academic and social success of new students. The goals of orientation are to develop and coordinate programs that promote academic success, to enhance personal and social development, and to provide families and their students with information about services, support systems and issues facing college students.

Orientation is divided into two different programs. The initial program in June is a comprehensive two-day overnight introduction to the college with an emphasis on placement testing, academic advising and registration for fall classes. Students also have an opportunity to meet with faculty and staff and learn about the resources available at the college. A one-day concurrent

family program provides parents with information about services, support systems and resources for their students.

The second program is prior to the opening of classes in the fall when students are given the opportunity to meet new friends, learn the traditions of Bridgewater and receive assistance with transition to college life. Students have opportunity to sign up for workshops, meet with faculty and staff and participate in small group experiences that are designed to foster relationships and provide them with information to assist them with their first year educational experience.

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### RELIGIOUS LIFE

The campus provides opportunities for formal religious study as well as individual participation in worship, bible study and purposeful community service. The Catholic Center and Christian Fellowship contribute to our understanding and appreciation of various religious perspectives.

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### SERVICES TO STUDENTS

Students face many decisions involving housing, finances, health, work, academic programs, post-undergraduate study and career goals. The Office of Student Affairs provides assistance in making these decisions through personal and career counseling, off- and on-campus housing information, health services, child care center, social activities, advocacy for persons with disabilities and financial aid. The *Bridgewater State College Student Handbook* provides detailed information about these services.

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### CHILDREN'S CENTER

The Children's Center provides high quality care and education to preschool aged children. Open from the beginning of the fall semester through the end of Summer Session II, the center offers nine different enrollment options. This model, accredited program is also available for observation, field work, and data collection. The Children's Center is located in the Burnell Campus School, Room 135. For additional information contact the Children's Center at 508-531-1244, [www.bridgew.edu/depts/childrencenter](http://www.bridgew.edu/depts/childrencenter) or by e-mail [childrencenter@bridgew.edu](mailto:childrencenter@bridgew.edu).

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### DISABILITY RESOURCES

Bridgewater State College is committed to making its facilities, services and programs accessible to all students and is in compliance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Disability Resources Office assists students who are physically challenged, mentally challenged or learning disabled to obtain the services they need to access a quality education. This is done in the following ways: assisting with course registration procedures and accessibility to classrooms; locating readers, notetakers, interpreters, adaptive computing, accessible housing and transportation; assisting in acquiring reasonable accommodations from college faculty and staff; and providing information about the laws, regulations and rights as they pertain to students with disabilities.

The Disability Resources Office will assist in all reasonable ways to provide access to opportunities for a quality educational experience. Students are encouraged to visit the office, located in the Academic Achievement Center on the lower level of the Maxwell Library, if they have any questions, need assistance or have suggestions. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 508-531-2304. Students using a TTY should call 508-531-6113.