

Spring 2027 First Year Seminar Course Guide

Explore New York City through art, culture, history, social justice, science, and community life. Find a theme that connects with your interests and compare the available Spring 2027 sections.

Browse themes by interest, then use the CRN (Course Reference Number) to find your section in the registration schedule.

Before registering, check the current schedule for availability, delivery format, meeting times, and classroom or campus location. Some details may still be updated.

Course formats. In person: classroom instruction. Asynchronous: online work without scheduled class meetings. Hybrid: a mix of in-person and online learning. OLS: online delivery; confirm the specific format. TBA: details to be announced.

Honors sections. Courses labeled FYS 1000H are restricted to students in the University Honors Program.

Arts Music and Creative Expression

Art and Architecture

Explore New York City's art, architecture, history, and cultural diversity.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 570	12029	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Albert
FYS 1000 Section 598	12052	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Albert

Streets Museums and Art

Explore graffiti, street art, cultural movements, and their influence on New York City's art world. Opportunities include mural painting in Queens and examining the city's parks and climate.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 588	11954	In person	Thursday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Thursday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Dunn
FYS 1000 Section 599	11997	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Dunn
FYS 1000 Section 509	12032	In person	Monday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Monday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Dunn
FYS 1000 Section 583	12034	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Dunn

Social Justice and the Arts

Discover how artwork across the five boroughs gives communities a voice for social change through field experiences and study of social justice.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 515	13038	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Ebanks

The Harlem Renaissance

Explore the Great Migration and Harlem's literature, music, visual arts, theater, and political voices during the Harlem Renaissance.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 526	12010	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Hargett
FYS 1000 Section 527	12919	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Hargett

Gospel of NYC

Study slavery, migration, Black culture, and the history and power of gospel music in New York City.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 506	11966	In person	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Wednesday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Joiner

Music in NYC

Explore New York's musical styles, artists, and performance spaces. Concert or venue visits, discussion, and community service connect music with city life.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 507	11995	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Kaminski
FYS 1000 Section 524	12053	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Kaminski

City and Social Imagination

Look closely at architecture, urban spaces, and creative expression across the five boroughs. Respond creatively while exploring citizenship and personal connections to the city.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 503	12056	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Upton
FYSH 1000 Section 560 HONORS	12058	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Upton

In the Writers Words

Discover New York through stories, poems, essays, and plays inspired by the city. Strengthen reading and writing while exploring how writers see urban life.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 582	11983	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Wolf

Immigration Identity and Community

Food Culture and Identity

Explore how immigration, race, policy, and urban development shape New York's food cultures and access to food. Topics include food deserts, food workers, mutual aid, and urban farming.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 541	12005	In person	Wednesday 7:30 a.m.-9:20 a.m., Wednesday 9:21 a.m.-10:20 a.m.	Angerosa

The Immigrant Experience

Use New York City to explore identity, immigration, race, culture, poverty, education, and social justice through historical and autobiographical perspectives.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 513	12047	In person	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Wednesday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	ChingWenYen

Immigration

Study migration, refugees, changing communities, and the forced migration of enslaved people. Connect an oral history project with service and visits to immigration sites.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 520	13037	In person	Thursday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Thursday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Conn
FYSH 1000 Section 565 HONORS	13015	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:40 p.m.	Conn

Roots and Resistance in NYC

Examine Latinx communities through immigration, housing, labor, education, policing, gentrification, and activism. Learn from texts, films, and local community organizations.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 552	11987	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Diaz

NYC People History Life and Times

Trace immigration from New Amsterdam to today's diverse city. Group projects explore Queens communities through a multimedia presentation.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 551	12026	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Donnelly
FYS 1000 Section 559	12036	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Donnelly
FYS 1000 Section 102	12046	In person	Wednesday 7:30 a.m.-9:20 a.m., Wednesday 9:21 a.m.-10:20 a.m.	Donnelly
FYS 1000 Section 501	12057	In person	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Wednesday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Donnelly

Social and Historical Aspects of NY

Explore race, immigration, ethnic relations, and economic inequality through New York's history. Develop research, writing, and speaking skills through projects, field trips, and service.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 504	12916	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Nitopi

Growth and Sports

Explore how sports and immigration have shaped New York City and how sports connect people across diverse communities.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 579	12040	In person	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Wednesday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Peluso

Queer History of New York

Explore queer culture and activism in New York City from the early 20th century to today, including key people, events, and movements.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 579	11982	In person	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Wednesday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Shanley

A Taste of Immigration

Discover the immigrant architects and international cuisines that helped shape New York's skyline, neighborhoods, and cultural life.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 101	12050	In person	Thursday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Thursday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Smith

Self Others and the World

Explore how people develop a deeper understanding of themselves and the world through life and learning in New York City.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 508	12055	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Wang

Immigrants Contributions

Examine immigrants' social, economic, and cultural contributions to New York while practicing source evaluation, ethical reasoning, and civic engagement.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 517	12003	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Wilson

Justice Policy and Public Life

Social Work in New York City

Explore military and veteran life in NYC, including service history, trauma, community resources, and support for veterans and families.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 547	11955	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Diasavvas

Social Justice

Examine immigration, inequality, homelessness, criminal justice, and education through New York's history and field experiences focused on social change.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 555	11981	In person	Wednesday 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m., Wednesday 9:21 a.m.-10:20 a.m.	Elie

Criminal Minds of NYC

Explore crime and criminal justice across New York's history. Examine motives and opportunities for crime and the responses of police, courts, corrections, and communities.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 101	11980	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Funez

Equity in Education

Study how education laws and policies shape inequality in New York and the United States, with attention to race, class, wealth, and student outcomes.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 536	13710	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Kengne

September 11 Cause and Effect

Explore the conflicts and politics surrounding September 11 and its continuing effects on New York City, the United States, and the wider world.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 536	12917	In person	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Wednesday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Olive

Protest and Politics in NY

Examine Occupy Wall Street, community organizing after Hurricane Sandy, and the relationships among protest, elections, public space, and political participation.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 538	12043	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Richards
FYS 1000 Section 500	12918	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Richards

Understanding Social Justice

Explore immigration, race, inequality, criminal justice, and education through field experiences, service, and academic skill building.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 525	13804	In person	Wednesday 7:30 a.m.-9:20 a.m., Wednesday 9:21 a.m.-10:20 a.m.	Seegel

Veterans of New York City

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section not provided	13711	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Alice Diacosavvas

NYC and America

Examine how New York City's government, economy, and culture interact with the United States through major leaders, events, and periods of cooperation and conflict.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 501	12009	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Tremain

NYC Social Issues

Ask how to build a more just society through topics including racism, environmental justice, transportation, gender and gay rights, and gentrification.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 581	13039	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Turner

Government and Politics

Explore New York's immigrant experience and political structures alongside challenges such as housing costs, homelessness, transportation, and urban development.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 522	12054	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Vanderburg
FYS 1000 Section 592	13016	In person	Thursday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Thursday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Vanderburg

The Changing City Environment Health and Technology

Urban Development and Social Institutions

Trace New York's development from Dutch settlement to a global city. Explore immigration, changing neighborhoods, and social institutions through readings including *The Mole People*.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 528	12013	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Dono-Koulouris
FYS 1000 Section 502	13709	In person	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Wednesday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Dono-Koulouris

NYC After World War II

Explore New York's rise as a global city through mayors, politics, fiscal challenges, crime, September 11, and changes from the late 20th century onward.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 574	12045	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Fernandez

Financial New York City

Trace New York's growth from Dutch trading roots to Wall Street and its continuing role in global finance.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 542	11978	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	King

Environment and Human Change

Explore how New York changed from a green island to an urban metropolis through readings, research, field trips, collaboration, and immersive role playing.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 505	12051	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Lazrus
FYSH 1000 Section 560 HONORS	12059	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Lazrus

Artificial Intelligence

Explore how AI affects New York's public services, urban planning, creative industries, social equity, and environmental sustainability, including ethical challenges.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 571	13017	In person	Monday 5:00 p.m.-6:50 p.m., Monday 6:51 p.m.-7:50 p.m.	Lopez

NY Past and Present

Explore change in New York City from 1608 through 1920 and today, with attention to immigration, race, ethnicity, poverty, and the urban environment.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 572	11970	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Murphy
FYS 1000 Section 596	12015	In person	Wednesday 1:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m., Wednesday 3:41 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Murphy

Public Health

Explore New York's development through sanitation, disease, immigration, and quality of life. Field trips and research connect historical events with current public health issues.

Course / section	CRN	Format	Class meetings	Instructor
FYS 1000 Section 514	11953	In person	Wednesday 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday 12:31 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Zinzsner