feel free to EXPLORE.
What to Know for Fall 2018.

- You have the time and scheduling space to branch out and take a variety of classes. Now is the time for guilt-free academic exploration! Don’t worry: every course you take counts toward graduation.

- Classes listed as “First-Year Friendly” ARE just that: they were designed with first years in mind.

- Read all the course descriptions of the First-Year Friendly courses on the online course schedule. Titles are often short and don’t fully tell you what the class is about.

- This guide contains a sampling of the courses K has to offer, many with quotes from Departmental Student Advisors (DSAs), who are student leaders in their departments. See the online course schedule for a full listing of available courses.

- Think outside the box, try new things, and explore!

Some Subjects to Explore.

History.

“President Theodore Roosevelt once said, ‘the more you know about the past, the better you are prepared for the future.’ By studying history I have become more in touch with the past and as a result have been able to better understand the environment around me.” - Brad Bez, History DSA.

Suggested Courses: HIST-101 Medieval & Early Mod. Europe, HIST-110 History of the U.S. I, HIST-211 Native American History, HIST-244 French Revolution, HIST-280 Modern China

Political Science.

“One of our professors says that ‘politics begins where certainty ends.’ In Political Science, we attempt to find order and sense in an increasingly complex and uncertain world.” - Ian McKnight, Political Science DSA.

Suggested Courses: POLS-105 Intro to U.S. Politics, POLS-205 Politics of Revolution
**Women, Gender & Sexuality.**  “WGS Studies is often misconceived as studying solely female ‘problems’ and their femininity. WGS Studies takes interdisciplinary and feminist methods to analyze social and cultural constructs, systems, and relationships in society.” - Samantha Choknumtumnukit, WGS DSA.

*Suggested Course: WGS-101 Intro to Women, Gender & Sexuality*

**Classics.**

“The study of Classics is not just about, to put it plainly, really old stuff. I find that looking backwards gives me firm roots and guidance as to which way to develop myself and my life.” - Mara Hazen, Classics DSA.

*Suggested Courses: CLAS-208 Intro to Greek Art & Archaeology, CLAS-210 Classical Mythology, CLAS-227 Roman Army*

**Critical Ethnic Studies.**

“The CES department is a very welcoming department where you can engage in critical conversations about the world’s ideologies and practices. Within the department, we strive to build community in various ways from building solidarity with one another in and out of class, engaging in critical love, and ultimately giving love to each other and our communities. CES has really helped me challenge my socialized assumptions about the world and peoples. By working collectively with other CES majors, I’ve learned that everyone has their own differences which allows us to truly work in depth on different topics. If you would like to join an amazing community of students, CES is for you!” - Alejandra Morales, CES DSA.

*Suggested Course: CES-200 Argument with the Given*

**Theatre.**

Whether it’s your first time in a theatre or you are a seasoned actor: “Taking theatre courses are great ways to learn and develop tools for acting, designing, managing, and directing and those tools can be applied throughout life. Studying theatre allows one to explore their inner creator and artist and to think about the world thoughtfully and provocatively in the medium.” - Robert Davis, Theatre Arts DSA.

*Suggested Courses: THEA-120 Fundamentals of Acting, THEA-210 Lighting Design*
“Taking classes in Religion offers the chance to explore a truly interdisciplinary approach. The department incorporates philosophy, history, language/literature, social sciences, and more to engage a diversity of interests and experiences.” - David Vanderkloot, K18 Religion DSA.

*Suggested Courses: RELG-107 Intro to Jewish Traditions, RELG-160 Hebrew Bible, RELG-170 Muhammad and the Qur’an*

**Anthropology & Sociology.**

“Being an AnSo major has helped me to become a more aware and self-reflective person. The AnSo classes I have taken provided me with an understanding of my position within society as well as the complex structures that make up our lives.” - Savannah Kinchen, K18 Anthropology & Sociology DSA.

*Suggested Course: ANSO-103 Intro to Society & Culture*

**English.**

“English classes have not only made me a better writer, but also a better thinker. They introduce new and interesting theories and philosophies about different views of the world and provide historical context and modern framework through which students can apply them.” - Madeline Lauver, English DSA.

*Suggested Courses: ENGL-105 Intro to Journalism, ENGL-150 Reading the World: Beyond Realism, ENGL-154 Reading the World: Global Stages, ENGL-155 Reading the World: Identities, ENGL-220 African American Literature*

**Religion.**

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*Suggested Courses: RELG-107 Intro to Jewish Traditions, RELG-160 Hebrew Bible, RELG-170 Muhammad and the Qur’an*

**Philosophy.**

“Studying Philosophy fosters not only the ability to think critically, but also the ability to engage in constructive dialogue. It prepares you to think holistically about a variety of subjects and gives you the vocabulary to discuss them.” - Hannah Kim, K17 Philosophy DSA.

*Suggested Courses: PHIL-105 Ethics, PHIL-208 19th-Century Philosophy*

**Economics & Business.**

“Studying Economics has provided me with a new lens to view the world with. The professors are really great about explaining how this economic perspective translates to the real world.” - Bella Haney, Economics DSA.

*Suggested Course: ECON-101 Principles of Economics*
African Studies.

“African Studies courses are a great way to expand one’s own thinking and to challenge one’s preconceived notions about the role of Africa in the global context. Most pre-collegiate education programs tend to only study these nations with a very narrow and antiquated lens, so taking African Studies classes at K allows one to acquire a nuanced understanding of the material.” - Emily Wittman, African Studies DSA.

*Suggested Course: AFST-104 Intro to African Studies*

Art & Art History.

“There are so many things that are incredibly hard to communicate through words, but so effective and cathartic to communicate through images. Taking an art class will open a whole new method of communication to you that you’ll be able to utilize for the rest of your life, and also they’re just really fun!” - Qynce Chumley, Art & Art History DSA.


Computer Science.

“Computers have become an integral part of our lives and are incorporated into almost every field of study. Learning basic programming skills and computational concepts will help students think analytically and learn how to apply technology to their future careers.” - Alex Cadigan, Computer Science DSA.

*Suggested Courses: COMP-105 Intro to Computer Science, COMP-108 Intro to Scientific Computing*

Music.

“Taking music classes allows you to better appreciate artists and genres that you might never listen to otherwise. They deepen your understanding and open your ears to subtleties and nuances.” - Lexi Ugelow, Music DSA.

*Suggested Courses: MUSC-100 Program Music: Stories in Sound, MUSC-105 Intro to Music, MUSC-150 Western Music Before 1750*
Your First-Year Seminar provides a great chance to delve into something different and exciting. Every first-year student is required to take one First-Year Seminar in the fall. The topics vary widely and no prior knowledge of or experience with the subject is required. Think about trying one of these:

*Suggested Courses: SEMN-106 Reinvented: Space & Art, SEMN-108 Plato to Playdoh, SEMN-112 Make It Stick, SEMN-113 Quixote as ‘Player One’, SEMN-123 Theater and the Other, SEMN-124 Journeys of the West, SEMN-139 Our Shakespeares, Ourselves, SEMN-155 The New World Order, SEMN-165 Stalin & the Art of Fear, SEMN-188 Imagining Possible Worlds, SEMN-189 The Art of Revenge, SEMN-196 Memories, Secrets & Lies*

Physical Education. You are required to complete 1.0 unit of Physical Education (PE) activities to graduate. You can find the available options on the online schedule by choosing Physical Education in the Subjects column. “Academic success is enhanced with physical activity. We subscribe to the ‘sound mind in a sound body’ approach by building physical activity into our curriculum. Most PE activity classes are .2 units and are completed in addition to your other three full-unit courses. Feel free to register for a PE class now. You’ll be glad you did!” - Jeanne Hess, Volleyball Coach and PE Professor.

If you are a prospective pre-med, math, or science student please remember to consult the “Science and Math Course Sequences” document on the Fall Course Registration website.
Languages. Kalamazoo offers language courses in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Ancient Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, Latin, and Spanish. To allow yourself plenty of options for study abroad, don’t be afraid to start a completely new-to-you language, like Hebrew or Arabic. Remember: Proficiency in a second language through the intermediate level is a degree requirement at K.

The 101 introductory course of all languages (except Greek) is offered in fall quarter.

“Understanding Arabic will enable students to build a bridge to communities around the world and to better understand current affairs and international diplomacy efforts. Given that less than 1 percent of US college students study Arabic, Arabic language skills will separate you from the crowd, no matter your professional field.” - Professor Wessam Abdelaziz.

“Studying modern Hebrew is a refreshing and unique experience that cannot be explored just anywhere. Through its connection to a rich history and culture, Hebrew at K provides a fun change of pace to captivate the mind. Take a dive into something different!” - Abby Calef, Jewish Studies DSA.

“Consider German because it can surprise you. The language can open doors that may have been previously hidden into philosophy, history, critical thinking, film, and more. There’s no end to what you can do with your German knowledge!” - Emma Eisenbeis, German DSA.

“Everything from cuisine to philosophy is heavily influenced by France. Learning the language opens the door to an immense literary heritage. You can also order poutine in Québec in the native language, which is pretty great.” - Danny Horwitz, French DSA.

“Learning Chinese has opened doors to critical thinking that wouldn’t be available to one who only studies Latin languages.” - Amanda Johnson, K17 Chinese DSA.

“Study Spanish because being bilingual opens so many doors for traveling, learning and forming relationships that will impact your life and future adventures.” - Emily Kozal, K18 Spanish DSA.

“Japan is one of the most important political and economic partners for the United States in East Asia. Studying about Japan will expand your understandings about the world.” - Younghoon Kim, Japanese DSA.

Additional Suggested Course: JAPN-238 Post-War Japanese Lit in Translation (taught in English; no prior Japanese language experience required!)

See the Fall Course Registration and Guidelines and Advice websites for much more info. For specific questions, email the advising help line—advising@kzoo.edu—or call (269) 337-5767.