



Academic Communities

Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Fall 2023



Congratulations on your acceptance to the University of Pittsburgh and the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences! We invite you to enroll in one of our Academic Communities for your first term.

Why Choose an Academic Community?

Education doesn't only occur in the classroom. Academic Communities introduce you to real-world experiences and a range of other academic opportunities at Pitt.



New Friends

Academic Communities offer built-in social opportunities as you quickly develop a sense of community within your small group. It's a network that's sure to serve you well in future classes.



Faculty Connections

Focused groups allow for more personal interaction with faculty members and teaching assistants.



Academic Skills

You'll have peer support for studying and for writing, and you'll develop the habits needed for academic success.

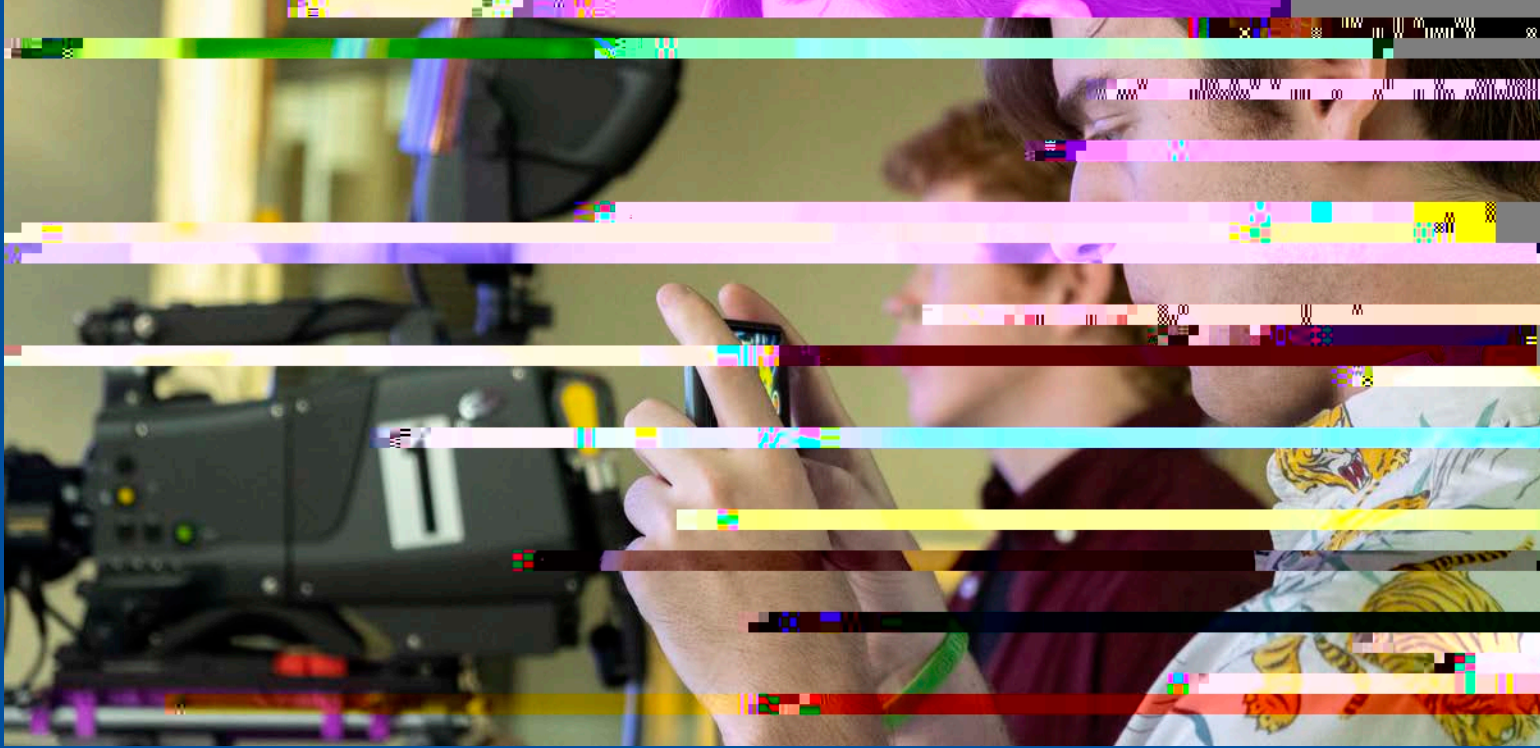


Leadership Skills

Many Academic Community students go on to serve as undergraduate teaching assistants in First-Year Programs courses. All students who complete any fall-term First-Year Programs class are eligible to apply to

Apply online at asundergrad.pitt.edu/ac





6. How to Make a Movie

"Hollywood in Pittsburgh" is a common phrase here. Discover the important role Pittsburgh has had in the production and creation of films both past and present. Learn the processes of movie making by scripting, shooting, and editing your own film. Write about your own engagement with film and film production and make your way in Pittsburgh's vibrant film community (7 credits).

7. Seeing the World

Through the examination of film, photography, museum exhibits, video games, and other media you will discover how artistic vision is shaped socially, culturally, and technologically. You will also learn how these media influence your own critical practice as you work to develop your individual creative voice (7 credits).

8. Who Are You?

How and when does a person develop a sense of self? How do both psychology and philosophy help us to understand our natures and personalities? The courses in this community will provide a multifaceted approach to finding answers to these questions (7 credits).

9. Nature/Cities/Humans

How do humans live in harmony with each other and nature in urban areas? Explore how sustainability plays out in natural and built environments. Examine the tradeoffs, challenges, and opportunities of balancing equity, environment, and economics at the campus and city scale (7 credits).

10. The Beautiful Mind

Examine the intersection of art and neuroscience by developing artistic talent while studying the brain. Consider the relationship between art and science and how they complement each other. Nothing demonstrates this like the human mind, beautiful for its neural structure and complex in its creative expression (7 credits).

11. Neurons and Chemicals

Deepen your understanding of chemical structures and states of matter while learning about their wider application in psychopharmacology. Develop a better understanding of the basic structures of the brain and chemicals (8 credits).

12. Science in a Gendered World

How does gender impact the study and practice of science in our world today? What can we learn from studying how science has been pursued, practiced, and promoted historically? Consider what the historical record reveals and how an awareness of it enhances your academic studies in the sciences at the University and beyond (7 credits).

13. Medical Humanities

Pursue your health care professional by starting with the fundamentals of biology while also discovering what literature can teach us about health care. Learn important biological functions and discuss crucial topics that inform how healthcare providers treat patients (7 credits).

14. The Power of Leadership

What skills are most essential to being a good leader and how can we begin to cultivate those skills and talents now? Explore the many facets of leadership and how it may manifest in your

FP 0001 Academic Foundations

If your schedule doesn't allow for an Academic Community, be sure to enroll in the 1-credit standalone Academic Foundations course. You'll meet other first-year students in a small class setting; get an orientation to the campus and the community; and become knowledgeable about the workings of your new school.

Through your participation in FP0001, you can expect to be able to:

- Discuss the variety of resources available to you as a student at Pitt and within the Dietrich School;
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