

# Short Term, Catalog 2025-26

## SEMINARS, INTERNSHIPS, TRIPS

Since 1968, Short Term, a four-week period in January, has been a valuable component of the Hollins curriculum. While Short Term has undergone many changes over the years, its basic premise is to provide opportunities that are not normally available during the Fall and Spring Terms. The Short Term also provides students with a distinctive model for learning by emphasizing a focused approach to study. It serves as an avenue for the university to inject experiential learning courses into the curriculum. These experienced based courses fulfill the experiential learning requirement (ELR) of the general education curriculum. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)

Short Term offers a rich mixture of programs. Students can choose from one of the following activities that each fulfill the short-term requirement.

- First-year students will either enroll in CORE 102 or join a Hollins-sponsored travel/study program. With the exception of the travel program participants, first-year students are required to remain in residence on campus during Short Term.
- Experiential learning requirement (ELR) courses
- Conflict and Collaboration course (required for first-year students)
- Travel/study programs
- Senior theses and projects
- Courses from other colleges on a similar calendar
- Supervised internships with businesses or organizations

## SEMINARS

Students may enroll in any one of the seminars listed below. This seminar series has been designed to investigate new issues or to look at traditional subjects in innovative ways. Complete descriptions, including fees and prerequisites, are located on the Hollins website, [www.hollins.edu](http://www.hollins.edu), under Academics, Short Term. The Short Term courses listed below may change and are only a sample of the final offerings.

### **CORE 102: CONFLICT AND COLLABORATION (4)**

Building on some of the skills developed in First-Year Foundations, students in this course will practice how to take risks, fail forward, navigate difficult conversations, negotiate conflict, work as part of a team, and accept feedback with a growth mindset. Students

would also hone their oral communication skills, specifically in the context of negotiation and self-advocacy. All of these activities will be carefully scaffolded. Students will be encouraged to apply these strategies to their own lives.

### **SEM 1077: STUDIO ART SENIOR PROJECTS (4)**

Immerse yourself in your studio practice during this intensive seminar focused on developing your work for the Senior Studio Art exhibition. Work with studio art faculty and your peers to refine your methods, concepts and studio workflow, while participating in both small group critiques with your peers and one on one studio visits with faculty. Expect to dedicate an additional 10-15 hours per week outside of the seminar schedule to your independent studio work.

### **SEM 1193: SURVIVAL IN THE MODERN WORLD (4)**

This course provides a unique and personal interactive learning experience helps students reflect on their leadership style, educational life and personal lives. By learning the the Seven Priorities of Survival and the technical skills necessary to utilize them students will identify parallels existing between wilderness survival techniques, university life, and personal life.

### **SEM 1244: TRIAL AND ERROR (4)**

Taught by Roanoke City Circuit Court Judge David Carson, this course is an intensive guide to the law, legal system, and trying a case. The class will introduce students to substantive areas of law and the procedures of trial advocacy, on campus and in court. As a part of trial practice, students are required to observe courtroom proceedings, and engage in basic trial exercises; including, opening statements, closing arguments, direct examinations, and cross examinations. Professional attire and ability to attend all scheduled sessions is required of enrolled students.

## **SEM 1278: INTRODUCTION TO STAGE COMBAT (4)**

Dive into the world of stage combat and bring dramatic conflicts to life! This course goes beyond traditional acting, teaching you how to safely and convincingly portray physical confrontations on stage. What you'll learn:

- Unarmed combat techniques: Master the art of staged punches, falls, and grapples
- Armed combat skills: Learn the basic principles of stage sword fighting!
- Develop crucial physical awareness and coordination
- Strengthen communication and trust with your fellow actors

Whether you're into Shakespeare's duels or modern action scenes, these skills will elevate your performances and make you a versatile, in-demand actor. Join us to add some excitement to your theatrical toolkit and create unforgettable moments on stage!

## **SEM 1279: RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS IN STEM (4)**

This course will give students a fundamental understanding of the processes involved in the design of qualitative and quantitative research methodology in STEM. Working collaboratively, the class will identify a research question related to a STEM field that requires an interdisciplinary approach, pulling from the instructors' areas of expertise. The class will conduct a literature review, develop questions and testable hypotheses, and define a protocol to address those questions. Additional topics will cover statistical analysis of data and technical and non-technical science writing. Working together, the class will develop a comprehensive research proposal. As a part of this course, students will take field trips to local research facilities. This course is only open to first year students.

## **SEM 1280: YES, WE CAN! INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY ADVOCACY (4)**

How do equitable and inclusive communities come into being? Through us! This course is a hands-on, experiential introduction to identifying strategic community issues and developing advocacy campaigns to improve them. Students will identify a community issue affecting the Hollins community and develop advocacy materials to work for change.

## **SEM 1281: THEMATIZING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (4)**

Like many industries, Hollywood has been convulsed by the rapid uptake of artificial intelligence (AI). In 2023, a historic strike by industry writers and actors was motivated in part to safeguard their jobs against generative AI tools. Yet long before the rise of AI became a pressing labor question, Hollywood has been telling stories about mischievous robots, sentient computers, and other unruly technological entities. This class examines how

movies have explored the theme of AI in such films as 2001: A Space Odyssey, Blade Runner, The Terminator, Ghost in the Shell, The Matrix, Ex Machina, After Yang, and M3GAN, among others. Films will be screened during class time followed by discussion.

### **SEM 1282: RELIGION AT THE MOVIES (4)**

Religious movies give us an opportunity to examine religions from a variety of unusual perspectives. This class will explore five religious traditions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam and Christianity—as they are represented by a variety of film genres including documentary, drama, and comedy. After reading overviews of these religions, we will examine how the medium of film simplifies, distorts, but also attempts to express the essence of each faith. Questions considered include: Can film give an accurate experience of a religion? Is there a middle ground between the sentimental and satirical? Can watching a film become a religious experience?

### **SEM 1283: PAPER TIDES: SUSTAINABILITY AND MATERIALITY IN PAPERMAKING (4)**

Throughout papermaking's expansive history, papermakers have shown invention and adaptability in their ability to collaborate with nature through harvesting, recycling and reclaiming materials for paper production. Through discussion, projects, and critique, this course will explore topics in sustainability, environmental art, and observation/collaboration with nature. Students will learn two-dimensional and three-dimensional techniques in papermaking including sheet formation, natural dyeing, pulp painting, recycling paper/fiber waste. The course will incorporate visiting artist lectures and field trips to nature sites, museum collections, and regional papermaking artists. Course fee is estimated at \$100 for materials and supplies.

*Additional seminar descriptions will be listed on the university website as they are approved and scheduled.*

## **EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING COURSES**

Students may enroll in any one of the experiential learning courses listed below. These courses have been designed to investigate new issues or to look at traditional subjects through hands-on, experienced-based learning. Complete descriptions, including fees and prerequisites, are located on the Hollins website, [www.hollins.edu](http://www.hollins.edu), under Academics, Short Term. The Short Term courses listed below may change and are only a sample of the final offerings.

## INTERNSHIPS

An internship is experiential learning in which a student gains supervised, practical experience and skills in a professional setting. Internships allow Hollins students to gain valuable experience, make connections, and evaluate their skills against the demands of a given profession.

The following academic departments/programs have specific Short Term internship guidelines: art, biology, communication studies, computer science, economics and business, education, English, French, gender and women's studies, German, history, physical education/athletics, physics, political science, psychology, sociology, Spanish, theatre, and veterinary medicine.

Students should register for ADM 399 as the placeholder in their schedules. Once all paperwork is complete, ADM 399 will be replaced by registration in the appropriate department.

## TRAVEL/STUDY PROGRAMS

First-year students may apply to some Hollins sponsored short term programs, but every student must be 18 years of age to participate in a travel/study program. To find out more information about the programs below see <https://studyabroad.hollins.edu/>.

## SHORT TERM LANGUAGE IMMERSION STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

### TRIP 1004: SPANISH IN SEVILLE

Spanish Studies Abroad (SSA) in Seville, Spain, offers a January Term program which can be taken either on its own or in conjunction with a semester-long SSA program for the Spring Term. The January Term offers intensive courses in intermediate and advanced Spanish, as well as an optional culture course. Students must have an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 and have completed at least two terms of college Spanish or the equivalent. Excursions, activities, and an intercambio speaking-partner program are included in the program.  
(Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)

### TRIP 1006: FRENCH IN TOURS

A three-week intensive French language course for all language levels at the Institut de Touraine. The Institute is affiliated with l'Université de Tours in the Loire Valley and enrolls students from all over the world. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)

## **TRIP 1043: SPANISH IN ALICANTE**

Spanish Studies Abroad (SSA) in Alicante offers a program of intensive courses in beginner to advanced Spanish language and culture at the Universidad de Alicante in Spain. Study tours, activities, and courses in literature, history, business, economics, education, health sciences, and social sciences are included in the program. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)

## **TRIP 1044: SPANISH IN HAVANA**

Spanish Studies Abroad (SSA) in Cuba is a four-week intensive program of coursework at the Universidad de La Habana for intermediate to advanced Spanish language learners, with optional content courses in history, culture, and literature. Classes are complemented with study visits and cultural activities ranging from jazz, salsa, and hip-hop concerts to museum excursions. Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and have completed at least one term of college Spanish or the equivalent; content courses require a higher Spanish proficiency. Excursions, activities, and an intercambio speaking-partner program are included in the program. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)

## **ADDITIONAL SHORT TERM TRAVEL PROGRAMS**

The travel/study programs listed below are dependent upon sufficient enrollment. Students must contact the instructor at the earliest possible date to express an interest and to learn details about schedules and costs.

## **FACULTY LED PROGRAM**

There are several study abroad faculty led programs offered during short term in a variety of departments. These include programs in Ecuador, Greece, Italy, and Kenya. See <https://studyabroad.hollins.edu/> to read more details about each program. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)

## **TRIP 1023: FIELD DANCE STUDY AND PERFORMANCE**

This course is open to intermediate and advanced students with a strong background in dance who wish to immerse themselves in a program which includes regular daily classes, performance opportunities, and/or student teaching. Proposals are submitted and evaluated by dance department faculty. Students are evaluated at the end of term through videotape documentation/presentation and critique as well as written evaluations by studio/company sponsors. Additional costs are required. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)

## **TRIP 1047: FLORENCE: CRADLE OF THE RENAISSANCE**

During this J-Term trip to Florence, Italy, students will explore the city's rich artistic and historical legacy, focusing on Renaissance artists such as Michelangelo, Donatello, Botticelli, and Artemisia Gentileschi. They will study the city's religious and political heritage, from the Florentine Republic and the Medici family to Florence's influence in modern Italy, while immersing themselves in local Italian food and culture. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)

## **TRIP 1049: ECUADOR! A BIO-CULTURAL JOURNEY ON THE EQUATOR**

Students in this J-term course will have the chance to explore one of the most biologically and culturally rich countries on the planet – ECUADOR. Located on the equator, this relatively small South American country is literally bursting with biodiversity and cultural vibrancy. With 14 different indigenous cultures and more than 23,000 identified species [including 1600+ bird species, 10,000+ plant species, 500+ amphibian species], the richness is delightfully overwhelming. During our 17-day stay we will explore the Andean highlands and the Amazon jungle with activities including: 3 days at a remote ecological field station; community home stays with indigenous (Quichua/Kichwa) communities in the high Andes and in the jungle; volunteer work supporting environmental organizations in Ecuador; and opportunities to explore natural history/botanical/ethnobotanical parks. In addition, students will work in teams on one of several on-going research projects examining: environmental perspectives of people in Ecuador and beyond, tropical moth biodiversity, bird diversity, and mammalian activity in biodiversity corridors. Prerequisite: Required to take a 2-credit fall course in Tropical Ecology, permission of instructor. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.). Offered Short Term 2026.

## **TRIP 1051: KENYA: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY VIEW OF WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH**

This academic and experiential program will center on women's reproductive health in Kenya. Via a collaboration between Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya and Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia, USA, students will gain a global health perspective with a focus on exploring reproductive health issues through an interdisciplinary lens, including maternal and child health, birthing experiences, and gendered economic disparities. Students will also be introduced to the Kenyan culture via immersive experiences with local organizations and populations. The partnership with Kenyatta will give students the opportunity to explore the shaping of public knowledge about and advocacy for women's health. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.) Next offered in Short Term 2026.

## **TRIP 1052: WILDERNESS AND WILDLIFE: NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF THE SOUTHEASTERN U.S.**

Wilderness and wild places are relatively scarce in much of the U.S. as a result of the extensive human development and encroachment over the past 200+ years, but these places still exist and many have been recognized and protected at the state, federal, and international levels. We will explore wild places in the Southeastern United States to learn the biology of these areas, the natural history of the organisms that inhabit them, and the cultural importance these areas hold (some have been recognized by UNESCO and the Network to Freedom program of the National Parks Service). Following an application process, accepted students will enroll in a 2-credit course during the fall semester to learn necessary skills for immersion at each site. Key activities we will use to intimately engage with each site will include wilderness camping, canoeing, extensive hiking, birding, and stand up paddle boarding. Students will also take advantage of this study away experience to evaluate and develop their own effectiveness in a group as we explore group development theories. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.) Prerequisite: BIOL 250.

## **TRIP 1053: OWNERSHIP AND (DE)NILE: WORLD HERITAGE IN AND BEYOND EGYPT**

On this trip, we will explore museums and cultural heritage sites in Egypt and attend lectures by the American University in Cairo faculty. We begin in Cairo and then travel the Nile to sites and museums in Luxor, Aswan, and Abu Simbel. During our trip we discuss politics, the economy, and the tourism industry in Egypt. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)

## **TRIP 1054: CRETE: YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND THE FUTURE**

Κρήτη, Crete, the largest of the Greek islands, is strategically located in the Mediterranean, a nautical crossroads between North Africa, the Near East and Europe. In addition, it sits above and was formed by the meeting of the African and Eurasian tectonic plates. Its colorful history is preserved in its ruins and artifacts, and its unique geology and biology in its natural environments. In this course we will explore the remains of several historical periods from Minoan palaces to Greco-Roman towns through Byzantine churches to Venetian and Ottoman fortifications, as well as staging areas and cemeteries of WWII and modern villages and towns adapting to the global tourism model. Crete offers mountains to climb, caves to descend into, labyrinths to wander through and vestigial forests to experience. The island's fierce independence has preserved distinctive forms of art and

literature and everywhere, Cretan hospitality and cuisine is on display. (Note: See the TRIP course fees schedule in the Tuition and Fee's section of this catalog.)