

Dawson College

Special Fields of Study

New School, Reflections, Women's Studies,
Jewish Studies



D I S C O V E R

DAWSON
C O L L E G E

New School

WE ARE DIFFERENT

The New School course grouping is based on the principles of humanistic education. The whole person, not just the intellect, is engaged in the growth and development that are the signs of real learning. The emotions, the social being, the mind and the skills needed for a career direction are all focuses of humanistic education.

Students learn best when they are most motivated. We take time to find out where your motivations lie and invite you to participate in helping us develop the goals of the New School each term.

Some of the questions that we encourage you to ask yourselves as you organize your learning are: Where do I want to go in my life and why? Am I choosing what matters to me, or what I think I'm supposed to choose? What knowledge and experience do I need to achieve what I want?

Since the New School opened in 1973, we have provided a place of learning where students are encouraged to assess and meet their own individual academic, personal and social needs.

CURRICULUM

The New School course grouping offers credits in English, Humanities, and Religion, and other disciplines when available. Our courses usually tend to rely on an interdisciplinary format. Students in any program are welcome to take the courses we offer, consistent with their program requirements.

Special Fields of Study

BANDS

Because we are concerned with how you feel about yourself and your relationships with others, we offer Bands each term. The Bands are groups of 13-16 students and a facilitator who meet twice per week. There is also an evening intensive Band provided for students who have scheduling difficulties. The focus of the Band is the group itself: you bring concerns to the group, you help decide how the group functions as a whole, and you and the Band create a supportive environment in which you may share important issues in your lives. The Bands also are responsible for contributions to the life of the New School community.

WE ARE SERIOUS

We are proud of past New School students, many of whom have established themselves in professions and careers as diverse as law, medicine, education, social work, business, film-making, writing and publishing, research, art, theatre, communications and a variety of community-based jobs.

We feel the success of our students is at least partially due to the seriousness with which we encourage them to look at their own lives and futures. Graduates benefit from their many hours of training in listening and communication skills. Educators and employers are increasingly demanding the kind of oral and written communication skills emphasized at the New School.

WE ARE CHALLENGING

The New School asks a lot from every student. You are responsible for setting up each course with the faculty and students involved. You make contracts for learning and you are expected to respect them. We are interested in the learning process: how you learn and contribute to the group is as important as what you learn. We like you to produce something you can be proud of, but how you get there is very important. We rely on all our students to demand the very best from each other. We are flexible and interested in how each student learns. Our aim is to help you maximize your talents and develop the skills needed to overcome obstacles you might have in learning.

WE ARE SOCIABLE

We are a small community (about 100 people) and we take pride in a social life which we know is important to everyone. We believe that a good social environment is the key to academic learning. Small groups allow for the discussion and community spirit at the heart of a college education. We are located in our own wing on the 8th floor where we have a lounge/community space, classrooms and offices. New School students like to spend time here working on communal projects, or exchanging ideas with others.

If you wish to attend the New School, you must be accepted in any diploma program at Dawson. You will also need to submit directly to the New School a Request Form (available from the Registrar's Office or on the bulletin board at the entrance to the New School in the 8-B wing). You will then be invited to an orientation session which will provide you with more information about us, our students, our facilitators (our faculty), and our learning community. At that time, we will also learn more about you and your interests in humanistic education. We are looking for motivated students who seek a challenging approach to learning in a humanistic community setting. Acceptance to the New School will be based on acceptance at Dawson College and this orientation session.

Reflections

PROGRAM INFORMATION

This course of study provides a small-group approach to concentrated study in the liberal arts. It offers challenging seminars in English, Humanities, Psychology, Religion, and Integrative and Complementary courses.

All the courses are double-credit – the equivalent of two regular Arts courses – allowing time to explore topics in greater depth. Classes take place in an informal and inviting sitting room furnished with couches, chairs, and plants.

Reflections courses are open to students in any Dawson program, but are most suited (because of scheduling and the course credits offered) to pre-university students in Social Science (particularly the General profile) and Creative Arts, Literature, and Languages (particularly the Literature and Arts and Culture profiles).

Reflections courses are designed to provide you with general knowledge and skills appropriate to most university arts and social science programs. The specific university programs open to you will depend on the college program in which you are enrolled.

In the past, our graduates have been accepted at a high rate to challenging programs, including Cinema and Communications and the Liberal Arts College at Concordia. Our graduates are well prepared for university because of the academically challenging and enriched nature of our courses.

Dawson students in any year or program may take Reflections courses. Although you will be encouraged to follow this course of study throughout your stay at Dawson, you are not obligated to do so. Enrolment is limited. Please call **514 931-8731, ext. 1504** to arrange an interview. Interviews for Fall admission are held in February.

COURSES

English

In the Fall, the course focuses on the development of students' essay-writing skills while surveying the different genres of literature: fiction, drama and poetry. In the Winter, Shakespeare is the topic. Students closely read a selection of plays chosen from among his histories, comedies, tragedies, and romances.

Humanities and Religion

These courses are centred on ancient Greek and Hebrew experiences. In the Fall semester, Genesis, Exodus and The Iliad are the main texts studied. Job, the Odyssey and Aeschylus's Oresteia are tackled in the Winter. Love, war, prophecy, justice, revenge, and evil are among the themes explored.

Psychology

In these courses, students read the works of some of the most important and original thinkers in the field of psychology.

Among the topics covered in the Fall are the following:

- **Childhood and society**
- **Mental illness**
- **Our animal origins**

The Winter semester is devoted to the study of

- **Sigmund Freud's Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis**
- **Carl Jung's autobiography – Memories, Dreams, Reflections**

Interdisciplinary Seminar

Each semester, Reflections teachers combine their talents and offer a seminar on a major theme. Recent seminar topics include Desire; War; Life Journeys; Myth, Epic, and Fairy; Digging Up the Truth; and Power. The theme is explored through Greek drama and mythology, poetry, literature, the visual arts, philosophy, and psychology.

Women's Studies

DESCRIPTION OF STUDIES

This course of study addresses the social, psychological, spiritual, economic and political realities of women's lives throughout history and in many cultures. Courses are offered in disciplines as diverse as English, Psychology, Humanities, History and Art History, among others. Women's Studies courses are open to students, both female and male, in any Dawson program.

Women's Studies courses are designed to provide you with general knowledge and skills appropriate to most university arts programs. The specific university programs open to you will depend on the college program in which you are enrolled. Canadian universities offer Women's Studies degrees up to the Ph.D level.

Dawson students in any year or program may take Women's Studies courses; no prior application is necessary.

COURSES

Women's Studies courses are available in the Core disciplines of English, Humanities and Physical Education, and in a number of other disciplines, where they may be taken as program, option or complementary courses. In addition, there are Women's Studies courses listed in Social Science and in Creative Arts, Literature and Languages.

Some courses offered have been:

Core

- **English Literature**
- **English Contemporary Women Writers**
- **The Brontë Sisters**
- **Women and War**
- **Women and the Grail**
- **Women's Writing**
- **Canadian Women Writers**
- **Humanities**
- **Women and War**

- **Gender and Knowledge**
- **Women, Development and International Issues Women in Canadian Culture**

Social Science

- **History**
- **History of Canada: The Family**
- **History of Canada: The Changing Role of Women Western Civilization**
- **Integrative Seminar**
- **Women, Culture and Change**
- **Psychology**
- **Developmental Psychology**
- **General Psychology**
- **Research Methods**
- **Ethnicity and Gender Relations**
- **Sociology**
- **Individual and Society**
- **Sociology of the Family**

Fine Arts

- **Art History**
- **Women Artists: Medieval to Post-Modern**
- **Studio Art**
- **Introduction to Sculpture**

CERTIFICATE IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

To qualify for a Certificate in Women's Studies, you must successfully complete five courses in Women's Studies.

In cases where students cannot fit five Women's Studies courses into their schedule, they may negotiate with the Women's Studies Coordinator and their teachers in other disciplines to do projects in other courses which will count as Women's Studies credits.

Jewish Studies

DESCRIPTION OF STUDIES

The overall aim of Jewish Studies is to familiarize students with the contributions of the Jewish people to the world's religions, thought, philosophy, languages, literature and political theory. At the same time, the courses focus on Jews as a distinct people with their own religion, languages, socio-economic structures and culture, and their homeland, the state of Israel.

This course of study highlights both universal and unique elements of the Jewish experience. Jewish Studies courses are open to students in any Dawson program. You may select individual courses from the offerings available, or work towards completion of a Jewish Studies Certificate.

When geo-political conditions allow, you may participate in one of two Travel Studies experiences to Israel: one is scheduled in the summer months, and one in the winter.

THE COURSES

Jewish Studies and the Travel Studies experiences, when available, are designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills appropriate to a variety of university programs. The specific university programs open to you will depend on the college program in which you are enrolled.

Jewish Studies courses are available in the Core disciplines of English and Humanities, and in a number of other disciplines that count as complementary or concentration courses, depending on your program.

Courses available include:

English

- **Art and Literature Survey I and II**
- **The Short Story***
- **Literature of the Holocaust**
- **World Literature***
- **Survey of Literature***

Humanities

- **The Middle East Today**
- **Multiculturalism***
- **Truth and Believing***
- **United Nations in the Global Arena***
- **Jews in the Modern World***
- **Ethical Issues in Poverty and the Law***
- **Contemporary Moral Issues***
- **Human Prejudice***
- **Global Issues**
- **War, Peace and the World Order**

Geography

- **World Regions - The World Map**
- **Geography and Tourism***
- **Regional Geography***

History/Classics

- **History of the 20th Century: World War II***
- **The Ancient Near East**
- **Roman Empire***

Modern Languages

- **Elementary Hebrew I**
- **Elementary Hebrew II**
- **Intermediate Hebrew I**

Political Science

- **Topical International Politics***
- **Global Politics**

Religion

- **Introduction to the World of Religion***
- **Life, Death and Beyond***
- **Judaism, Christianity and Islam**
- **The Universe of the Bible**

Sociology

- **Individual and Society**
- **Sociology of Culture and Media***

* For these courses, students must write a paper concerning Jewish Studies or Israel.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- **Diploma of Secondary Studies (DES), including:**
 - » Secondary V Language of Instruction
 - » Secondary V Second Language
 - » Secondary IV Science
 - » Secondary IV Mathematics
 - » Secondary IV History

or academic background judged equivalent to the DES.

Students with a DES missing any of the above subjects may be admitted, space permitting, but may be required to complete remedial courses.

These special fields of study may require an interview or other requirement. Please consult the Dawson website for more precise information.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- March 1 (for Fall semester)
- November 1 (for Winter seme

FOR MORE INFORMATION

New School

Please contact **(514) 931-8731, ext. 1809**

Reflections

Please contact **(514) 931-8731, ext. 1504**

Women's Studies

Please contact **(514) 931-8731, ext. 1808**

Jewish Studies

Please contact **(514) 931-8731, ext. 1473**

Or visit: www.dawsoncollege.qc.ca

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ABOUT DAWSON COLLEGE

Dawson College is located in downtown Montreal in a historic building on 12 acres of green space. The first English-language institution in the Quebec CEGEP network is today one of the largest with approximately 10,000 students enrolled in more than 50 programs and profiles of study. The College occupies an entire city block and is linked directly to the Atwater Métro station.

FEES

Tuition is free for Canadian citizens or landed immigrants with permanent residence in Quebec taking at least four courses per semester. A non-refundable \$30 application fee and about \$200 in student fees are charged. Books and supplies cost between \$500 and \$1,000 per year, although visual arts supplies are more costly. Financial aid is available; contact **(514) 931 8731 ext. 1186** for more information. Fees are subject to change without notice.

Dawson College

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www.dawsoncollege.qc.ca

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