

# Introducing Cornell College

## Effective Catalogue

[Note: *This Catalogue is accurate as of May 31, 2006.*]

The *Cornell College Catalogue* is published every year. The information contained herein was accurate at the time of publication; however, circumstances may necessitate the College's withdrawing an advertised course, changing the content of a course, or substituting instructors. The College reserves the right to limit the enrollment of any course and to cancel a course for which fewer than six students have registered or for which no instructor is available.

Between editions, the College may change or revise the programs, rules, and procedures described in this *Catalogue*. Students are subject to the regulations and requirements in the *Catalogue* and its supplements, called *deTERMinations*, in effect at the time they begin their first course at Cornell. A Cornell student who leaves and is later readmitted returns under the *Catalogue* in effect at the time of readmission.

If, after a student has begun her or his Cornell career, one or more of the degree requirements are changed, the student may choose to be graduated under either the original or the revised requirements. Where, however, the faculty has legislated that a change shall apply to all those enrolled at the time the legislation becomes effective, the student is required to adhere to the revised requirement. Exceptions may be granted for compelling reasons by the Academic Standing Committee or by the administrator concerned. For the application of this "grandparent" principle to a student's major, see *Declaration of Degree Candidacy, Majors and Minors*.

The offerings for each academic year are announced the previous winter in the TERM TABLE, which is then updated as often as is necessary.

## Accreditation

Cornell College is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the Iowa State Department of Education, the American Chemical Society, the University Senate of the United Methodist Church, and the National Association of Schools of Music. Cornell is a member of the College Entrance Examination Board.

## National Honor Societies

PHI ALPHA DELTA (Pre-Law), PHI BETA KAPPA (Academic Achievement), MORTAR BOARD (Service, Scholarship, and Leadership), BETA BETA BETA (Biology), DELTA PHI ALPHA (German), PHI SIGMA TAU (Philosophy), PI KAPPA LAMBDA (Music), PI SIGMA ALPHA (Political Science), PSI CHI (Psychology), SIGMA DELTA PI (Spanish). See *Academic Clubs & Honor Societies* at <http://www.cornellcollege.edu/organizations/index.php> for more information.

## Associated Colleges of the Midwest (ACM)

Cornell and 13 other liberal arts colleges located in Iowa, Colorado, Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin compose the membership of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest. The purpose of the Associated Colleges is to increase educational effectiveness and operating efficiency and to extend the areas of cooperation of the constituent colleges through off-campus programs (see *Index: "Off-Campus Programs"*). Members are Beloit, Carleton, Coe, Colorado College, Cornell, Grinnell, Knox, Lake Forest, Lawrence, Macalester, Monmouth, Ripon, St. Olaf, and the College of the University of Chicago.

## Affirmative Action

Cornell College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and is committed to an Affirmative Action Program. In compliance with federal and state laws, Cornell employs and promotes personnel without discrimination because of their age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation. Furthermore, Cornell actively strives to identify and secure qualified women and minority candidates for positions at the College. Grievance procedures, outlined in the “Affirmative Action Program of Cornell College,” are available to any employee or student who has a grievance arising from discrimination because of any of the above factors. Copies of the “Affirmative Action Program” are on reserve in the Library and available from the Affirmative Action Officer.

## Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy

Cornell admits qualified persons – without regard to age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation – to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at Cornell. The College does not discriminate in the administration of its educational or admissions policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

## Cornell College Mission Statement

The following statement regarding the mission of Cornell College was ratified by the Cornell College Faculty on March 6, 1990, and adopted by the Board of Trustees on May 18, 1990.

### *The Aims of Cornell College*

Cornell is an independent, coeducational, residential liberal arts college, established in 1853, nurtured by the United Methodist Church, and dedicated to fostering intellectual, moral, and personal growth.

The College is committed to sustaining a community devoted to liberal learning and democratic values. To this end, it seeks to provide a caring environment for living and learning, characterized by close relationships, physical and emotional well-being, appreciation of diversity, affirmation of equal opportunity and academic freedom, and respect for the dignity and worth of each individual.

Cornell College endeavors to provide opportunities for pursuing liberal education that allow Cornell students to:

- explore widely the range of human experience and investigate carefully the work of a chosen discipline;
- analyze problems and synthesize solutions;
- integrate theory and practice; and
- read critically, reason effectively, engage creatively, feel deeply, evaluate fairly, respond imaginatively, communicate clearly, and act responsibly.

Cornell College endorses liberal education as an end in itself and as a means of empowering students for leadership through productive careers and humane service in the global community.

## One-Course-At-A-Time

The quality and intensity of a Cornell education is supported by the OCAAT calendar, where students take one-course-at-a-time. A general overview of Cornell’s One-Course-At-A-Time program follows, with greater details provided in the *Academic Information* chapter.

1. The academic year, approximately September 1 to May 31, is divided into nine terms, each of which is three-and-one-half weeks (18 class days) in length. Each term begins at 9:00 a.m. on the first Monday and concludes at 5:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday with the exception of Term Four, which may be adjusted due to Thanksgiving Break and/or Winter Break. A four-day break separates each term, unless there is a winter or spring break. (See the calendar on the inside of the front cover for exact dates.)
2. Readmitted students may enroll at the start of any of the nine terms but should apply at least one month before—and earlier if they desire financial aid or on-campus housing. (See *Readmission*.)

3. Enrolled students register in the spring for all nine terms of the following academic year. After registration, students may drop and add courses throughout the year. (See *Registration* and *Adding and Dropping Courses*.)
4. Cornell offers three degree programs: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.), and Bachelor of Special Studies (B.S.S.), each of which requires a minimum of 32 course credits. (See *Degree Programs*.)
5. Progress toward any of Cornell's degrees is measured in term or course credits. One *term credit* is given for the successful completion of a Cornell course taken in a term. *Course credits* include term credits and credits from adjunct courses, music lessons and ensembles, advanced placement, and transferred work. As a unit of credit, one Cornell term or "full course" credit is the equivalent of four semester or six quarter hours. (See *Student Classification* and *Credit by Transfer*.)
6. Full-time students may register for eight or nine terms in the academic year. Those who prefer to attend for only eight terms may schedule a vacation in the term of their choice. Charges are the same for all students enrolled in eight or nine courses. Except for seniors, students may not take more than one vacation term in an academic year. (See *Registration*.) This paragraph does not apply to Continuing Education students.
7. The maximum amount of credit that a student may earn in one term is one term (full course) credit. Conversely, students, with the exception of seniors and candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Music, are not permitted to enroll for less than a full term credit per term. Some departments offer concurrent courses, each of which is worth one-half term credit. Concurrent courses must, therefore, be taken in pairs and within the same department or in a related field. Exceptions must be approved by the Academic Standing Committee.
8. Students have many opportunities for independent research on or off campus, for internships, and for study in other countries or in other parts of the United States. Such programs vary in length from one term to one year, and some may be arranged for the summer. (See *Registration*, and item 10 therein; and also *Independent Study Courses* and *Off-Campus Programs*.)
9. Adjunct courses (numbered in the 500s) and music lessons, ensembles, and theatre participation courses (numbered in the 700s) may be taken along with principal and concurrent courses. (See *Adjunct Courses*.)
10. Students declare their choice of degree program and major(s) before February of their sophomore year. Students may major in one or more departments or design their own individualized majors. (See *Degree Candidacy*, *Majors and Minors*, and *Bachelor of Special Studies*.)
11. Unless otherwise noted, Continuing Education students are subject to the academic rules listed above; however, there are special exceptions that apply to them. (See *Continuing Education*.)