

Individualized Studies for Independent Minds

- Collaborate with a faculty mentor
- Select courses from any of the 18 CUNY colleges
- Study part- or full-time
- Transfer up to 90 credits
- Apply for scholarships and financial aid
- Use study abroad, internships, independent study, honors and graduate courses, online classes, credits-by-exam, military and life experience credits
- Enjoy a small college experience at the nation’s largest public research university
- Graduate with a degree that’s significant to you, your life and your goals

CUNY

Baccalaureate

Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies

www.cunyba.cuny.edu
365 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 212.817.8220

Independent Mind: Kayhan Irani



Photo: Felix Barrett

Individualized Study: Theatre and Social Change

Her Faculty Mentors: Prof. Dale Byam, Theater, Brooklyn College, and Prof. John Krinsky, Political Science, City College

Her Area of Concentration:

Brooklyn THEA 83	Independent Research (Political Theater)
City ANTH 230	Political Mobilization and Change
City PHIL 311	Special Topics: Theory of Action
City P SC 312	Seminar in Community Organizing
City P SC 314	Selected Topics: Political Science, A Cross Cultural Perspective
City P SC 324	Politics of Protest
Hunter THEA 214	Multicultural Perspectives in Theatrical Performance
Grad Center/SPS	Theater of the Oppressed
Grad Center/SPS	Creating Meaning through Community Drama

Her Words: I connected my area of concentration over many fields, expanding my capacity to use theater in multiple contexts. I am now employed in a position that was tailored to me and my skills. If I didn’t have the practice and the knowledge that this unique degree program offered me, my options would be much more limited. Thanks to CUNY Baccalaureate, the world is my oyster!

Her Next Step: Upon graduation, Irani toured to promote the book she co-edited, *Telling Stories to Change the World* (Routledge, 2008), then won a NY Emmy for her writing on *We Are New York*, a TV drama/English learning program for immigrants. She leads theater for change projects in conflict zones such as Afghanistan and Iraq. Most recently, she received a Fulbright grant to do research in India for a new stage script.

Independent Mind: Clint Porter



Photo: CUNY Archive

Individualized Study: Energy Resource Policy

His Faculty Mentor: Prof. Sherrie Bayer, Political Science, City College

His Area of Concentration:

Baruch EES 4900	Topics in Environmental Science
Baruch P SC 5000	Internship (Solar Electric Power Association, Washington, DC)
City P SC 223	U.S. Foreign Policy
City P SC 236	Latin American Political Systems
City P SC 310	Independent Study (Domestic Energy Policy in Underdeveloped Areas of Latin America)
City P SC 310	Internship (Center for Sustainable Energy, Bronx Community College)
City P SC 312	Selected Topics in Political Science
City P SC 355	Environmental Politics

His Words: I used my CUNY BA experience to prepare me to excel in my Renewable Energy career. CUNY Baccalaureate gave me the tools I need to think on my feet, form original concepts, and follow through. Without this program, I could never have developed these skills as thoroughly as I did.

His Next Step: Even before graduating, Porter was offered a job in sales and marketing with KACO new energy, Inc., an international company that is the world’s second largest manufacturer of photovoltaic inverters, used for both residential and commercial applications. Porter was recently promoted to the position of Director of Marketing.

Independent Mind: Funlayo Easter Wood



Photo: Dawn Elliot

Individualized Study: The African Diaspora in the Americas

Her Faculty Mentor: Prof. Jo-Ann Hamilton, English/Black Studies, City College

Her Area of Concentration:

Baruch BLST 3024	Women of Color in the Americas
Baruch BLST 4900	African and Latino Diasporas In America
City BLST 318	African American Literature
City ENGL 310	Independent Study (Apollo Curriculum Project)
City ENGL 312	Caribbean Ghosts, Colonial Spirits
City ENGL 318	Blues Aesthetic
City HIST 377	Comparative Slavery
Hunter AFST 205	African American Politics of Social Change

Her Words: My time at CUNY BA was invaluable. Being able to create my own program of study, take courses all around CUNY, and earn credits in a variety of ways created a rich academic experience that I would recommend to anyone who is motivated and has ideas that are, well, unique and interdisciplinary!

Her Next Step: After speaking on behalf of her graduating class at the CUNY BA commencement, Wood traveled back to tour the African continent, earned an M.A. in History at City College as a New York Life Graduate Fellow, and was accepted at Harvard University, where she is now a Ph.D. candidate in African Studies and Religion with Harvard support valued at \$200,000 plus a Fulbright-Hays grant.



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CUNY BACCALAUREATE FOR UNIQUE AND INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
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Bernard M. Baruch College*
Borough of Manhattan Community College
Bronx Community College
Brooklyn College*
The City College of New York*
Guttman Community College
Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College
Hunter College*
John Jay College of Criminal Justice*
Kingsborough Community College
Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College
Herbert H. Lehman College*
Medgar Evers College
New York City College of Technology
Queens College*
Queensborough Community College
The College of Staten Island*
York College

Students may be enrolled at the community colleges while participating in CUNY BA. They can earn their Associate degrees en route to earning the CUNY BA degree; they transfer to the senior colleges upon accumulating 68 total credits (drawn from any combination of 2-year and 4-year colleges).

*The Macaulay Honors College exists at these colleges. Macaulay Honors students can enroll in CUNY BA; they graduate with a joint Macaulay Honors–CUNY Baccalaureate degree.

CUNY BACCALAUREATE FOR UNIQUE AND INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

This CUNY-wide program is an exciting, versatile, rewarding route to the bachelor’s degree. CUNY Baccalaureate for Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies (CUNY BA) serves highly-motivated, self-directed students whose academic goals transcend the boundaries of traditional college majors. The students themselves formulate proposals for unique areas of concentration and work with full-time CUNY faculty members who mentor them in their individualized studies.

Colleges typically offer degrees in Psychology; in CUNY Baccalaureate you can specialize in Political Psychology, Cross-Cultural Psychology, or Consumer Psychology. Interested in the future of the environment? Design a degree in International Environmental Policy, Environmental Journalism, or Sustainability. Instead of traditional degree in History, design yours in Historical Documentary Filmmaking, History of the Middle East, or Early American History.

In CUNY BA, the areas of concentration you can pursue are almost unlimited.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Pursue individualized specializations

Work with CUNY faculty members to develop one or two coherent and meaningful areas of concentration (similar to majors).

Make CUNY your campus

Register for courses at any of the University’s eighteen undergraduate colleges; in many cases, you can also take graduate-level courses.

Receive up to 90 transfer credits

All grades earned within CUNY, as well as grades of “C” or better from other colleges may be transferred. A maximum of 68 credits are accepted from community colleges.

Earn non-classroom credit

Thirty non-classroom credits may be applied: e.g., Military, NYPD, FDNY, EMS, NPONSI, ACE, credit-by-exam. Of this total, up to 15 credits for life experience can be awarded.

Innovative learning options

Explore various learning opportunities, such as independent study, tutorials, fieldwork, internships, honors seminars, study abroad, online learning, credit-by-exam and senior projects.

Set your own pace

Attend college full-time or part-time and take advantage of CUNY’s day, evening, weekend, and online courses.

Receive personal attention

In addition to choosing at least one faculty mentor, you will be assigned a CUNY BA academic advisor.

Apply for scholarships

Scholarships for full-time, part-time, and international students are available. Students also apply for financial aid and scholarships at the CUNY colleges where they matriculate. Students can also receive additional guidance when applying for Fulbright Fellowships and other major awards.

Assistance with graduate studies

CUNY BA offers graduate application workshops and preparation for graduate school entrance exams.

WHERE CAN THE CUNY BACCALAUREATE DEGREE LEAD?

Graduates routinely receive promotions or raises; many have begun new careers in public service, business, and various other professions. According to a recent survey, nearly eighty percent hold jobs in fields related to their areas of concentration; almost fifty percent pursue graduate studies.

Alumni have been accepted to graduate programs and professional schools across the country and around the world, many winning prestigious academic scholarships. Recent acceptances include Adelphi University; Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law; Brandeis University; Central European University in Budapest, Hungary; the Graduate Center of the City University of New York; Harvard Divinity School; Howard University; New York University; Oxford University, U.K., Pratt Institute; Rutgers University; SUNY Upstate Medical University; Teachers College, Columbia University; University of California at Berkeley; and the University of Chicago.

TO LEARN MORE

Attend an informational session. Register online at www.cunyba.cuny.edu under the Prospective Students tab.

APPLICATIONS

Print the application from www.cunyba.cuny.edu, visit the program office, or call 1.212.817.8220.