ELI WHITNEY STUDENTS

Since 2008, the Eli Whitney Students Program has offered non-traditional students the opportunity to enroll in Yale College for the completion of the B.A. or B.S. degree.

The program was designed in part to meet the needs of students unable to attend college full-time by offering the opportunity to enroll part-time and take a minimum of three courses per year. Eli Whitney students are allowed up to seven years to complete the B.A. or B.S., though most graduate in three to four years. Students in the program tend to choose both options — full- or part-time enrollment — and many benefit from the program’s flexibility by taking varying numbers of courses each term. Current students tend to elect 3.5 course credits per term, or 7 course credits per year, on average, as compared to the traditional undergraduate’s schedule of 4.5 credits per term and 9 course credits per year.

The DUS determines which specific courses of the student’s previous coursework may or may not be counted toward the requirements of the major. You may decline to give major credit for courses that have been included in the credit awarded by the Dean’s Office, but clearly it is important to be as accommodating as possible to Eli Whitney students. Particularly for students taking science courses, the DUSes in relevant departments should attempt to match Yale’s courses with those of the previous school so as to minimize wasted or duplicated effort.

Advising is provided by a faculty adviser (for incoming students), a peer liaison, the dean of the residential college, and the director of the Eli Whitney Students Program. If an Eli Whitney student seems to be having difficulties in a course, they should be referred to the dean of the residential college with which they are affiliated. Other inquiries may be addressed to the director of the Eli Whitney Students Program, Risa Sodi (risa.sodi@yale.edu), assistant dean of Yale College.

Eli Whitney students have the option of designating a class year (based on the number of graduation credits accumulated), thus allowing instructors and the DUS to easily determine whether or not they qualify for seminars restricted to sophomores, juniors, or seniors.

Eli Whitney students do not live in the colleges, though they are each affiliated with a residential college. The current Eli Whitney colleges are Berkeley, Hopper, Ezra Stiles, Silliman, Timothy Dwight, and Trumbull colleges.

Information about the Eli Whitney Students Program is contained in the Academic Regulations in the YCPS.