**Academic Requirements**

- **Gateway Course:** You must enroll in PLSC 148 Theories, Practices, and Politics of Human Rights in sophomore spring. The only exceptions are for students who will be abroad or who have a course required for their major at a conflicting time.

- **Elective Courses:** You must take **4 elective courses** to fulfill the requirements of the program. We expect your electives to reflect the interdisciplinary nature of human rights study. You should aim to engage with a diversity of methodologies, disciplines, geographic regions, and issue areas. We also encourage you to explore both theoretical and practical perspectives on human rights through your electives.
  - **When to take electives:** We recommend that most, if not all, of your electives be completed during your junior year. You may not count any courses taken prior to your first semester in the Program as electives.
  - **Counting electives from your major:** You may take a maximum of two courses listed under the department of your major as electives. Double majors may take three courses in their major departments as electives (two courses from one major and one course from the other).
    - You may petition to count additional courses that are cross-listed with your major, but which have their primary affiliation outside of your major department and which are taught by a professor from outside of your major department. Your petition should explain why the course, despite being cross-listed, offers a disciplinary perspective distinct from your major’s and what alternative electives you could take, if any, that are not cross-listed with your major.
  - **Petitioning electives:** As of Spring 2021, Scholars must petition all courses that they wish to count as electives, unless the course was identified as an eligible elective in a previous semester.
    - We will make a decision based on our Elective Criteria (see below), as well as whether the proposed elective fits in with the Program’s commitment to a diversity of perspectives, disciplines, and themes—i.e., we will be less likely to approve a proposed elective that is very similar to the electives you have already taken.
    - During course registration periods, we will inform you of the deadline for submitting elective petitions to receive a decision before you must finalize your schedule. You may petition electives at other times as well, though we strongly encourage you to petition during course registration in order to effectively plan your schedule.
  - **Elective Criteria:** The formal criterion for Program electives is that courses should “engage with the language, ideas, and methods of human rights.” Additional guidance about elective petitions is available as a linked resource on the MAPHR website. You must read this guidance prior to petitioning a course.

- **Capstone Project:** You will complete a capstone project in the context of the required Program capstone seminar in the fall of your senior year.
# MAPHR Student Requirements by Term

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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>One-Off Events</th>
<th>To-Do List</th>
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| Sophomore Spring | ● *Shopping Period Academic Advising:* discuss course of study with Program administrators  
 ● *Welcome Reception* for new sophomores and all juniors & seniors (late January/early February)  
 ● *Mid-Semester Check-In:* discuss summer plans, etc.  
 ● *Senior Capstone Symposium*  
 ● *Closing Reception* | ● Take Gateway course  
 ● Take Electives  
 ● Meet with MAPHR mentors  
 ● Attend Tuesday dinners with guests - members of FAC, visiting human rights activists to Schell, etc.  
 ● Attend and write responses for 3 Schell events by end of classes. Submit the response papers within 1 week of the event |
| Junior Fall | ● *Opening Reception* for returning juniors and seniors (September).  
 ● *Shopping Period Academic Advising:* discuss course of study with Program administrators  
 ● *Mid-Semester Check-In:* discuss summer plans, etc. | ● Attend Tuesday dinners - members present articles/topics and discuss with each other  
 ● Attend and write responses for 1 Schell event by end of classes  
 ● Take electives |
| Junior Spring | ● *Shopping Period Academic Advising:* discuss course of study with Program administrators  
 ● *Welcome Reception* for new sophomores and all juniors & seniors (late January/early February)  
 ● *Capstone Project Advising:* Meet with Capstone colloquium professors to discuss ideas/proposals for capstone projects (around March)  
 ● *Mid-Semester Check-in:* discuss summer opportunities/post-grad ideas  
 ● *Senior Capstone Symposium*  
 ● *Closing Reception* | ● Attend optional social junior dinners  
 ● Attend and write responses for 1 Schell event by end of classes  
 ● Take electives |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Senior Fall</th>
<th>Senior Spring</th>
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| ● **Opening Reception** for returning juniors and seniors (September).  
● **Shopping Period Academic Advising:** discuss course of study with Program administrators  
● **Capstone Advising:** discuss capstone project issues/questions  
● **Mid-Semester Check-in:** discuss post-grad plans | ● Take Capstone seminar  
● Attend and write responses for 1 Schell event by end of classes  
● Attend optional social senior dinners  
● Take final electives |
| | ● **Welcome Reception** for new sophomores and all juniors & seniors (late January/early February)  
● **Mid-Semester Check-in/Other Advising:** discuss post-grad plans  
● **Senior Capstone Symposium**  
● **Closing Reception**  
● **Commencement Family Reception** | ● Attend and write responses for 1 Schell event by end of classes  
● Attend optional social senior dinners  
● Present at Senior Capstone Symposium |