

Middlebury

Welcome to Middlebury's February Class!

You have been admitted to Middlebury because we see in you the qualities that match the spirit and distinction of our "Febs": independence, motivation, academic passion and enthusiasm. For more than thirty years February students have entered Middlebury after spending their fall and early winter involved in activities of their own choosing. These experiences cultivate in our Feb students a perspective and energy that enriches our entire community.

There is increasing recognition among entering college students and their parents of the value of "a gap year" experience between high school and college. Middlebury fully supports such experiences for students who feel it is right for them. The fall semester can certainly be viewed as a mini gap year experience built into an acceptance offer from Middlebury.

We look forward to having you on campus and to the unique additions you will make to the College. You might be wondering what February Admission is all about. It is important to know that it is a program in its own right, developed by the former Dean of Admissions, Fred Neuberger, in a creative effort to fill beds vacated in the spring by students studying abroad. What began as a practical move to make efficient use of space has evolved into one of the hallmarks of the Middlebury College Community: a February Class of about 90 students, all of whom bring a burst of vitality and intellect to our campus each winter.

We know that you, too, will find opportunities for personal growth during the fall, seeking new and worthy experiences before beginning your studies at Middlebury. "[This is] a golden opportunity....
You can now find out what being self-motivated, self-aware, and self-assured really means."

—Connie Hansen '03.5 Mercer Island, WA

How do I "catch up" if I start in February?

Students and parents frequently ask us how Febs can "catch up" if they enter one semester "late." Often Febs are curious and even anxious about starting at mid-year. In fact, February students do not need to "catch up" with anyone; they arrive right on time—with four years ahead of them and four years to complete their requirements. Some students with credits from other colleges or AP/IB exams will opt to accelerate their program and complete their work in less than four years, but there is no expectation that they do so.

For a variety of reasons, and independent of when they entered, Middlebury students complete their course work at several points in the year: at the end of summer, fall, winter, and spring terms. Degrees are awarded at the College's official Commencement ceremony in May, but students completing their work at the end of Winter Term also enjoy a special ceremony in which they don caps and gowns and, on skis, snowboards, snowshoes, or sleds, descend the slopes of Middlebury's own ski area, the Snow Bowl. The February celebration for February seniors and their families has become a hallmark of a Middlebury winter.

Am I considered to be as "good" as the students enrolling in September?

Yes! One out of six students at Middlebury enrolls at mid-year. Those entering in February have GPAs competitive with the group enrolling in September. Febs jump right into the academic scene, and we are confident in their ability to enhance the environment of a classroom and navigate all areas of our curriculum. February students often feel that their experiences in the fall afford them a valuable perspective that they then apply to their course work.

How do Febs integrate into the larger college community?

Students admitted to February classes often worry about how they will "fit in" within the context of the larger September class. The College eagerly anticipates the arrival of Febs in a variety of ways. Auditions are held for musical groups, for example, and new opportunities open in a variety of clubs and organizations as students leave to study abroad and as Feb seniors depart. Febs have historically held a disproportionately high percentage of leadership roles on campus.

Can I be in touch with Febs who are now at Middlebury?

Yes. The following Web site www.middlebury.edu/welcome provides access to the e-mail addresses of current Febs. These students went through the same decision-making process that now faces you, and we hope you will take advantage of their willingess to share their experiences as you assess your options for next year.

If I intend to participate in varsity athletics, how will February Admission impact my athletic eligibility?

Febs have four full seasons of athletic eligibility. If they are fall or winter athletes, Febs complete their careers in the final fall semester or winter term. For students who play a winter sport such as basketball, they would play during the final winter and would be allowed to stay on with the team (after the end of Winter Term and Feb celebration) to finish the entire season. February athletes and Middlebury coaches often comment that Febs have an advantage because they gain an additional year of physical growth and mental maturity.

What do Febs do in the fall?

We encourage you to allow yourself some freedom during the months between your high school graduation and your arrival at Middlebury. Gaining credit need not be the ultimate goal of the months between June and February. Many Febs feel that individual interests and passions, not academic credit, define the most rewarding experiences. Approximately half of the students who enroll in February complete their graduation requirements in February four years later, after eight full semesters and four Winter Terms at Middlebury. The following list highlights the ways in which members of recent Feb classes spent the summer and fall before arriving on campus.

- · Sea Turtle conservation project in Greece
- · Interned at Outward Bound
- Interned on Capitol Hill
- Worked at a lobbying firm (this job located through a Middlebury alumnus)
- Volunteered at the King Street Youth Center in Burlington, Vermont
- · Studied at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute
- Worked at a small professional theater as the Assistant to the Artistic Director
- · Taught at a school in Indore, India
- Worked as a clerk at a stock brokerage firm
- Worked at home in Seattle
- · Pursued studies at Bond University in Australia
- Studied at Hebrew University in Jerusalem
- Studied abroad at the University of East Anglia in England
- Studied with the Institute for Central American Development Studies
- · Studied abroad in Galway, Ireland
- National Outdoor Leadership School program
- Worked in home countries of Tanzania and Bulgaria
- Studied at a Japanese Dojo
- Worked at a leadership decision institute for junior high students
- Volunteered with Habitat for Humanity in Miami, Florida

This list provides only a glimpse into the possibilities afforded you by February admission. Historically, about 35–40% of entering Febs engaged in schoolwork of some kind in the fall (half of that number took a full load of classes). Anywhere from 30–40 (of approximately 90) entering Feb students will have studied at other colleges or universities either in the U.S or abroad. About 30 students in a recent February Class worked in either full or part-time jobs. Some opted to augment that work with service to a community group or foundation, while others chose to focus solely on volunteer service. It is often possible to find rewarding internships in areas of possible career interest.

Being a Feb sounds expensive. Do all Febs invest a lot of money in their fall experiences?

Does every Feb invest a great deal of money into travel and study abroad? Absolutely not; however, many Febs see the fall as a time full of potential and choose to spend their summers working and saving so that they can pursue options that often do incur additional costs. In this pamphlet you will find resources that can help you target opportunities for the fall. Some of the services would require a fee but others, like many of the Web sites and printed resource materials, are available to you on your time table and free of charge.

You now have occasion to see how deep your interests and passions truly are. Whether you choose to work for the entire summer and ensuing semester or divide your time among several types of activities, we hope that February Admission presents itself as an opportunity to do something truly fulfilling. These pursuits will be an asset to you as you transition to your roles as student and member of the Middlebury College community.

THE PRACTICAL CONCERNS: ORIENTATION, ADVISING, REGISTRATION, HOUSING, CAREER PLANNING

A short sampling of events from February Orientation 2010:

- President's Welcome Dinner
- Convocation
- First-Year Seminar Meetings
- Placement Exams
- Class Registration
- Voices from the Class of '12 Dinner Theatre
- Honor Code Orientation
- Febs on the Mountain Ski Afternoon
- "Beyond Facebook"
- Rhythms of the semester: Time management at Middlebury

For students considering the Feb program, practical concerns often focus on the availability of courses, academic advisers, and housing. Certainly these are issues that every new college student finds worrisome, and our hope is that the following information will prove useful both in answering questions and prompting questions for you to ask of other departments and offices.

Orientation

The orientation program at Middlebury is a great beginning to your first semester as a college student, whether you begin in September or February. When you arrive as a February First-Year, the people who will greet you are February sophomores who have been selected to be Feb Orientation Leaders. Being chosen as a leader involves an extremely competitive application and interview process organized by the Dean of Students office. Orientation leaders opt to spend their February vacation time volunteering to welcome the College's newest community members to campus and are intent upon making yours a smooth transition to life at Middlebury.

The College works hard to design a special orientation program for each February class. The orientation program includes several days of events for February students. The first day also offers opportunities for Feb families to become familiar with life on Middlebury's campus. Because of the smaller numbers, Febs experience a great deal of personal interaction with their group leaders. Those first-years find the orientation program to be a very positive experience, offering an introduction to Middlebury's academics and acquainting new students with the larger College community.

For more information, visit the Feb orientation Web site at *go/middlebury.edu/orientation*.

Academic Advising

In December you will be asked to register for one of your spring term classes. This is your First-Year Seminar (FYS), required of all Middlebury first-year students. Seminars, limited to only fifteen students, are content courses which emphasize writing and which are drawn from disciplines across the curriculum. The instructor of this class is also your faculty adviser. Because the seminars ensure at least three hours of contact a week, this advising system has proven to be quite effective.

You will meet with your seminar and adviser for the first time during orientation week. This two-hour introductory meeting initiates an adviser/student relationship that will be crucial to your successful start at Middlebury. Your adviser will help you choose your other three courses during a half-hour individual meeting, also held during orientation. More importantly, you will remain in contact with your adviser throughout the next two to three semesters. Each contact with an adviser can further open opportunities for connections that extend well beyond the confines of one course or one semester. Your seminar adviser will stay with you, until you choose your major, and will likely stay in touch with you throughout your career at Middlebury College.

Registration

The College will send you academic information in December to help in your course selection. The College makes a great effort to ensure that Febs fare well when they register by reserving places for the February group in all first-year classes. It is likely that you will be able to schedule the courses that you want.

There are some situations within course registration and schedule organization that may pose some challenges to Feb students. The students who find these factors to be a challenge are, typically, those who intend to graduate in 3.5 years. Please keep in mind, February students spend eight semesters and

Sample First-Year Seminars, Spring 2010:

- Cultural Formations of 1980s
- Biographies of Great Scientists
- African Diasporas in Americas
- US Gay & Lesbian Drama
- Visions of Mortality
- Neural Disorders

four winter terms on Middlebury's campus, just as September students do. If you find the February program intriguing and also think you would like to graduate in fewer than four years, we highly recommend you keep the following factors in mind as you plan your academics.

A Note for Students Who Plan to Study a Foreign Language

Please be advised that starting a new language at another college or university will not guarantee that you will be placed in an advanced level language course upon arrival at Middlebury. Any student who wishes to continue the study of a language at Middlebury needs to take a placement exam.

Beginning-level language courses are offered only in the fall. As a Feb, if you want to begin a new language at Middlebury, you would have to wait until the following fall to begin that language. In most cases, however, you would still be able to study abroad junior year, provided your GPA and language proficiency meets the College's requirements. It is important to note that there are some study abroad programs that require junior standing in order to participate. If you intend to study abroad for an entire year, you would likely have to attend a session of Middlebury's summer Language School in order to reach the appropriate language level and to achieve junior standing (depending on the program and previous college or AP credit earned).

Remember, if you want to *continue* a language you began as a high school student, you must take a placement exam upon arrival to ensure your position in an appropriately challenging course level. If your placement exam assesses you at a level equivalent to a second semester course, you may continue your study of that language upon your arrival at Middlebury without repeating beginning level courses.

A Note for Students Who Plan to Study Sciences

There are some sequential science courses offered only in the fall. This scheduling would require you to begin your study of that subject in the fall of your second semester at Middlebury. If you have an interest in pursuing graduate studies in the sciences or being involved in one of the **pre-health professions** programs, your adviser can help you choose classes that will get you started on the road to fulfilling your requirements prior to your first fall semester. **Pre-medical** students may want to call or e-mail Arlinda Wickland, the Health Professions Adviser at Middlebury (802.443.2455 or wickland@middlebury.edu), to discuss the appropriate sequence of courses necessary to qualify for the MCATs in their junior year.

Residential Life

97% of Middlebury College students live on campus. Students have a wide range of housing opportunities available to them at different times throughout their Middlebury careers including participating in various academic, social and common interest houses, residency in suites and small upper-class houses, and as seniors, the option of applying to live off campus.

All first-year students, both September and February, are asked to complete an online housing questionnaire soliciting information about their lifestyles, interests, housing preferences, and needs. The questionnaires are carefully reviewed when assigning roommate and residence hall placements. February first-years are generally housed in doubles with other February or September first-year students. Some first-year rooms are located in first-year residence halls while others are in multi-class dorms. September first-year students are supported by First-Year Counselors (FYCs) who reside within those communities while February students are introduced to campus life by Feb Leaders and upper-class students who assist with Orientation. February students tend to be a very close-knit group.

Office of the Dean of the College

Assistant to the
Dean of Students
Taunia Cantin
e-mail:
tcantin@middlebury.edu
tel: 802.443.5382

Middlebury's residential life is based on a 4/2 Commons system: first-year and sophomore students reside within their Commons (a cluster of proximate residence spaces), while junior and senior students may reside outside of their Commons community. Students are assigned to a Commons when they enroll, and they are affiliated and supported by the Commons throughout their time at the College. Each Commons—Atwater, Brainerd, Cook, Ross, and Wonnacott—is named after an important figure in Middlebury's history. The Commons system provides an intimate community and it is the center of a student's general advising needs. Commons Heads and Deans assist students with academic issues and social concerns, as well as, day-to-day needs. Students benefit from having college administrators "in-house," as each Commons Head and Dean has an office within the dorm cluster. First-year students are also encouraged to consult their first-year seminar instructors, who serve as academic advisers.

One goal of the Commons system is to provide every first-year student with access to Middlebury's residential life staff and the support and information that these capable students and professionals provide. In addition to Commons Deans and the FYCs, each Commons has a recent college graduate who serves as a Commons Resident Advisor (CRA). CRAs work and live full-time within the Commons communities. Please contact the Dean of the College office or your Commons office with any questions about residential life at Middlebury. Specific details about residence halls, furniture, and what to bring, etc., will be provided at a future date, while general information for new students can be find on the Middlebury College web page. February students will receive a message in their Middlebury e-mail account regarding their commons, housing and roommate assignments in the later part of January.

Career Services

Parents and students frequently wonder about the impact that February Admission will have on a student's job search and opportunities after college

graduation. According to Middlebury's Career Services Office (CSO), there are several advantages (from the job seeker's perspective) to graduating in February. First, many employers want Middlebury students earlier than they are available on a regular academic calendar and Febs have the advantage of saying, "Sure, I can start in February!" Second, large numbers of employers are using "just-in-time" hiring to immediately fill open positions. Some organizations hire groups of college graduates and are able to offer several start dates throughout the year, which presents another advantage to Febs. Third, a full schedule of on-campus recruiting now takes place in the fall semester, which enables Febs to fully participate in interviews and resume collections in ways they weren't able to when the hiring season was only in the spring. Finally, there are off-campus recruiting consortia events during the fall in New York City and Boston. If selected, Febs are eligible to participate in those events as well as off-campus consortia events in January in NYC, in February in Washington DC, and in March in NYC.

Febs have the ability to focus full-time on their job search and to be better prepared for the on- and offcampus interview opportunities. In some cases, Feb grads have been able to line up jobs that start during the summer following their graduation, effectively allowing them to pursue independent interests for up to 6 months preceding their job start date. CSO offers many other services to Febs considering their postgraduate plans, including career counseling, assistance with graduate school testing and application preparation, extensive proprietary online databases of jobs, internships and alumni volunteers, and a library full of research resources. February students' access to MOJO-Middlebury's job and internship database—continues through the spring semester following graduation.

Feel free to contact CSO if you have questions about how your Feb experience might impact your postgraduate plans.

Middlebury College Career Services Office

tel: 802.443.5100

e-mail: cso@middlebury.edu

Web site: http://go.middlebury. edu/cso

IDEAS FOR THE FALL SEMESTER

What do Febs do in the Fall? Examples from recent entering classes:

- Volunteered in Boston Public Schools
- Bicycled down the west coast of America solo
- NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School) trip to Chile
- Volunteered in the ER and took an EMT course
- Worked on a vineyard in France
- Worked on a Wyoming Dude Ranch

The following list of ideas and resources is meant as a guide and starting point, not as a "how to" manual. Some February students use the resources and services mentioned in this booklet, while others chart their own course. Students who intend to transfer credit from their fall experiences should pay careful attention to the guidelines listed on pages 23–29; however, the College cannot guarantee transfer of credit until after your off-campus coursework has been completed. Please be aware that many programs have a minimum age requirement of 18. Middlebury College does not have any preference for how you spend your Fall Term, nor does the College intend to direct or oversee your time prior to entering Middlebury. We are confident that your experiences, wherever you find them, will enrich your perspective and benefit our entire community.

I. REFERRAL SERVICES

There are many referral services and interim programs that devote their professional energy solely to the location and development of interesting and wellestablished "pre-college" opportunities for students pursuing options between high school and college. We provide the following contact information in the hope that it may help you investigate what the next several months may offer. By listing such services, we are by no means suggesting that Febs should avail themselves of these services, or that they are preferred Feb experiences. Though our Admissions Office and International Programs and Off-Campus Study are happy to provide you with insight and support, those offices are not experts in the area. The professional services listed here, and many others, are singularly focused on researching opportunities that may be interesting to February students.

The Center for INTERIM Programs in

Cambridge, MA and Princeton, NJ, offers individuals of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to explore different areas of interest via a personally tailored, experience-based format. Since its inception as the first organization of its kind in the United States, INTERIM has designed creative "time on" for over 3,500 young people between the ages of 15 and 70, and has created an ever-growing database of over 5,000 programs worldwide.

The Center for INTERIM programs does not administer programs itself but rather assists students in their search. *Programs accessed through The Center for INTERIM Programs are not likely to be credit bearing.* There is a fee for the Center's services that would be in addition to any fees incurred by participating in a program. For information on the Center's services, please contact:

The Center for INTERIM Programs, LLC New Jersey Office (Main Office): 195 Nassau Street, 2nd Floor, Suite 5 Princeton, NJ 08542 tel: 609.683.4300

Web site: www.interimprograms.com Contact: Holly Bull or Kate Warren hollybull@interimprograms.com katewarren@interimprograms.com

fax: 609.683.4309

The Center for INTERIM Programs, LLC Massachusetts Office (Branch Office): P.O. Box 382347 Cambridge, MA 02238

tel: 617.547.0980 fax: 617.661.2864

e-mail: Info@interimprograms.com Web site: www.interimprograms.com Contact: Joanna Lazarek joana_lazarek@interimprograms.com What do Febs do in the Fall? Examples from recent entering classes:

- Earthwatch Institute Program—sea turtle research
- Studied at the Culinary Institute of Florence and ran the Florence marathon
- Interned at a San Antonio news station
- Curatorial intern and shipyard apprentice—Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum
- Trekked, traveled, and studied in Nepal

What do Febs do in the Fall? Examples from recent entering classes:

- Taught scuba diving in Florida
- Trained for a biathalon and did substitute teaching
- Held a job in home town and enrolled as a part-time student at Columbia University
- Volunteered at a game reserve in South Africa
- Worked at a horse farm

The Gap Year: The Complete Guide to Taking Time Out was established in 1998. Former Young Travel Writer of the Year, Tom Griffiths, and his colleague, Peter Pedrick initiated The Gap Year to serve people of all ages who are interested in taking a different path as they transition from one point in their lives to another. Resources offered by The Gap Year include: gapyear.com, gapyear magazine and a monthly e-mailed newsletter to keep you up to date with everything "gapyear." Programs accessed through The Gap Year are not likely to be credit bearing.

Web site: www.gapyear.com

High School Study Abroad and Teen Travel Teen Summer Camps, High School Exchanges, and Gap Years Overseas

http://www.transitionsabroad.com/listings/study/teen/index.shtml.

Note: these programs are not likely to be credit bearing

Interpoints, Inc. of Washington Depot, CT helps students plan a gap or interim year. Interpoint clients have pursued opportunities in Italy, Nepal, Bali, New Zealand, British Columbia, Tuscany and many more. *Programs accessed through Interpoints, Inc. are not likely to be credit bearing.*

Interpoints, Inc.
2 Titus Road
P.O. Box 525
Washington Depot, CT 06794
tel: 860.868.6778
fax: 860.868.0177
e-mail: interpoints@snet.net
Contact: Jake Horne

Pre-College Academic Programs Abroad

http://www.transitionsabroad.com/listings/study/teen/ high_school_gap_year_academic_programs_abroad.shtml. Note: these programs are not likely to be credit bearing

"Taking Off" is an information and referral service specifically geared for students who are pursuing options outside the traditional classroom setting. Opportunities can be found in the following categories: media and journalism, marine biology and wildlife, community service, manual labor, the arts, women's issues, environment, worldwide travel, and special education. "Taking Off" provides students with access to an extensive database of resources and information. Programs accessed through "Taking Off" are not likely to be credit bearing. There may be a fee for these services that would be in addition to any fees incurred by participating in a program. For information about the services provided by "Taking Off," please contact:

"Taking Off" Gail Reardon 12 Marlborough Street Boston, MA 02116

tel: 617.424.1606 fax: 617.344.0481 e-mail: takingoff@takingoff.net Web site: www.takingoff.net More "What do Febs do in the Fall..."

- Taught English in Tanzania
- Did marine conservation in Krabi, Thailand
- Worked for a general contractor
- Volunteered in Yellowstone National Park
- Interned with National Geographic in London

II. NON-CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE U.S. & ABROAD Internships, Outdoor Education Programs, Service, Travel, Work

(The following programs are **NOT** eligible for academic credit at Middlebury College)

More "What do Febs do in the Fall..."

- Coached field hockey in Africa
- Volunteered at a kindergarten in Ghana
- NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School) trip to India
- Interned with the Children's Defense Fund

Youth International (Experience the World)

Through a combination of volunteer community-service work, homestays, outdoor adventure, and intense developing world travel, each Youth International participant is set up for a first-hand learning experience about the region in which they are traveling. At the same time, they are presented with a unique environment and opportunity for self-discovery. Teams of up to 14 people between the ages of 18 and 25 travel together, with two group leaders. For a full 12-week semester they explore three different countries in one region of the world.

Youth International has been sending groups on learning adventures abroad since 1997, and offers three separate trips: Asia (Kenya, Tanzania, Botswana, and Namibia). All three trips are offered twice each year: once in the fall semester which runs from September to December, and once in the spring semester which runs from February to May.

Youth International (Experience the World)
232 Wright Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M6R1L3 Canada
tel: 1.416.538.0152

e-mail: director@youthinternational.org Web site: www.youthinternational.org Contact: Brad Gillings, Director

Cultural Immersion

el casal: A Gap Year Program in Barcelona, Spain

el casal is a complete, self-contained program offering a stimulating atmosphere for high school graduates. Seminars, internships, community service and excursions are part of this experience. Students stay with carefully selected families in the heart of Barcelona. There is a balance between structured activity and free time as well as social, academic, and cultural events.

Web site: www.elcasalbarcelona.com info@elcasalbarcelona.com

Global Quest semester program is geared toward students between high school and college. *Global Quest* offers twelve-week semester programs in international settings. The program was established in 1999 and semester offerings are based in Thailand and Ecuador.

Global Quest #1 Longfellow Square, Suite 201 Portland, ME 04101 tel: 207.879.1722

e-mail: admissions@gquest.org
Web site: www.gquest.org
Contact: Dan Creek, Executive Director

Sojourns Abroad is a nonprofit organization offering a unique, fall cultural immersion semester in Siena, Italy and in Paris. Uniquely, both The Sienna Sojourn and The Paris Sojourn enable participants to be in a peer group setting abroad without being in a "study abroad" program. Each 12 week session includes: homestay accommodation; intimate, daily conversational language classes; informal but substantive cultural and art history seminars, hands-on art and culinary instruction; wine tasting. midweek excursions and weekend travel and outdoor adventures. Participants also participate in an ongoing community service project. The "sojourn" programs are learner-centered rather than curriculum-centered. Sojourners take on special projects, and pursue particular interests, i.e., art, music, photography, martial

arts, dance. An additional, distinctive feature of the programs is the focus on global citizenship.

Sojourns Abroad PO Box 1171 Manchester, VT 05254 tel: 802.326.5855

e-mail: info@sojournsabroad.org Web site: www.sojournsabroad.org Contact: John Nissen

Vermont Intercultural Semesters (VIS)

VIS offers a semester of cultural immersion in Ladakh, a former Buddhist Kingdom in the Indian Himalaya. A group of about one dozen students, with Ladakhi peers, will explore environmental ethics, globalization, sustainable energy use and agricultural practices, and ways in which landscape can shape character as well as politics. Home base will be SECMOL (Students' Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh), an innovative boarding school for students from all over Ladakh. Other aspects of the program include trekking, homestays with nomadic families, learning radio and print journalism skills, studying area history, and a meditation retreat.

Web site: www.vermontis.org
Curtis Koren 802.276.3424 or curtisk@sover.net
info@vermontis.org

Where There Be Dragons: Semester Program

in Boulder, CO offers students an opportunity to pursue cultural and independent study in selected Asian countries. **W.T.B. Dragons** is a company that has been dedicated to quality educational programs in Asia and offers exciting semester programs to students taking time off from school. **W.T.B. Dragons** philosophy encourages active participation in developing personal goals and itineraries. Through intimate cultural contact, individual study projects, rugged travel, solo time, community service, and home-stay opportunities, students seeking new opportunities are empowered and challenged to become their own leaders.

Where There Be Dragons 3200 Carbon Place, Suite 102 Boulder, CO 80301

tel: 800.982.9203 / 303.413.0822 e-mail: info@wheretherebedragons.com Web site: www.wheretherebedragons.com

Internships

If you have an interest in a certain professional path, you might consider an internship during your fall semester. Many internship placements are made through a student's own contacts in his/her community. We encourage you to be in touch with organizations and individuals sharing your pre-professional interests. Emphasize that you are interested in helping as well as learning. You are also welcome to use our own internship services through Middlebury's Career Services Office (CSO). Contact information is available in the section entitled "Career Planning."

One of the most popular formal internship programs is a government internship with an elected official. Consult the offices of your state and U.S. Representatives and Senators for details and information about selection.

Outdoor Education Programs

You may have heard of programs through which students are trained in outdoor leadership skills as well as the team building and individual growth that outdoor challenges can inspire. Many Middlebury students have chosen to spend part of the fall prior to entering Middlebury learning about the outdoors and themselves through one of these long-standing programs. Participation in these programs does not confer academic credit.

National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS):

284 Lincoln Street, Lander, WY 82520-2848 tel: 800.710.NOLS (6657) / 307.332.5300;

fax: 307.332.1220

e-mail: admissions@nols.edu; Web site: www.nols.edu

Outward Bound, offers sites at multiple wilderness schools and urban centers: tel: 845.424.4000

Web site: www.outwardbound.com (click on "Contact Us" to access information on Outward Bound sites).

The Student Conservation Association is a program that combines internships with outdoor education: 689 River Road, P.O. Box 550, Charlestown, NH 03603; tel: 603.543.1700; fax: 603.543.1828; Web site: www.sca-inc.org

Service/Volunteer Opportunities

Many students seek out service opportunities prior to coming to Middlebury in February. In most cases arrangements for service roles are made locally through social agencies in your own community. You will find a strong commitment to community service when you arrive at Middlebury. These programs and experiences are not credit bearing. Some excellent resources that provide information on programs not necessarily for academic credit are:

The Back Door Guide to Short-Term Job Adventures: Internships, Extraordinary Experiences, Seasonal Jobs, Volunteering, Work Abroad by Michale Landes (ISBN: 1580081479); Web site: www.backdoorjobs.com

How to Live Your Dream of Volunteering Overseas, Co-Authors Joseph Collins, Zahara Heckscher, and Stefano DeZerega: If you are hungry for information on how you can help people overseas while exploring other cultures, making friends, learning about yourself, and enhancing your skills, then this book is for you. How To Live Your Dream of Volunteering Overseas provides the information you seek in a user-friendly format featuring quotes, worksheets, case studies, and inspiring stories.

Based on six years of research that included field-work in over 25 countries, the book is not just a directory of opportunities, but a critical review of over 80 volunteer placement organizations in this rapidly growing field, as well as a detailed but easy to read manual about everything from why to volunteer

to what to do when you get back. How To Live Your Dream of Volunteering Overseas is an in-depth guide for anyone who wants to volunteer in Latin America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, or Eastern Europe. More information on this book can be found at: http://www.volunteeroverseas.org

Cross Cultural Solutions—International Volunteer Program

http://crossculturalsolutions.org/who_volunteers/Students/defaulst.asp

The International Partnership for Service-Learning and Leadership

The International Partnership for Service-Learning and Leadership is an organization that combines voluntary service and classroom learning and has been a rewarding program for past students. Its sites are in the U.S. and in other locations as the Czech Republic, Ecuador, England, France, India, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Philippines, Russia, Thailand and South Dakota (Lakota Nation American Indians). Please note that although volunteer service is an integral part of IPSL programs, IPSL does not award credit for service. Note that the coursework taken may be eligible for credit.

815 Second Avenue New York, NY 10017 tel: 212.986.0989; fax: 212.986.5039 e-mail: info@ipsl.org Web site: www.ipsl.org

International Volunteer Programs Association (IVPA)

Offers an up-to-date search site for international volunteer and internship opportunities. http://www.volunteerinternational.org

The Web site **idealist.org** lists over 43,000 non-profit and community organizations in 165 countries, which you can search or browse by name, location, or mission. You will find thousands of volunteer opportunities in your community and around the world, and a list of organizations that help you volunteer abroad. http://www.idealist.org

Additional Web Resources for Work or Volunteer Service Abroad (Non-Credit):

Based in the UK www.worldwidevolunteering.org.uk

www.gapyear.com

Based in the US www.mrs.umn.edu/cerp/abroad/

www.goabroad.com

Travel & Work

The Alternative Travel Directory is a comprehensive and up-to-date guide for working, studying, living, and traveling abroad. This directory is available through:

Transitions Abroad
Web site: www.transitionsabroad.com

III. U.S. COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

If you choose to attend another college or university, be aware that you should not take courses at another four year-residential college in a degree-granting program without first getting specific written approval from that institution's Director of Admission. You must clearly articulate your intention to leave that institution after the first semester. If you gain approval, or if you attend a state university or community college, a number of considerations should be kept in mind if you hope to transfer credits toward your Middlebury degree.

Please note: Middlebury College cannot guarantee transfer of credit before completion of coursework. Please save any descriptive (e.g., syllabi, reading lists) and evaluative (e.g., homework, papers) information from your off-campus studies and arrange for an official transcript to be sent to the Registrar's Office at Middlebury College. Final transcript evaluation and transfer

of credit will occur upon matriculation at Middlebury College. This policy applies to all students who attend Middlebury College and seek to transfer credit; it is not unique to February admits.

Transfer of Credit Guidelines from U.S. Institutions

Courses that translate into three or more semester hours will transfer most easily into our credit system. For academic calendars organized into quarter (or trimester) units, five quarter hours are normally considered equivalent to a Middlebury course.

Please note again: IT IS POSSIBLE THAT COURSES TAKEN AT INSTITUTIONS OPERATING ON THE QUARTER OR TRIMESTER SYSTEMS MAY NOT TRANSFER TO MIDDLEBURY.

Traditional liberal arts courses transfer most easily. We recommend that you not plan to transfer credit from courses that do not correspond to Middlebury's curriculum and the academic disciplines represented within it. Courses in engineering, journalism, business, etc. are helpful in gaining better insight into a career path and its requisite training, but, most preprofessional or specialized courses will not transfer. It is best to keep the liberal arts as your framework if transfer of credit is your ultimate goal.

Some students have taken "cooperative courses" in high school. These are classes taken during high school for which credit is granted by a college in that area. In order to earn transfer credit for these courses at Middlebury College, they must not have counted toward your high school diploma. They must also be taught by a college professor and be taken in a college classroom with college students. Advanced level courses offered at your high school, exclusively for high school students, even if taught by a college professor and garnering credit from another college, are not transferable to Middlebury.

With a few exceptions—most notably foreign languages—introductory level courses will transfer and, in fact, are the most appropriate level of course work for new college students.

Students should be careful not to overload on courses in the fall. New Middlebury students are not allowed to exceed the normal academic load of four courses their first semester.

Students should not take more than one course in any given department. New students at Middlebury are also advised against choosing such a schedule. Writing courses taken elsewhere such as "Expository Writing" or "The Essay" are eligible for transfer credit and may be of considerable benefit to you as you adjust to the rigors of college-level writing. Keep in mind, however, that you will still be required to take a First Year Seminar (described in "Academic Advising") and a second writing intensive course at Middlebury.

Again, Middlebury College cannot guarantee transfer of credit before completion of coursework. Please save any descriptive (e.g., syllabi, reading lists) and evaluative (e.g., homework, papers) information from your off-campus studies and arrange for an official transcript to be sent to the Registrar's Office at Middlebury College. Final transcript evaluation and transfer of credit will occur upon matriculation at Middlebury College.

IV. CREDIT-BEARING OPTIONS FOR STUDY ABROAD

Study abroad presents attractive options for many Febs; however, programs abroad for first-year students, which are of sufficient academic quality to allow for transfer of credit, are not as plentiful as you might suppose. The challenge is determining which programs merit academic credit toward a Middlebury degree. Most programs are designed either for high school students or for college juniors. It is difficult to find credit—worthy options for study abroad during the period between high school graduation and a student's first year in college. Language

programs are especially difficult to assess because of the great variety in language preparation that students bring with them from high school.

Transferring credit from abroad follows similar guidelines to transfer of credit from domestic institutions (see previous section). Students should choose courses that fall into the framework of a liberal arts curriculum. The great variety in academic calendars and "normal" course loads among international institutions also presents a challenge when assessing transcripts and transfer of credit.

Please note again: It is possible that courses taken at institutions operating on the quarter or trimester systems may not transfer to Middlebury.

Because course loads vary from country to country and program to program, it is important to understand that, for study abroad, we transfer credits in blocks regardless of the number of courses taken.

In other words, a "normal full load," however that is defined by the host institution, will typically receive a full semester of credit (4 units) at Middlebury College.* Middlebury College cannot guarantee transfer of credit before completion of coursework. Please save any descriptive and evaluative information from your courses and arrange for an official transcript to be sent to International Programs and Off-Campus Study at Middlebury College. Final transcript evaluation and transfer of credit will occur upon matriculation at Middlebury College.

In recent years, many students have transfered credit directly from British universities. The British system is quite compatible with Middlebury's first-year classes; however, students should be aware that if they study at a school organized according to the traditional three-term British system, with a fall term that begins around October 1st and ends in early December, they will receive reduced credit when transferring those courses back to Middlebury. Students usually earn three credits for a "normal full load" (not a "minimum full load") during a British

Study Abroad Web sites:

www. goabroad.com

www. studyabroad.com

www. iiepassport.org term. If a student opts to take a special "pre-session" for American students, such as those at the Universities of Lancaster or Sussex or University College, Cork, they will likely be granted four Middlebury College credits for the combined work in the pre-session and the fall term. The following institutions have proven effective in allowing for high-quality educational experiences for our students and the appropriate academic environment to allow for transfer of credit for a full semester:

University of East Anglia – England University of Nottingham – England University of St. Andrews – Scotland University of Aberdeen – Scotland University of Stirling – Scotland University of Edinburgh – Scotland

These universities, moreover, operate on a two-semester calendar and are, therefore, better suited for fall term study than those that still adhere to the traditional three-term calendar. Students who take a "normal full load" (not a "minimum full load"), as defined by these universities, of liberal arts courses, should receive a full semester of credit (4 course credits) at Middlebury College.

Keep in mind that at a number of UK institutions, most notably St. Andrew's, Nottingham, and Aberdeen, some classes and final exams take place in mid- to late-January. In order to receive full credit, Middlebury requires students who attend such institutions to take their examinations at the same time as their British counterparts in January. Should you choose a program with an exam schedule in January, you will receive an additional credit for your work during that month, equivalent to Middlebury's Winter Term. If you are interested in learning more about one of these universities, you may contact them directly for further information or visit their Web site.

^{*}Note: Institutions using U.S. semester hours count 15–18 credits as a "normal full load" (not 12).

Contact Information: UK Institutions

British American (formerly Regents) College, London, England.

Ms. Maggie Morrow, British American College London, Regents College, Regents Park London NW 14 NS; tel: 011.44.207.487.7452;

Web site: www.bacl.ac.uk

The University of Aberdeen, International Office, North American Programs,

Aberdeen AB24 3FX, Scotland, (c/o Mr. Tom Hall); tel: 011.44.1224.272090; fax: 011.44.1224.272576; e-mail: studyabroad@abdn.ac.uk; Web site: www.abdn.ac.uk/sras/international/north_america.shtml

The University of East Anglia, Visiting Students Office, Norwich NR4 7TJ, England (c/o Ms. Sally Ward), tel: 011.44.1603.456161, fax: 011.44. 1603.458553; e-mail: intl.office@uea.ac.uk; Web site: www.uea.ac.uk/cm/home/services/units/mac/international/studyabroad/YAP/incoming

The University of Edinburgh

http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/visitingstudent/applying/freshman.html

The University of Nottingham, International Office, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD, England (c/o Ms. Rachel Buckley); tel: 011.44.115.951.5247, fax: 011.44.115.951.5155; e-mail: rachel.buckley@nottingham.ac.uk; Web site: www.nottingham.ac.uk/international/future_students

The University of Stirling, Study Abroad Office, Stirling FK9 4LA, Scotland (c/o Ms. Stephanie Niven); tel: 011.44.1786.467040; fax: 011.44.1786.466800; e-mail: study-abroad@stir.ac.uk; Web site: www.external.stir.ac.uk/study-abroad

The University of St. Andrews, International Office, Butts Wynd, St. Andrews, Fife, KY16 9AJ Scotland

tel: 011.44.1334.463323; fax: 011.44.1334.463330; e-mail: student.recruitment@st-andrews.ac.uk;

Web site: www.st-and.ac.uk

Contact Information: Center for Education Abroad at Arcadia University

Another useful resource is **Arcadia University's Center for Education Abroad** which places
American college students in junior year abroad
university programs, primarily in the United
Kingdom and Ireland (including some of those listed
above) as well as in Australia and New Zealand.
Arcadia has a London Semester program at City
University, programs in Ireland, England, Scotland,
Mexico, Greece, Spain, Italy, China, and South
Africa. February students have opted to study with
many of these programs. You may wish to contact
Arcadia, as they provide valuable services in
mediating between British and American systems,
and they have agreed to make special arrangements
for Middlebury's February students.

Center of Education Abroad Arcadia University 450 S. Easton Road Glenside, PA 19038

tel: 866.927.2234 / 215.527.2901 Web site: www.arcadia.edu/cea e-mail: educationabroad@arcadia.edu

Contact Information: Programs outside the UK

Feb students have also studied abroad in English at other locations that, because of foreign language proficiency requirements, we do not approve for junior year study abroad. The American-style structure of these programs seems well suited to students entering their first year of college. The list below includes information on some of these opportunities.

American University of Paris, the address of its

US Office is: 950 South Cherry Street, Suite 210

Denver, CO 80246; tel: 303.757.6333;

fax: 303.757.6444; e-mail: usoffice@aup.edu

Web site: www.aup.fr

Bond University, Queensland, Australia,

International Office: Bond University, Gold Coast, Queensland 4229, Australia; tel: 011.6.17.5595.1028;

fax: 011.61.7.5595.1015;

e-mail: studyabroad@bond.edu.au;

Web site: www.bond.edu.au

Arrangements can also be made through Arcadia University's Center for Education Abroad (above).

College Year in Athens, P.O. Box 390890,

Cambridge, MA 02139; tel: 617.868.8200;

fax: 617.868.8207; e-mail: info@cyathens.org;

Web site: www.cyathens.org

Council on International Education Exchange

(CIEE) offers programs in China, Japan, Chile, the Dominican Republic, France and Spain tel: 800.40.STUDY; e-mail: gapyear@ciee.org;

Web site: www.ciee.org

Franklin College, Sorengo (Lugano), Switzerland, U.S. admissions office:

91-31 Queens Blvd., Suite 411, Elmhurst, NY 11373;

tel: 718.335.6800; e-mail:info@fc.edu

Web site: www.fc.edu

Institute for Central American Development Studies (ICADS), U.S. mailing address: Dept. 826,

P.O. Box 025216, Miami, FL 33102-5216;

No U.S. phone or fax number;

e-mail: info@icads.org Web site: www.icads.org

The International Partnership for Service

Learning, 815 Second Avenue Suite 315, New York, NY 10017; tel: 212.986.0989; fax: 212.986.5039; e-mail: info@ipsl.org; Web site: *www.ipsl.org*The International Partnership for Service Learning is an organization that combines community service and classroom learning and has been a rewarding

program for past students. Its sites are in the U.S. and throughout the world in such locations as the Czech Republic, Ecuador, England, France, India, Israel, Jamaica, Mexico, Philippines, Russia, Scotland, South Dakota (American Indians of the Northern Plains), and Thailand. Students cannot earn credit for the service portion of the program but it is possible to earn credit for the classroom work. Please bring academic materials with you to Middlebury for evaluation and final credit determination.

InterStudy (USA) offers programs in England, Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and South Africa: Admissions Office, 63 Edward Street, Medford, MA 02155; tel: 800.663.1999; fax: 781.391.7463; e-mail: studyabroad@interstudy.org

Web site: www.interstudy.org

Lexia International offers programs in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America: 6 The Courtyard, Hanover, NH 03755; tel: 800.775.3942 or 603.643.9898; fax: 603.643.9899; e-mail: Info@Lexiaintl.org Web site: www.lexiaintl.org

The School for Field Studies offers environmental field study programs in Costa Rica, Australia, Mexico, Kenya, and Turks and Caicos: 10 Federal Street, Suite 24, Salem, MA 01970; tel: 800.989.4418; fax: 978.741.3551 e-mail: admissions@fieldstudies.org Web site: www.fieldstudies.org

Vesalius College, Vrije Universiteit Brussels,

Pleinlaan 2, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium (contact: Ai-Lee Leong); tel: 011.32.2.629.2872;

fax: 011.32.2.629.36.37

e-mail: lailee@vub.ac.be or info@vub.ac.be Web site: www.vub.ac.be/english/index.php

Contact Information: Sea-based Study Program

SEA Semester at Woods Hole

P.O. Box 6

Woods Hole, MA 02543

tel: 800.552.3633 or 508.540.3954

e-mail: admissions@sea.edu Web site: www.sea.edu

Other Resources:

Study Abroad: Academic Year Abroad/Short-Term Study Abroad—Published by the Institute of International Education (IIE), this text provides a summary of over 2,400 programs abroad and is available in most libraries and study abroad offices at colleges and universities.

IIE

Web sites: www.iiebooks.org and www.iiepassport.org

Additional Study Abroad Resources:

The following Web sites have searchable databases to investigate study, travel, and work programs abroad. Please keep in mind that not all of these programs are credit bearing.

www.iiepassport.org www.goabroad.com www.studyabroad.com www.transitionsabroad.com www.abroadviewmagazine.com www.abroadview.org

CAN WE HELP YOU?

We hope that the preceding catalog of resources will provide you with a place to start your exploration of what this fall could offer you. This list of resources is by no means comprehensive. In fact, we encourage you to be creative with this time.

If there is any service that the Admissions Office may provide as you assess your options, we hope you will be in touch and we look forward to your arrival in February. We were impressed by your application to Middlebury College—so impressed that you are now presented with this opportunity. We hope you will choose to accept our invitation.

After reading this booklet, if you have further questions about the February Admissions program, feel free to contact:

Middlebury College Admissions Office The Emma Willard House Middlebury, VT 05753 tel: 802.443.3000 fax: 802.443.2056

e-mail: admissions@middlebury.edu Web site: www.middlebury.edu

If you have questions about credit-bearing study in the U.S. or abroad, feel free to contact:

Stacey Thebodo, Assistant Director
International Programs and Off-Campus Study
Middlebury College
Middlebury, VT 05753
tel: 802.443.5745
e-mail: studyabroad@middlebury.edu