

# BENNINGTON COLLEGE

## Gap-Year Independent Learning Program

### Program Details

This program is available to you if you were admitted to Bennington College in fall of 2018, but elected to defer your admission to fall of 2019. Through this program, you may earn up to four Bennington credits for independent study you conduct during your gap year. This additional credit will reduce the number of credits you'll need to earn en route to graduation, giving you important flexibility if you choose to take fewer credits at some point during your time at Bennington. You must fill out an application to participate (see below), and meet all requirements of the program in order to earn these credits.

### Process

- You will write us a proposal addressing each of the points below. This proposal may be submitted electronically via email to [deansoffice@bennington.edu](mailto:deansoffice@bennington.edu), or using the online form available at <https://tinyurl.com/Benn-GapYear>. Your proposal can be up to two pages in length and must address the following questions:
  - What will you be doing this year, and how do your plans connect to what you hope to learn in your time at Bennington?
  - What do you plan to study during this time? What question(s) will you pursue?
  - How will you pursue this work? What resources will you need? What sort of research will you do?
  - What work will you create this year? What sort of revision process will you employ?
  - How will you engage with communities around you in carrying out this work? Who else will be involved?
  - How will you document your work along the way, and how will you communicate your work upon your arrival at Bennington?
- Twice in the coming year, you'll have a Skype call with a faculty member to discuss your work, talk through any emerging challenges or opportunities, and ensure you're accomplishing the goals you set for yourself at the outside of the year.
- Once you arrive on campus in the fall of 2019, you'll present a portfolio of work and written reflections to a faculty member in a discipline relevant to the work you've done.
- If approved, credits earned will appear in the form of a course listed on your Bennington transcript.

### Deadlines

Completed applications must be received by August 15, 2018. We will review the applications and respond with any questions or follow-up by September 1, 2018. Your portfolio of work will be due within one month of arriving on campus in fall of 2019.

### Eligibility

This opportunity is limited to students deferring admission from fall of 2018 to fall of 2019, and only to independent study completed in the intervening time.

### Costs

There is no cost to participate in the program.

### Questions?

Email [deansoffice@bennington.edu](mailto:deansoffice@bennington.edu) with any questions about participating in this program.