



Athena Center for Leadership

BARNARD COLLEGE

ATHENA SCHOLAR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Many Scholars will find it difficult to complete their Athena electives through their major – which is in many ways the point. *We want you to take courses that will get you thinking about women and leadership through **many disciplines**, not simply what you are already studying.*

In order to complete the Scholars Program, students must complete:

- Five courses
 - Three electives
 - Women and Leadership
 - Senior Seminar
- Six Skill-Builders (formerly known as Leadership Labs)
- Practicum
- Majors Mixer (Sophomores)
- Senior Scholar Survey

Please make an appointment with Administrative Director of Student Programs, Sarit Abramowicz (sabramow@barnard.edu) if you have concerns about meeting deadlines. Our goal is to keep you on track.

Electives

All Athena electives are cross-listed, making the availability of the course dependent on the home department. We do not control, nor do we have any power or authority over, other departments' course offerings. Also, your Scholar status does not confer you any priority with another department in regards to instructor permission.

- Students choose three elective courses from Athena's multi-disciplinary course offerings. Electives expose students to the interdisciplinary nature of leadership, the history and culture of women and leadership within society and organizations, and leadership skills. Elective courses may also be counted as credit toward one's Foundations requirements and major but may not be triple counted. For the complete list of the approved courses, see the Barnard course catalog.



Athena Center for Leadership

BARNARD COLLEGE

- Every time you take an Athena elective, you must complete an Elective Course Reflection. The purpose of this reflection is to make you think more about the theoretical connections between leadership theory and practice. You must submit the reflection at the end of the semester of when the class was taken. The course will not count as an elective until the reflection is turned in. Fall course reflections are due by January 10th. Spring course reflections are due by June 10th. Late submissions will not be accepted.
- You cannot P/D/F an Athena Elective, and you must receive a C or above.
- To fulfill one elective requirement, students may identify a non-approved course that fulfills the outlined learning objectives and petition the Administrative Director of Student Programs for approval using the appropriate form. You have two options for requesting approval for a course not listed on the Athena Approved Electives list. If you would like to request approval for a non-approved elective prior to taking the course, please submit the Elective Approval Request Form within the first two weeks of the semester. Otherwise, please submit the Special Dispensation Form after completing the course, no later than January 10th for the fall Semester and June 10th for the spring. There is no guarantee the course will be approved in either case.
- Petitions for special dispensation can be submitted up until first semester Senior Year.

Skill-Builders (formerly known as Leadership Labs)

- The Athena Center's Skill-Builders are free, one-time, targeted workshops taught by leading experts that will sharpen your skills and hone your passions. Based on the Athena CORE10, a unique set of competencies specifically developed for women leaders, these interactive workshops help you improve your leadership skills through hands-on practice. In order for a lab to count towards your Program requirements, you must:
 - Complete six workshops of your choosing
 - Attend the full length of the workshop
 - Complete the workshop evaluation

Visit athenacenter.barnard.edu/skillbuilders to see a list of the workshops.



Athena Center for Leadership

BARNARD COLLEGE

Practicum

Practicums are pre-professional experiences that teach you about career fields, allow you to observe leadership styles, and gain transferable skills. Practicums can be completed through internships, lab research, and shadowing. Whatever you choose, it should be something related to your career goals, and the hope is that you take advantage of this opportunity to do something you would not already be doing. All Scholars must:

- Have completed two leadership labs before starting.
- Work a minimum of 12-15 hours/week during the semester or 35 hours/week for the summer.
- Check their practicum placement with Sarit first.
- Enroll in the program on Canvas and complete ALL assignments provided at the beginning of the program.
- Complete the end of program survey.
- Complete their practicum by the summer before senior year. Scholars will not be able to enroll in Senior Seminar if the Practicum is not completed.

Majors Mixer

The Majors Mixer takes place once a semester to give First Years and Sophomores the opportunity to gain insight from Juniors and Seniors about selecting a major along with balancing Athena requirements and other interests. All Scholars are required to attend one Majors Mixer before the completion of their Sophomore year.

Senior Scholar Survey

Upon completion of the program we ask seniors to provide feedback on their experience as a Scholar so we can improve the program. The survey should take about 5-10 minutes. Completion of the survey is mandatory in order to receive the Scholar distinction on your transcript.