

Where Are the Women In MIT's Academic Programs?

Undergraduate Women By Primary Course

Course	Total # Students	Total # Women	% of Women
22	42	11	26.2%
16	191	59	30.9%
6	635	201	31.7%
8	183	59	32.2%
17	14	5	35.7%
2	446	164	36.8%
18	209	79	37.8%
15	174	75	43.1%
F †	1051	489	46.5%
3	94	45	47.9%
14	82	43	52.4%
CMS	13	7	53.9%
U *	26	14	53.9%
10	239	133	55.7%
20	90	52	57.8%
5	70	41	58.6%
11	27	16	59.3%
24	5	3	60.0%
1	114	73	64.0%
4	42	28	66.7%
21	26	18	69.2%
7	196	136	69.4%
9	145	110	75.9%
12	24	19	79.2%

COMPILED FROM MIT REGISTRAR DATA

† Freshmen do not pick a course.

* Undesignated sophomores.

For statistical purposes, every undergraduate has a 'primary major.' 185 students have declared a second major, half of them (94) in the School of Science (courses V, VII, VIII, IX, XII, XVIII). The Registrar's office does not provide a gender-separated list of second majors.

Students in different degree programs with the same starting number, like VII and VII-A, are counted together.

Undergraduate and Graduate Women By School

School	Undergraduates			Graduate Students		
	Total # Students	Total # Women	% of Women	Total # Students	Total # Women	% of Women
Architecture and Planning	69	44	63.77%	584	250	42.8%
Engineering	1851	738	39.87%	2807	711	25.3%
Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences	140	76	54.29%	317	135	42.6%
Management	174	75	43.10%	1005	308	30.7%
Science	827	444	53.69%	1071	367	34.3%
Whitaker College (HST)				362	116	32.0%

COMPILED FROM MIT REGISTRAR DATA

In each table, shading indicates whether a course's female composition is less than 40% (cyan), 40–50% (light cyan), 50–60% (light magenta), or greater than 60% (magenta).

Grad Student Women By Primary Course

Course	Total # Students	Total # Women	% of Women
SDM	135	18	13.3%
8	238	36	15.1%
2	467	78	16.7%
14	197	36	18.4%
MAS	125	25	20.0%
RED	30	6	20.0%
OR	54	11	20.4%
PEP	37	8	21.6%
18	118	26	22.0%
16	243	56	23.1%
6	799	185	23.3%
22	114	30	26.3%
10	260	76	29.2%
15	951	297	31.2%
3	211	67	31.8%
HST †	362	116	32.0%
ESD	178	60	33.7%
CDO	23	8	34.8%
1	187	69	36.9%
9	102	39	38.2%
5	227	87	38.3%
17	69	27	39.1%
CMS	37	16	43.2%
CSB	31	14	45.2%
20	115	52	45.2%
24	71	33	46.5%
12	166	81	48.8%
4	220	110	50.0%
11	209	109	52.2%
STS	29	16	55.2%
7	220	157	71.4%
21	9	7	77.8%

COMPILED FROM MIT REGISTRAR DATA

† Some HST students may receive degrees only from Harvard, not from MIT.

Students in different degree programs with the same starting number, like VII and VII-A, are counted together.

What Departments Or Programs Do These Numbers Mean?

Abbrev.	Department / Course Name
1	Civil and Environmental Engineering
2	Mechanical Engineering
3	Materials Science and Engineering
4	Architecture
5	Chemistry
6	Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
7	Biology
8	Physics
9	Brain and Cognitive Sciences
10	Chemical Engineering
11	Urban Studies and Planning
12	Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences
14	Economics
15	Management
16	Aeronautics and Astronautics
17	Political Science
18	Mathematics
20	Biological Engineering
21	Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences
22	Nuclear Science and Engineering
24	Linguistics and Philosophy
CDO	Computation for Design and Optimization
CMS	Comparative Media Studies
CSB	Computational and Systems Biology
ESD	Engineering Systems Division
HST	Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology
MAS	Media Arts and Sciences
OR	Operations Research
PEP	Professional Education Programs
RED	Real Estate Development
SDM	System Design and Management
STS	Science, Technology, and Society

SOURCE: MIT LIBRARIES ARCHIVES

What about the missing numbers?

¶ Course XIII, Ocean Engineering, became part of Course II, Mechanical Engineering, effective in 2005.

¶ Course XIX was Metallurgy from 1936. Within a few years, it became part of Course III, and shortly thereafter the number was reused for Meteorology. Course XIX was Meteorology until 1981, when it became Meteorology and Physical Oceanography. In 1983 it became part of Course XII. Colloquially, "Course 19" is sometimes used to mean "applied mechanical engineering."

¶ Course XXIII first offered a PhD in modern languages in 1961, according to *Tech* reporting. Course XXIII became the department of Modern Languages in 1965 and the Department of Foreign Languages and Linguistics in 1969. A 1976 reorganization eliminated Course XXIII.

¶ MIT once had a Course XXV, Interdisciplinary Science; it was active from 1971–1982, according to a list compiled by Everett L. Butcher '77 and available online at http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/sandiego/contents_courses.shtml.