

**O<sup>x</sup>BRIDGE  
ACADEMIC**  
P R O G R A M S

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August 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

**The College Experience in Boston** is an intensive month-long academic summer program for students 14 to 18 years of age. Under its auspices, students from countries all over the world come to live and study at Harvard University for the month of July.

Our curriculum is taught by an outstanding faculty of teachers and scholars drawn from Harvard, Tufts, Boston College, Wellesley, and other top institutions. In addition to daily classroom activities, such as discussions, experiments, workshops and rehearsals, **The College Experience in Boston** students attend talks by eminent guest speakers, enjoy musical and theatrical performances, and explore local museums, galleries, and historical sites. Depending on their Major course, students take a final exam, submit a portfolio, publish written work, or participate in a musical theater production or art exhibition.

Over the course of the summer, students experience over 100 in-class hours, plus countless hours more of extramural learning and cultural achievement. The level of academic performance achieved by the students is truly extraordinary. We are very pleased to observe that many of our former students carry this standard forward in their college careers at some of the best universities in North America and Europe.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the nature of the program, the work students have done on it, or the colleges at which former students are currently enrolled, please do not hesitate to call or email our New York office.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. James G. Basker

President, Oxbridge Academic Programs

Richard Gilder Professor of Literary History, Barnard College, Columbia University

Major Course Title:  
**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Faculty:  
**John Chipman**, BA University of California Berkeley

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

We began the Computer Science major with a few mathematical preliminaries so as to have a fundamental understanding of computation science, such as Turing machines, elements of first-order logic, and elements of complexity theory. During the second week, students were each given a Raspberry Pi computer and began to implement their own programs on these computers using the Python programming language. Throughout the month, the class programmed as a group to see how creative collaboration works in practice. In the final week, students worked towards producing a final project consisting of a robot with both manual and autonomous modes.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Over the course of the month, students completed problem sets, programming assignments, and a collaborative final project to construct a robot with manual and autonomous modes.

**CLASS GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Jessica Larsen, Computational Linguistics  
Michael Redbord, Tech Entrepreneur

**PROGRAM GUEST LECTURERS:**

Professor Randall L. Kennedy, Harvard Law School  
Professor John Stauffer, Harvard University  
Professor James Basker, Barnard College, Columbia University  
Courtney Greene, Harvard College Fund

**FIELD TRIPS:**

MIT Museum

**ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Tour of Fenway Park and Red Sox game versus the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim  
Visits to Quincy Market and Faneuil Hall, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum, Museum of Fine Arts, USS Constitution, New England Aquarium, Museum of Science, Mary Baker Eddy Library, and Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum  
College Tours of Harvard University, University of Massachusetts Boston, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Boston University, Tufts University, Boston College, and Northeastern University  
Freedom Trail Walk  
Trip to Salem, Massachusetts

*Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
27 June - 24 July, 2016*

*Director, Tilden Daniels  
Founder, Dr. James G. Basker*

Nathan Robinson

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STUDENT NAME

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**  
MAJOR

**COMMENTS:**

Nathan is a natural programmer with a curious, problem-solving mindset. At his best, he is also an excellent teacher and was generous in sharing his knowledge with other students. He also excelled at more theoretical problems, though his preference seems to be more practically-oriented tasks. Moreover, he evidenced a good understanding of how to work in an environment where coding tasks are distributed among students in the class, which will be an invaluable skill when working on more complex projects. I hope his interest in programming and computer science continues to be nurtured, and he continues to be encouraged to express his creativity in this way. More challenge and more opportunity will very clearly reward Nathan's future development.



*Director, Tilden Daniels*

A+  
Grade



*John Chipman, Instructor*



Dr. James G. Basker, Founder

Minor Course Title:  
**NEUROPSYCHOLOGY**

Faculty:  
Danya Goodman, BA Wellesley College, PhD University of Kansas

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Students in this minor course received a broad understanding of the neuropsychology of the brain, including both biological and psychological aspects. Students were introduced to thinking critically about the difference between "neurobunk" and scientific evidence. Honing these critical thinking skills to look at the implications of the science was a primary goal. As a class we explored the philosophical ideas behind how we understand the differences between the brain and the mind, and how these control our way of thinking, seeing, and experiencing the world. We explored the biological mechanisms of the brain, including neurons, neurotransmitters, and brain localization, and we learned the consequences when these go awry. Students developed a familiarity with important cognitive functions, including memory, language, perception, personality, bias, and social conformity. Class activities required a high level of engagement, and students were rewarded for taking intellectual risks. Students often worked in groups to investigate a topic and presented their findings to the class.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

The Neuropsychology minor class met for a total of 22 hours over four weeks. Students were expected to be active and engaged participants in class discussions. Students also had to research and present various topics to the class.

**CLASS GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Dr. Kyle Rundles, a member of Division of International Psychology, on Cultural Implications in Psychology  
Iain Conliffe, writer and storyteller, on Living with Bipolar Disorder

**PROGRAM GUEST LECTURERS:**

Professor Randall L. Kennedy, Harvard Law School  
Professor John Stauffer, Harvard University  
Professor James Basker, Barnard College, Columbia University  
Courtney Greene, Harvard College Fund

**FIELD TRIPS:**

Olfaction Lab, Harvard University with Jess Kanwal, PhD candidate on odor identification in fruit flies

**ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Tour of Fenway Park and Red Sox game versus the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim  
Visits to Quincy Market and Faneuil Hall, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum, Museum of Fine Arts, USS Constitution, New England Aquarium, Museum of Science, Mary Baker Eddy Library, and Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum  
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Founder, Dr. James G. Basker*

Nathan Robinson

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STUDENT NAME

**NEUROPSYCHOLOGY**  
MINOR

**COMMENTS:**

Nathan is an informed and enthusiastic student who worked hard in the Neuropsychology minor. He was an active participant in class discussions, and he completed excellent classwork both independently and in groups. Over the course of the month, he researched and presented projects on several topics in neuropsychology, including neurotransmitters, brain imaging tools, and historical psychological experiments. In particular, the class greatly appreciated Nathan's sense of humor and good spirits, which encouraged his classmates to participate in class discussions. Nathan also asked thoughtful questions during class, enriching the educational experiences of all students. Nathan was an important contributor to the Neuropsychology minor, and I hope he considers a career in neuroscience in the future.



*Director, Tilden Daniels*

A  
Grade



*Danya Goodman, Instructor*



*Dr. James G. Basker, Founder*