

CHAPEL AT NYACK COLLEGE

Nyack College is committed to providing quality experiences to assist students in their spiritual development. Because spiritual growth is foundational to the intellectual, social, and relational growth that students will experience at Nyack, Chapel is considered to be an integral part of the college program.

SCHEDULED ON CAMPUS CHAPEL SERVICES

Chapel credit is offered as follows:

- 10:05am – Monday, Wednesday, Friday in Pardington Hall or Bowman Gymnasium according to the chapel schedule which can be found online at <http://www.nyack.edu/spiritualformation>.
- Departmental Chapel
- Participation in Small Groups previously approved by the Spiritual Formation Office
- Specially scheduled evening events, including the Deeper Life Series and Prayer Summit

ID scanners are located at the main entrance to record chapel attendance. Students must scan in at the beginning of the chapel services to be counted present. **Students are responsible to verify that their ID has their correct student information and is scanning properly.** Students must remain until the chapel service is concluded.

Because of the large number of attendance opportunities available, there are no excused absences except by petition to the Dean of Students (see section on *Chapel Exemptions* below). The number of chapel attendance options will cover all eventualities: e.g., illness, doctor appointments, academic field trips, extended test session, participation in intercollegiate athletics, death in the family, birth of children, appearance in court, emergencies of any kind (car breakdown, snow days, late arrival on campus from vacation, etc.).

THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE SEMESTER IS 27

Full-time students enrolled in 12 or more units of course work during a regular semester are required to attend 27 chapels per semester.

ID cards will be scanned daily until 10:15am at regular chapel services.

Each student is responsible for the number of chapels he/she attends and should regularly check his or her chapel attendance on the report posted in the student portal.

For questions regarding your attendance record, please see the Administrative Assistant for Spiritual Formation at the Spiritual Formation Office.

ATTENDANCE FOR SENIORS

Seniors in their **last semester** of college must acquire **20** chapel credits in order to walk in graduation.

Seniors who do not complete their total number of chapel attendance requirements in their last semester may not be permitted to walk in graduation.

VIOLATIONS

If a student fails to meet their chapel attendance requirement, the following series of sanctions will be imposed:

- Chapel Warning – Failing to meet the chapel requirement in any single given semester will result in a written warning being issued to the student. The warning status will remain until the student completes his or her chapel requirement the next semester or goes on to chapel probation.
- Chapel Probation – Failing to meet the chapel requirement in 2 consecutive semesters will result in the student being placed on probation status with Nyack College. While on probation status the student may

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not do the following: represent the college in any way, hold a leadership position, represent the college in intercollegiate athletics, participate in any performances for the School of Music, participate in any school plays or productions, live in upperclassmen housing, begin or continue employment on the Nyack College campus during the semester and during the summer, participate in a GSL trip, nor participate in campus events such as Homecoming and other major campus events. Probation status will remain until the student completes his or her chapel requirement in subsequent semesters.

CHAPEL EXEMPTIONS

- **Commuter Students** with no MWF class at any time before chapel or directly after chapel (for example, 8:30am or 11:10am class) may be exempted from the Chapel requirement for that semester. The **Chapel Exemption Form** is available in the Spiritual Formation Office. The completed form, with a copy of the student's class schedule attached as verification, must be submitted to the Office of Spiritual Formation by the last day of the add/drop period. When a partial exemption is granted, an appropriately lower chapel requirement will be imposed. The **Chapel Exemption Form** must be submitted to the Office of Spiritual Formation by the last day of the add/drop period of the semester where it applies.
- **Student Teachers** will have an automatic chapel requirement of 5 credits during the semester of student teaching. At the beginning of each semester, the School of Education forwards a listing of current student teachers to the Office of Spiritual Formation.

Resident Students

If it is necessary to be excused from chapel on a regular basis, a **Chapel Exemption Form** must be filed each semester with the Office of Spiritual Formation. Only those absences that must occur on a regular basis will be considered for exemption. Chapel Exemption regarding employment must include an employer letter on company letterhead verifying the student's work schedule. A **Chapel Exemption Form** and employer letter (if work related) must be submitted to the Office of Spiritual Formation by the last day of the add/drop period of each semester. **If new employment begins after the add/drop period, students are fully responsible for all chapel requirements prior to new employment. An employer letter, including employment start date, with a Chapel Exemption Form must be submitted within 10 business days of new employment.**

An attendance requirement of a minimum of 10 chapel opportunities will be required of each full-time residential student whose Chapel Exemption is granted.

Exemptions will only be given for the following reasons:

- Employment
- Commuter Class Schedule
- Childcare needs for primary caregiver
- Other: Any unavoidable circumstances, such as a prolonged and severe illness will be taken into consideration. A student should submit a **Chapel Exemption Form** to the Office of Spiritual Formation giving exact dates and verification of the reason for absences.

The Office of Spiritual Formation will consider each **Chapel Exemption Form** on its own merit and make the best possible decision based on the information provided. After the application review, notice of the decision will be sent to your campus email. Students submitting a Chapel Exemption Form must do so by the last day of the add/drop period of each semester. **Chapel Exemptions are valid only during the semester they are issued, therefore the Chapel Exemption Form must be filled out EACH semester.**

**ALL CHAPEL EXEMPTION FORMS
MUST BE SUBMITTED TO HEATHER GARCIA IN THE SPIRITUAL FORMATION
OFFICE BY THE END OF THE ADD/DROP PERIOD.**

CHAPEL EXEMPTION FORM
Fall 2017

Form must be submitted, in person, to Heather Garcia in the Spiritual Formation Office by the end of the add/drop period of every semester where the student is eligible for exemption.

Date _____

Name _____ I.D. # _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Class Standing: Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior _____

Commuter Student _____ Resident Student _____

Commuter students with no class any time before or immediately after Chapel on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday may be exempt from Chapel attendance for that semester. When a *partial exemption* is granted, an appropriate lower Chapel requirement will be imposed. Attach a copy of your class schedule as verification that you do not have morning classes on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday at any time before or immediately following Chapel.

If work related, the *Chapel Exemption Form* and employer letter must be submitted to the Spiritual Formation Office by the end of the add/drop period. **If new employment begins after the add/drop period, students are fully responsible for all Chapel requirements prior to new employment. An employer letter, including employment start date, with a Chapel Exemption Form must be submitted within 10 business days of new employment.**

An attendance requirement of a minimum of 10 Chapel opportunities will be required of each full-time residential student whose Chapel Exemption is granted.

The Chapel requirement per semester is **27**. There are a total of approximately 45 Chapel Services available for the semester. In addition, weekday Small Group attendance is counted toward Chapel credit (for groups approved by the Spiritual Formation Office).

The *Chapel Exemption Form* must be submitted at the beginning of each semester where the student is eligible. The *Chapel Exemption Form* **is valid for one semester only!**

Check the box and circle the days that you are petitioning to be excused from attendance at Chapel:

- Full Exemption:* No Chapel requirement M W F
- One-Day Exemption:* A Chapel requirement of 20 M W F
- Two-Day Exemption:* A Chapel requirement of 10 M W F

In keeping with the basic objective of fostering mature personal behavior, the responsibility for attendance at Chapel rests with you. You should regularly check the Chapel attendance report posted as "Chapel Attendance" under "My Profile" in your student portal. For more information, please read through the "*Chapel*" section in the Student Handbook.

This Fall Form must be submitted by 5:00pm, Wednesday, September 13, 2017.