***A glossary of useful Yale and YDS terminology***

*-prepared for you by the YDS registrar’s office*

**ANS:** Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School, YDS’ newest partner on the quad. The product of a 1965 merger between Andover Theological Seminary, founded in 1807 for the education of Congregational ministers, and Newton Theological Institution, founded in 1825 for the education of Baptist ministers, Andover Newton became affiliated with Yale in 2017.

**The Apartments (Bellamy, Curtis, Fisher):** Built in the ‘50s for the post-war influx of older, married students, this northern-most area of the YDS campus was once lovingly referred to as “the fertile crescent.” Now managed by Yale Graduate Housing, these buildings at 350, 352 and 354 Canner Street feature 85 apartments as well as offices and The Nest daycare center.

**Back buildings/SE Wing:** The part of YDS that sits behind the chapel on the south side of the quad. It is the home to the Center for Faith and Culture, some faculty offices, and classrooms SG54, SG58, S151 and S155.

**BCSP:** YDS’s Black Church Studies program, offering “opportunities for critical reflection and practice among emerging and existing leaders in the Black Church and in the broader community.” As with the denominational studies programs at YDS (Lutheran, Reformed, Methodist, and Roman Catholic, plus BDS and ANS), the BCSP offers a Certificate upon completion.

**BDS:** If you’re an Episcopal student, you will already know this one: Berkeley Divinity School, one of YDS’ partners on the quad. Affiliated with YDS since 1971, it is the only Episcopal seminary to be fully associated with a major research institution.

**The Bowl:** The *Yale* Bowl that is, located to the west of campus off of Route 34. Built in 1914 and listed as a National Historic Landmark, it is home to Yale’s football team. Not to be confused with Yale Bowl*s* – the work of the Yale Provost who handcrafts amazing wooden objects from fallen Yale trees.

**BTFO:** Before the Fall Orientation. Get it? (hint: you are at a Divinity School).

**The Carts:** Hankering for a really good Pad Thai? Need a kati roll on the go? Or need your fix of good-old American BBQ? Take a walk down the hill to the food carts in the parking lot of the Yale Whale (see below). Plentiful food, good variety, reasonable prices. For a change in scenery other food cart communities can be found near the medical school and on Long Wharf.

**Canvas:** Yale’s course management system (you’ve used it for *Diving into Divinity*) You will discover all kinds of cool course resources on a course’s site in Canvas. Your canvas sites for each class will show up once you register for them in OCS (see below) or once you create a Canvas worksheet in Yale Course Search.

**CLC:** YDS’ Community Life Committee, a standing committee of the General Faculty. It is comprised of faculty members, administrators, and student representatives.

**Common Room:** The big room on the second floor above the YDS Student Book Supply. Home to coffee hour, receptions, just plain hanging out, and much of BTFO. Not to be confused with the “Old” Common Room (see below).

**Commons:** Part of the newly opened Schwarzman Center on Beinecke Plaza. Dating to 1901 and once primarily a dining center for undergraduates, this stunningly beautiful, recently renovated space now offers a variety of contemporary dining options to undergraduates, graduate and professional students, faculty, staff and “hungry passersby”. In 2007 it was temporarily converted into the Marshall College library for the filming of one of the chase scenes for the movie *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*.

**Deanery:** The formal “Dean’s residence” at 459 Prospect (just next door to YDS).

**Downtown:** What people at the Divinity School call the rest of Yale, which is (arguably) both closer to the center of New Haven and closer to sea level than YDS.

**FAS:** Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Essentially, Yale College (undergraduates) and the Graduate School.

**FGS:** Faculty Grade Submission. The site that your teachers use to enter your grades. You are able to see your grades about half a day after they are entered, as long as you have completed your course evaluations.

**The 50/50 rule:** YDS policy states that “at least half of each term’s work must be taken in YDS.” Exceptions are made for students whose degree (e.g. the MAR in Asian Religions) requires the study of languages and other coursework not available at YDS but these exceptions *must be requested* of the Academic Dean.

**FSA:** Faculty-Student Advising. This is your adviser’s electronic advising tool. You register through OCS (see below) and your adviser accesses and approves (or not) your registration worksheet through FSA.

**Full-time:** YDS hasdefined nine credits and above as “full-time” for federal financial aid purposes. However, in order to complete the degree in the typical time frame (1 year for the S.T.M., 2 for the M.A.R., and 3 for the M.Div.), students generally need to carry 12 credits per semester. International students must maintain full-time status (at least nine credits) in all but their final semesters.

**Graduate School/Professional School:** Yale University is composed of Yale College, The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the thirteen Professional Schools (including YDS). Therefore, YDS students are identified throughout the University as Professional School students, not Graduate School students. This distinction is particularly important when registering, with forms and transcript requests, and in discussions about school policies and procedures. As a Divinity student you are subject to YDS policies and procedures regardless of the Yale course in which you are enrolled.

**GSAS**: The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (see above)

**GPSS:** The Graduate and Professional Student Senate, meant to be a liaison between the graduate and professional schools and Yale University. The Senate includes representatives from the GSAS (see above) and each of the professional schools. Your GPSS student senators are listed in the Student Government section of the YDS Student Affairs website.

**The Gryphon:** Once called the GPSCY (pronounced like “gypsy”), this establishment began life in the 1970s in the lower level of the Graduate and Professional Student Center at Yale. It includes a Pub, event space, and the chambers for the GPSS (see above) which has managerial responsibilities. All currently enrolled graduate and professional students are considered members of the Gryphon.

**The Hub:** The [Yale Hub](https://yub.yale.edu/) is your one-stop center for links to most of the things important to your academic life at Yale. Use the Hub to access your grades, Canvas course sites, your student account, Commencement info, to-do lists, YDS-specific stuff like the jobs board and reserving space, your own customized links, and more.

**ISM:** Founded in 1973, theInstitute of Sacred Music has grown to become a thriving community for interdisciplinary study of the Arts. Bringing together Music and Divinity students, the ISM offers courses, weekly colloquia, presentations and events. For YDS students, courses are offered in worship, music, literature, and the visual arts and appear as part of the full YDS course offerings.

**Marquand:** Our beloved Chapel, named for its original benefactor 19th Century silversmith and merchant Frederick Marquand. It is home to daily YDS worship, an E.M. Skinner organ, a Baroque-style Taylor and Boody organ, a Hammond B3 organ, the occasional lecture, and many concerts.

**Mory’s:** Abounding ina history that can be traced back to the mid-1800s, this private club is the traditional home to the Yale Whiffenpoofs who still sing there most Monday nights during the school year. It also includes the Temple Bar and Rose Garden for lovely outdoor dining. Membership is available to students for a one-time dues payment of $15 until graduation.

**Nouwen:** The Nouwen Chapel, found in the lower level of the YDS library. This lovely stone chapel is so named for Roman Catholic priest, former YDS professor, and world-renowned author Henri Nouwen who regularly led Sunday evening worship there. The chapel is now used for private devotion and regularly scheduled worship.

**OCE:** Online Course Evaluation. Students enrolled in courses at YDS, and in many other schools and programs at Yale, evaluate their courses electronically. The evaluation period usually begins on the last day of the semester and lasts for one month. YDS students are not able to see course grades until they either complete, or decline to complete, the course evaluation. OCE is accessed through SIS (see below) but you will get weekly prompts once OCE has opened.

**OCS:** Online Course Selection. How students at YDS and many (but not all) other parts of the University register for courses. It’s accessed through SIS (see below). You will not be able to access OCS until the appointed time (usually 9AM) on the first day of online registration for each semester as listed on the Academic Calendar but you can build a draft registration worksheet through Yale Course Search (see below).

**OISS:** The Office of International Students and Scholars. All international students should check in with OISS upon arrival at Yale. OISS not only offers resources about immigration matters, but also resources to support the transition to American academic and social life.

**Old Common Room:** Once the social hub of past generations of YDS students, this space was fully renovated in 2017. That makes it newer than the “new” Common Room, but who’s counting? This space is now used for special events and receptions but is also available during posted hours for studying or meeting/dining in small groups.

**Old Refectory:** Once the primary dining space for the YDS, this completely renovated grand room in the northeast wing is now used mostly for special events and functions.

**PSC:** The Professional Studies committee. With both faculty and student members, this committee hears matters of academic integrity and a wide variety of student petitions.

**Refectory:** Another word for “dining room” in many religious settings like seminaries and monasteries. Located on the second floor down the hall from the Chapel, the Refectory is one of 11 retail dining spaces at Yale operated by Yale Hospitality. Your board fee gives you a declining balance at the Refectory or any other of Yale’s retail dining locations.

**SBS:** YDS’s very own Bookstore. One of the very few remaining independent theological bookstores, the Student Book Supply began its life as a student co-op in 1938.

**Science Hill:**  The long hill of Prospect Street, home of many of the Sciences at Yale (e.g. Kline Biology Tower and Sterling Chemistry Lab), atop which sits (strangely or fittingly, depending on your perspective) the Divinity School. Students are encouraged to go “down the hill” or get “off the hill” by taking courses in other parts of the University or participating in one of the many forms of engagement with the city of New Haven. Not to be confused with “The Hill” which is one of the many New Haven neighborhoods. Also not to be confused with **Science Park**, YDS’ neighbor to the West on the site of the former Winchester Repeating Arms factory. Science Park is now home to a few biotech and technology companies, some Yale offices, [*Fussy Coffee*](https://www.drinkfussycoffee.com/), and some of the [best BBQ around](https://rickydsribshack.com/)!

**SDQ:** Sterling Divinity Quad. Basically, the YDS campus. Built in 1932 and renovated in 2003, the campus was designed by famed early-20th century architect William Adams Delano. If you are familiar with Thomas Jefferson’s University of Virginia campus you will see some similarities and a notable difference: at YDS, the highest point of the quadrangle is not the library but the Chapel.

**Seabury:** Each of the pavilions along the quad is named for a different figure in American Christian history. Seabury Hall is named for Samuel Seabury, the first American Episcopal bishop. First floor Seabury is the home of many of the student services functions (admissions, academic affairs, financial aid, and registrar).

**SFAS:** Student Financial and Administrative Services - which includes the University Registrar’s office, Associated Student Agencies, SIS support, and Student Financial Services (which includes, among other offices, Student Employment and the fine folks to whom you make your tuition and other payments). Most of these offices, at least the ones you will need to deal with in person from time to time, are located at 246 Church Street.

**SHARE:** The Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Education Center at Yale. Located on the lower level of the Yale Health building, SHARE is staffed by Mental Health professionals who are available to members of the Yale community dealing with sexual misconduct of any kind. They offer confidential counseling and crisis support, but also education, advocacy, information, resources, or just conversation.

**SIS:** Student Information Systems. Located at <http://www.yale.edu/sis/>, it is the portal for most of your important student information and services: paying your bill, checking your grades, updating your personal information, evaluating your courses, and ordering pizza (Not really, I just wanted to check to see if you were still reading. But that would be awesome).

**SML:** Sterling Memorial Library. Yale’s main library (which houses about 4 million volumes) built in 1930 and recently renovated. One of several buildings at Yale that looks like a Gothic Cathedral (strangely, the gym is another).

**SOM:** Yale’s School ofManagement, once our neighbor on Prospect Street and now re-located into the big glass building on Whitney Avenue.

**URO**: The University Registrar’s office, which primarily provides registration, transcript, verification, and curriculum services to Yale College and the GSAS. Each Professional School handles these services through its own independent Registrar’s office, but the URO supports some University-wide services (like diplomas) and systems (such as OCS and the Yale Degree Audit).

**YCS:** Yale Course Search**,** located at<https://courses.yale.edu/> can be used to search for courses in many different Yale schools, departments, and semesters. You can also use it to search for courses taught by a particular faculty member or which meet on a particular day or time. There are some courses (in Law and Drama and SOM for instance) that don’t appear in YCS because they are not available to students outside the program or because the registration for those courses requires approval from that program’s Registrar.

**YDSG:** Div-speak for the Yale Divinity Student Government. Check out the YDS Student Affairs website for the full Constitution and Bylaws of the YDSG.

**YSC:** Yale’s Schwarzman Center,at the corner of Prospect and Grove Streets, center for student life and the arts. This newly and massively renovated space offers multiple drinking and dining options, places to meet and study, performance and rehearsal spaces, and Yale’s Good Life Center.

**The Whale:** a.k.a. the David S. Ingalls Rink, so nicknamed because of its distinctive, whale-like, roofline. Designed by renowned architect Eero Saarinen and constructed in 1959, it is the home of the men’s and women’s varsity hockey teams and a number of other hockey and skating groups.

**Yale College:** The undergraduate school at Yale University, founded in 1701 by a group of clergymen “wherein Youth may be instructed in the Arts and Sciences [and] through the blessing of Almighty God may be fitted for Publick employment both in Church and Civil State.” Welcome, YDS students, to your place in the three hundred and twenty-plus year tradition of religious education in America!