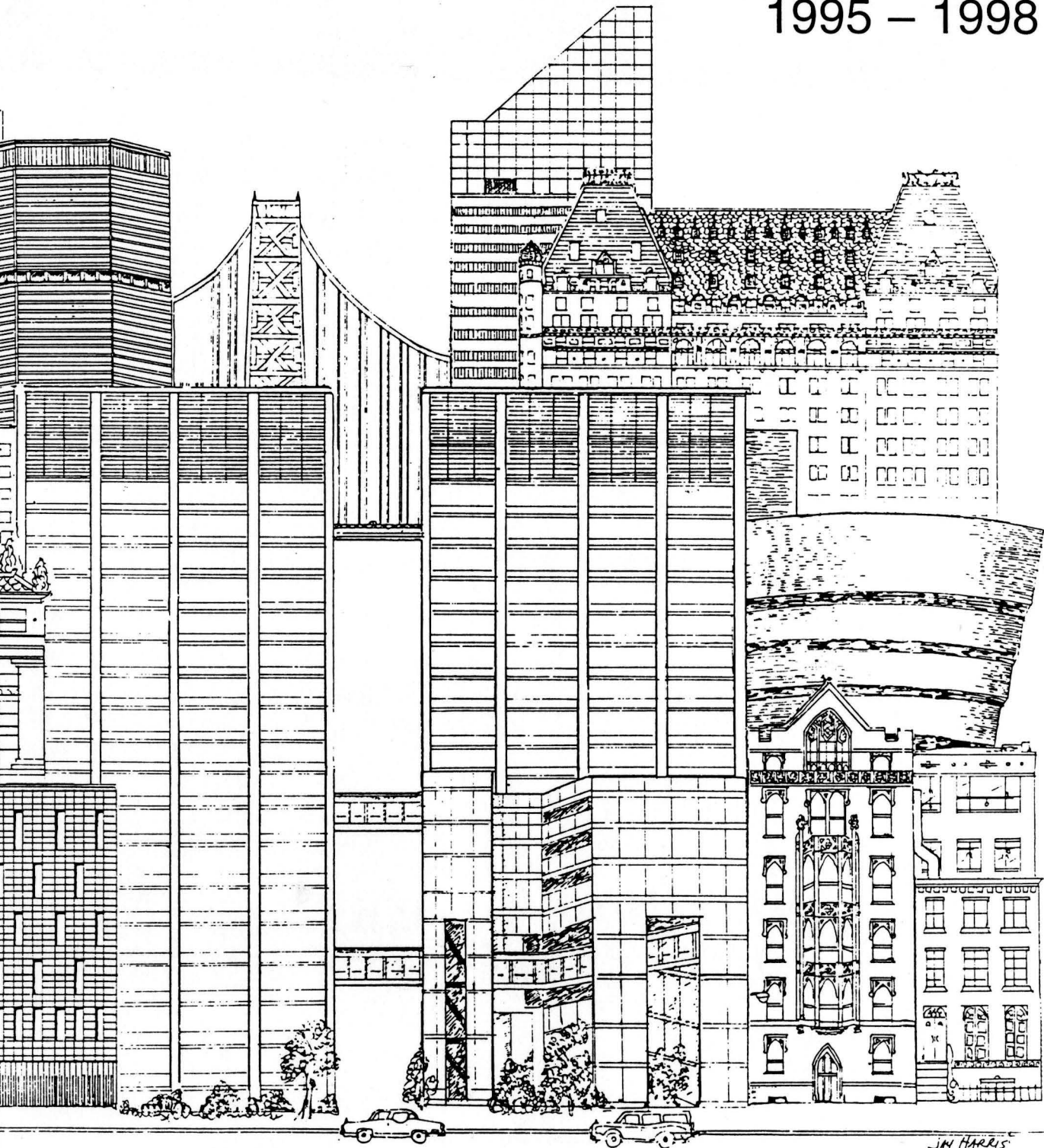


# HUNTER COLLEGE

OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY  
OF NEW YORK



## UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 1995 - 1998



## Hunter College History

Hunter College, the second-oldest college in The City University of New York, is a coeducational, fully accredited college, with a large and diverse faculty in the liberal arts and sciences and in several professional schools. In most of its programs the College offers both undergraduate and graduate degrees.

**The Female Normal and High School:** Hunter, originally called the Female Normal and High School, first opened its doors on Valentine's Day in 1870. Classes met in eight rooms over a carriage shop at Broadway and Fourth Street. One thousand students were enrolled, but the school had only 800 seats and many students were forced to attend part time. A scant five months later, as reported in *The New York Times* July 13, 1870, the "First Commencement of the Institution" was held at the Academy of Music (now known as the Palladium).

*The Times* described the evening's proceedings as "... substantial evidence of the success of the ... College....The graduating class ... numbered ninety-six ... ranged in fair ranks upon the stage and in the parquet ... [C]rowds of spectators [overflowed] into the lobbies and even down the stairways."

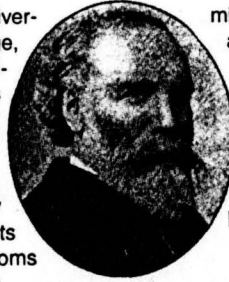
Thomas Hunter, an immigrant from Ireland, and Commissioner William Wood, a member of the Board of Education, had realized their dream of opening a school to prepare young women to teach in the city's public schools. Although New York's public schools were still segregated, Thomas Hunter insisted that the new school admit all young women who qualified—through competitive examinations—regardless of race, religion or social class. The school, said Hunter, "must admit colored and white girls on equal terms."

The Female Normal and High School was the first public school to offer free higher education to women in New York City; as a result, teachers were soon required to be licensed to teach by virtue of having attended the Normal School or an equivalent institution.

The first students to attend the Normal School, girls approximately 14 years of age, read only one textbook for each subject. They were required to study several languages in addition to a wide range of other subjects, including Ancient History, Intellectual Philosophy and Rhetoric, Theory and Practice of Teaching, and Physics and Physiology. The faculty, seven men, including President Hunter, taught the liberal arts and science courses. Lydia Wadleigh, the Lady Superintendent, supervised the tutors and assistants, all of whom were women. They taught Drawing, Bookkeeping and Penmanship and other subjects taught in New York City's primary schools.

There was a librarian — but no library, fifteen minutes of "physical culture" every day — but no gymnasium, and no extracurricular activities. President Hunter believed recreational activities were best confined to home and family and were certainly not a matter for public display. As for strenuous exercise, it was neither healthy nor dignified for adolescent girls. Students whose punctuality was not of the first order were sent to the detention room.

**Public Education and Democracy:** While these proscriptions may seem quaint today, in many ways Thomas Hunter transcended his time. He was a visionary; his ideals continue to define the



THOMAS HUNTER  
First President  
1870 - 1906

mission of Hunter College. He believed in education for girls as well as for boys. He believed in education for service to the community. Most of all, at a time when some opposed public education for the common people because it would "only enlarge their capacity for mischief," he believed in public education as an indispensable bulwark of democracy, the means of giving all children the opportunity and the knowledge needed to enable them to become useful and intelligent citizens.

In 1885 Hunter wrote: "Public schools and liberty are one and inseparable... [T]hey live or die together." Five years later, elaborating on the link that must be forged between education and democracy, he said: "... [W]e must educate the masses if we are to perpetuate a free government among the people."

**Students:** Hunter celebrated its 125th anniversary in 1995. Today, with nearly 20,000 students, Hunter is the largest public college in New York City. The College continues to educate women—still almost 75 percent of the total enrollment—and, since 1951, men.

There are approximately 8,000 full-time undergraduates. An additional 7,000 part-time students are divided between degree and non-degree programs. Over 4,500 graduate students are studying in arts and sciences and teacher education programs and at the Schools of Social Work, Health Sciences, and Nursing.

Reflecting recent demographic shifts that once again have changed the face of New York, Hunter's student body is more diverse than ever. Hunter students come from 84 countries and speak some 40 languages. And today's students have much in common with earlier Hunter graduates. Many are the children of immigrants; in many cases, they are the first in their family to attend college. Most Hunter students work, some hold more than one job.

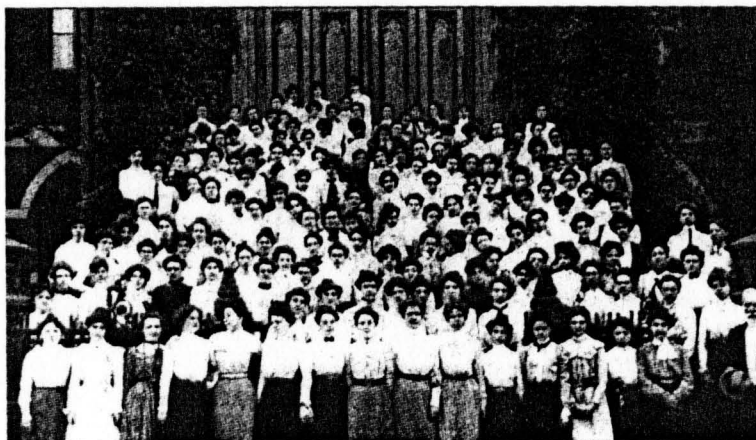
Epitomizing Thomas Hunter's ideal of learning for service to the community, many leave successful careers and enroll at Hunter because they want to help others; they strive to become teachers, nurses, research scientists, urban planners and therapists.

And Thomas Hunter's unequivocal support of equal access for all is still the basis for admission to Hunter: minorities make up more than half the College's undergraduate population and Hunter ranks high among all U.S. colleges in the number of master's degrees earned by minority students. Although the College is no longer tuition-free, it continues to fulfill Thomas Hunter's mandate to make education available to all.

The College is anchored by the main campus at 68th Street and Lexington Avenue, a modern complex of four buildings interconnected by skywalks. The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, one of the nation's largest nursing programs, and the School of Health Sciences, noted for its outstanding programs in communication sciences, community health, and physical therapy, are located on East 25th Street. The Hunter College School of Social Work, recently listed among the top ten schools of its kind in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*, is uptown, at East 79th Street. The Campus Schools at Park Avenue and 94th Street — an elementary school and a high school for the gifted — are renowned, as is the College itself, for their tradition of academic excellence.

**Programs** Hunter College offers more than 90 undergraduate programs and more than 50 graduate programs. The library, a nine-story, state-of-the-art facility, houses 750,000 books and subscribes to more than 2,000 periodicals. Recently new computer, multimedia and Internet labs were installed, and the first CD-ROM network was created. The CD-ROM network provides access to indexes, abstracts, and complete texts and multimedia resources. Access to the information superhighway is available through Internet labs.

Long known for its distinguished liberal arts and sciences curriculum, Hunter also prepares its students for careers in almost every conceivable field, offering courses from art and biological sciences to urban affairs and women's studies. Hunter students are admitted to medical schools at a rate 25 percent higher than the national norm; the



*The class of 1901*

percentage of those admitted to law school is even higher. Hunter graduates win many coveted prizes and awards, including Fulbright and Mellon fellowships and Howard Hughes Predoctoral Fellowships, and they are accepted into graduate programs at the nation's most prestigious universities.

Unlike those enrolled in the Normal College who were admonished to confine their extracurricular activities and strenuous exercise to their homes, today's students can participate in more than 150 clubs and many sports. Hunter offers what is widely considered the premier athletic program in The City University of New York. Hunter's softball, tennis, and men's and women's volleyball teams consistently win CUNY championships. Since 1990, Hunter's sports teams have captured more than 20 CUNY Athletic Conference championships. And in

## HUNTER COLLEGE 1870-1995

### *Origins and Milestones*



*The Normal College of the City of New York, East Fourth Street, corner of Broadway, as shown in the Manual of the City of New York in 1870.*

**May 8, 1847** The Free Academy is established for males (it is renamed City College of New York in 1948).

**November - December 1869** The Board of Education votes to establish the Female Normal and High School.

**December 1, 1869** Thomas Hunter is appointed first President.

**February 14, 1870** First classes are held in rented premises above a carriage shop at 694 Broadway.

**April 26, 1870** State Legislature changes name of the Female Normal and High School to Normal College of the City of New York.

**May 1870** New York City grants the Normal College land on Fourth Avenue (later renamed Park Avenue), between 68th and 69th Streets, for the construction of a permanent building.

**July 12, 1870** First Commencement.

**March 19, 1872** Cornerstone of Park Avenue Building is laid.

**June 29, 1872** Inaugural meeting of the Associate Alumnae.

**October 29, 1873** Normal College on Park Avenue opens and is formally dedicated.

**1887** The first tuition-free public kindergarten in the U.S. is established at the Normal College

**March 12, 1888** Normal College is closed by 22-inch blizzard.

**June 19, 1888** New York State Legislature gives the Normal College the right to grant degrees.

**December 19, 1888** "... the salaries of ... teachers in the Training Department [have] been increased to \$500 each per annum...."

**1889** The Associate Alumnae is incorporated.

**April 1889** The Alpha Beta Gamma and the Philomathean chapters jointly produce the *Echo*, the first undergraduate publication, which appears until 1966.

**June 23, 1892** First BA degree— (non-regents accredited)— conferred.

**1894** The Normal College accepts the Associate Alumnae Library as a gift.

**1902** The annual yearbook edition of the *Echo* becomes the *Wistarion* yearbook.

**June 1902** This graduating class is the first to wear academic caps and gowns.

**1903** High school and college courses separated.

**1906** President Thomas Hunter retires.

**December 23, 1908** State recognition of Normal College BA makes degree equal to degrees awarded at other women's colleges.

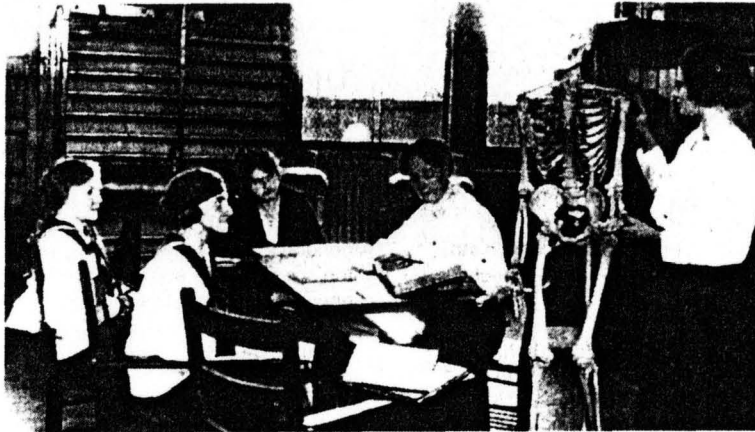
**June 1909** Faculty marches in full academic regalia at commencement for the first time.

**1911-1912** Student Council is established.

**1913** A new six-story structure (later renamed Thomas Hunter Hall) is built on Lexington Avenue.

1993, Hunter teams won renown for an unprecedented feat; both the men's and women's basketball teams were CUNY champions.

**Community Service:** Hunter serves New York—and the nation—by giving its students a first-rate education. It also serves through specialized programs such as the Public Service Scholar Program, which places students in internship positions in non-profit and government agencies. Students act as tutors, peer counselors, and translators in city hospitals that serve the city's new immigrant population. The College's highly regarded research centers and institutes are also noted for the cutting-edge work they do. These centers include the Brookdale Center on Aging, the Center on AIDS, Drugs, and Community Health, the Center for Occupational and



*Anatomy and Physiology Class, Ca. 1919*

Environmental Health, the Center for the Study of Family Policy, Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, and the Institute for Biomolecular Structure and Function.

**Faculty:** The small faculty assembled by Thomas Hunter in 1870 has grown to a roster of almost 1,300 extraordinarily accomplished men and women, full- and part-time faculty, who have brought luster to the College by their many scholarly, artistic and scientific achievements.

Hunter's faculty has included many distinguished scholars, educators, and creative artists, all greatly esteemed in their fields; many of them are well known to the public at large. Among the latter are authors Irving Howe, Alfred Kazin, and Philip Roth, poet (and Hunter alumna) Audre Lorde, actress Claire Bloom, director Harold Clurman,

**April 4, 1914** State Legislature authorizes change of college name to Hunter College of The City of New York.

**July 1916** First Summer Session.

**February 1917** First Evening and Extension Sessions.

**1919** The Alumnae open a Bureau of Occupations, which later becomes the Career Counseling and Placement Bureau.

**February 1920** The Bronx Branch is established.

**February 11, 1920** A Phi Beta Kappa chapter is established.

**September 8, 1921** Graduate programs are introduced at Hunter College.

**February 1925** The Brooklyn Branch is established.

**February 1926** The Queens Branch is established.

**May 26, 1926** Mayor Walker calls first meeting of the Board of Higher Education.

**1929-1933** The Bronx Campus (later to become Lehman College) is constructed.

**February 14, 1936** The main building of Hunter College at Park Avenue and 68th Street is destroyed by fire.

**April 6, 1937** Board of Higher Education authorizes the creation of Queens College.

**1938** President Colligan introduces the present organization of the faculty and departments.

**October 8, 1940** New building dedicated at Park Avenue and 68th Street.

**1940** Franklin Delano Roosevelt dedicates performing arts centers at Hunter.

**November 22, 1943** Roosevelt House is dedicated as the first collegiate interfaith center in the nation.

**February 1943 to December 1945** Bronx Campus is turned over to the Navy as a training center for 80,000 WAVES. GI Bill of Rights brings men to the main campus.

**March 4, 1946** The first regular session of the U.N. Council and General Assembly is held at Bronx Campus.

**March 30, 1948** Teacher Education Program is established.

**1949** The Alumnae Association initiates a Scholarship and Welfare Fund.

**September 14, 1951** First coeducational registration is held at Hunter in the Bronx.

**February 1, 1956** The Louis M. Rabinowitz School of Social Work (later to become the Hunter College School of Social Work) is established.

**September 1, 1961** The City University of New York is established.

**September 14, 1964** First coeducational registration is held at Park Avenue Campus.

**July 17, 1967** The Bellevue-Mills School of Nursing is transferred to Hunter College.

**July 1, 1968** The Institute of Health Sciences is established.

**July 1, 1968** Lehman College, formerly Hunter College in the Bronx, gains independent status.

**March 5, 1969** The School of Social Work opens on East 79th Street.

**September 1969** The Institute of Health Sciences commences operations in conjunction with the Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

**1976** Tuition is imposed at The City University of New York.

**1977** Nobel Prize winner in medicine: Rosalyn Yalow, Hunter alumna (1941).

**1983** President Donna Shalala inaugurates the opening of the East and West buildings.

**1988** Nobel Prize winner in medicine: Gertrude Elion, Hunter alumna (1937).

**November 8, 1993** The Sylvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse opens.

**February 14, 1995** Hunter College celebrates its 125th anniversary.

painter Robert Motherwell, singer Russell Oberlin, sculptor Tony Smith, and composer Louise Talma.

In 1993-1994, the faculty's creativity and expertise, recognized by foundations and governmental agencies at all levels, brought the College a record \$25 million in grants and awards.

**Alumni:** Hunter is the only college in the country whose roster of alumni includes two female Nobel laureates, Gertrude B. Elion and Rosalyn Sussman Yalow, both winners of the Nobel Prize for Medicine. Among Hunter's other celebrated alumni are opera stars Martina Arroyo and Regina Resnik, authors Naomi H. Bliven, Evan Hunter, Bel Kaufman, Leonard Kriegel, and Kate Simon, columnist Sylvia F. Porter, Congresswoman Bella S. Abzug, film critic Judith Crist and architecture critic Ada Louise Huxtable, historian Lucy S. Dawidowicz, actress Ruby Dee, dancer/anthropologist Pearl Primus, educator Joseph Shenker, business executive Helen Galland Loewus, psychologist Rose N. Franzblau and psychiatrist Avodah K. Offit, and journalists Jack Newfield, Philip Shabecoff, and Kathleen Teltsch.

**The Performing Arts:** The commitment to excellence that has always been the hallmark of a Hunter education extends to the performing arts. From 1943 until 1975, when the Hunter College Concert Bureau was closed during the city's fiscal crisis, Hunter's major performance spaces at the Lexington Avenue campus provided the city with a premier center for outstanding theatre, music and dance. Those who appeared at Hunter under the aegis of the bureau constitute a who's who of the world's greatest artists. Since the opening of The Sylvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse in 1993, Hunter is well on its way to serving the city once again as a center for preeminent cultural and educational events.

In its splendid record of affording access and its emphasis on and dedication to excellence and service, Hunter College has kept faith with its founder. Hunter is, in his words, "an institution [that is] ... a credit to the city that supports it."

## Hunter College and the Aims of Education

A liberal education should help men and women to bring a rich and informed sense of the possibilities of humanity to their careers, to their public responsibilities, and to their personal lives. This goal is basic to Hunter's educational philosophy.

Hunter College is a major educational center in The City University of New York system. CUNY, which brings together all the City's senior and community colleges, was formed in 1961. CUNY is governed by the Board of Trustees, which sets the general policies and rules the operation of the separate colleges. Within this common framework, each college selects its own faculty and constructs its own programs in accordance with its particular educational aims and its understanding of the way these can best be achieved with its students.

Hunter offers training in both the sciences and the humanities, and schooling in a number of professional fields. As they work toward their career goals, students are expected to reach a broader understanding of the place of their chosen fields of study and work in the wider realms of knowledge and of society. The Hunter College Senate has articulated this goal in a recent policy statement:

"While preparation for specific careers is actively encouraged in many programs," the Senate statement declares, "the fundamental aim of the college experience as a whole is to develop a student's rational, critical, and creative powers. Such development involves the abilities to conceptualize and analyze, to relate the concrete and particular to the abstract and general, and to think and write

logically and coherently. It also includes a broadening and deepening of outlook: an awareness of one's own and other cultures as well as the enduring questions—and answers—concerning being, purpose, and value that have already confronted humanity. And it encourages the heightening of aesthetic sensibility and intellectual imagination. Finally, the educational experience at Hunter is intended to inspire a zest for continued learning as well as to bring the recognition that learning is pleasurable and knowledge is useful."

## The Academic Program

**The undergraduate programs** lead to the degrees of bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, bachelor of fine arts, and bachelor of music. Each program of study provides students with skills to attain competence in a specialized field as well as a foundation of general knowledge. The fields of concentration may be chosen from the general areas of the fine arts, the humanities, the language arts, the sciences, the social sciences, and the applied arts and sciences. The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing and the School of Health Sciences, among the nation's largest schools educating health-related professionals, offer both undergraduate and graduate programs.

**The Evening Session** serves students pursuing an undergraduate degree primarily but not exclusively after 5 pm. Full-time or part-time, such students seek class hours that do not conflict with employment and family responsibilities. The evening session director coordinates student services and academic programs for these students. Non-degree students in the evening session are those who, because they already have a degree or for other reasons, are taking courses but do not intend to pursue a degree program.

**Graduate students** may matriculate for any one of over 40 master's degree programs in the arts and sciences, education, the School of Health Sciences, the School of Nursing, and the School of Social Work. In addition, the graduate program in teacher education includes courses leading to post-master's certificates in several different areas. Details of the graduate programs are available in the offices of the divisional and school deans of each area, as well as in the Wexler Library.

**The International English Language Institute** offers beginner to advanced level courses in English as a second language to students from all over the world. Classes are held in the morning, afternoon, evening, and on Saturdays. Full-time and part-time programs are available in the day and evening. Part-time programs are available evenings and Saturdays. Preparation courses for the CUNY Reading and Writing Assessment Tests, as well as the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), are available to advanced level students. Students who successfully complete the Institute's most advanced levels and who meet all other academic admission requirements, are not required to take TOEFL for admission to undergraduate programs in The City University of New York. The IELI phone number is (212) 772-4290.

**The Hunter College Elementary School** (nursery, kindergarten, and grades 1-6) and **The Hunter College High School** (grades 7-12), both coeducational, serve as demonstration schools and research facilities for the teacher education program. Student teacher placements, and observations are done at the school.

## ACCREDITATION

Hunter is fully accredited by The Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York, The Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the National Council of Accredi-