THE BASS CONNECTIONS MODEL

THREE CORE CONNECTIONS

RESEARCH

Across areas of disciplinary expertise

TEAMWORK

Across learner levels

IMPACT

Between the academy and the world
6 Interdisciplinary Themes

- Race & Society (@SSRI)
- Brain & Society (@DIBS)
- Energy & Environment (@NIEES)
- Information, Society & Culture (@Rhodes iiD)
- Health Policy & Innovation (@Duke-Margolis)
- Global Health (@DGHI)

+ Bass Connections Open
THEME LEADERS & ADMINISTRATORS

Brain & Society
Len White (Neurology)
Nicole Schramm-Sapyta (Duke Institute for Brain Sciences)
Antonia Terrazas (Bass Connections)

Energy & Environment
Luana Lima (Nicholas School of the Environment)
Bryan Koen (Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment & Sustainability)
Colleen Nieto (Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment & Sustainability)

Information, Society & Culture
Robert Calderbank (Computer Science; Rhodes iiD)
Phil Stern (History)
Meghan O’Neil (Bass Connections)

Global Health
Charlie Nunn (Evolutionary Anthropology)
Gavin Yamey (Duke Global Health Institute)
Lysa MacKeen (Duke Global Health Institute)

Race & Society
Tyson Brown (Sociology)
Antonia Terrazas (Bass Connections)

Health Policy & Innovation
Beth Gifford (Sanford School of Public Policy)
Tiffany Chan (Margolis Center for Health Policy)

Central Program Office & Open Teams
Ed Balleisen (VPro for Interdisc. Studies)
Laura Howes (Director)
Meghan O’Neil (Associate Director)
Sarah Dwyer (Communications)
Antonia Terrazas (Program Coordinator)
### Project Teams

- 67 teams in 2023-24: 460 undergraduates; 160 graduate students; 205 faculty leaders; majority of teams w/ external partners

### Courses

- ~ 50 affiliated courses incorporating collaborative, project work
- Collaborative Project Courses Faculty Fellows Program

### Summer Research Experiences

- Summer “Plus Programs”
- Summer Neuroscience Program
- Global Health Student Research Training Program

### Linked Experiences & Capstone Work

- Student research awards
- DukeEngage, DukeImmerse
- Master’s projects
GENERAL OPERATING PRINCIPLES FOR TEAMS

• **Length:** 9 to 12 months (with possibility of continuing)

• **Course credit:** Tutorial or research independent study
  • Exceptions: advanced graduate students; no-credit options
  • Workload = 12 hours per week
  • [Grading practices and rubrics](#)

• **Team meetings:**
  • At least once a week
  • **Set time in advance!** (try to avoid spanning multiple [class periods](#))
  • Space
ELEMENTS OF TEAM SUCCESS

1. Team structure and layered mentorship models
   - Intact team vs. sub-team models
   - Project managers
   - Differentiated roles for graduate students (sub-team leads, technical leads)

2. Foundation setting
   - Start on IRB early
   - Resources to help students get up-to-speed
   - Assignment to jump start the year
   - Team building

3. Clear expectations for participation and engagement
   - Project goals and expectations template with grading rubric
   - Team ground rules
4. Shared, clearly defined goals, roles and timelines
   - Team charter and project plan
   - Expect student initiative/ownership but provide scaffolding
   - Team and individual goals

5. Regularly scheduled and well-organized meetings
   - Use time to tackle group issues; not just reporting out/lecture
   - Assign shared ownership of meetings; roles
   - Action items and follow-up

6. Team leader engagement and partnership
   - Team leaders attend meetings
   - Team leaders communicate shared messages to students
7. Outputs and Outcomes:
   - Your team defines success; failure (of outcomes) is an option
   - Outputs and outcomes can be creative and wide-ranging

8. Opportunities for reflection and presentation
   - Blogs, journals, portfolios
   - Formal and informal presentations

Output Examples
- New service delivery models
- Publications, policy/white papers
- Conferences/events
- Prototypes
- Algorithms
- Data collection/analysis
- Exhibits
- Websites
- Grant submissions
- Oral histories
BASIC EXPECTATIONS

• Successful recruitment of at least 5 students (inc. undergrads)
• Meet student selection deadlines
• Faculty leaders should be regularly engaged; Project managers should complement not replace faculty engagement
• Notify us of travel involving students 4 to 6 weeks in advance
• Notify us of roster changes
• Communicate with us about issues and successes
• Follow standard academic policies
• Stay within budget
• Recognize the program in publications, conferences, etc. (“Bass Connections” – not BASS)
• Participate in the Bass Connections showcase & end of year survey and outcome reporting
STUDENT RECRUITMENT

• Student applications: Jan. 16 to Feb. 12
• Bass Connections Student Fair: Jan. 26
• Application review/interviews: Feb. 13 to March 6
• First round offers: by March 8
• Students respond to offers/offers to waitlisted candidates: March 9-30
• All student selection completed: by March 31
STUDENT INQUIRIES: QUESTIONS TO PREPARE FOR

• What types of skills/backgrounds are you seeking for the team?
• What roles do you envision for students? How will students contribute?
• When and how will the team meet?
• Does your project include summer research? **If yes:** Is it mandatory?
• Does the project include travel? **If yes:** Will all students have the opportunity to travel? When will travel take place?
• Do you have paid roles for graduate students (e.g., project manager/TAs)?
• Do I have to participate the whole year? What if I’m studying abroad?
• Will I receive credit? What is the time commitment?
SETTING EXPECTATIONS EARLY

• Set a meeting time before forming the team or before student registration

• Consider using interviews to provide students a “realistic job preview”

• Consider a spring kick-off meeting

• Set clear expectations for attendance at meetings and participation on the team

• Don’t oversell
FINANCE

• Funding period: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025
• Themes will provide a designated fund code
• Transactions processed by faculty’s home departments
• Students generally set up on department payrolls
  • May not pay *and* offer credit for same work
  • Advise discussing offers to PhD students w/student’s DGS/DGSA
• May not charge unbudgeted faculty/staff time w/out approval
• Unspent funds will be returned at end of year; extensions available for continuing work with students
• Be mindful of asking students to incur expenses
RESOURCES

- Team Resource Center
- Grading and Crediting Guidance
- Student & Team Leader Policies & Expectations
- Project Manager Trainings & Resources
- Grant support: Office of Campus Research Development or SOM Office of Research Development

Duke Libraries:
- Workshops
- Subject matter and research specialists
- Data consulting; Data visualization & digital project support

Social Science Research Institute:
- ModU (videos on social science research methods)
- Data security and management
- Workshops and custom training/consulting
CPC FELLOWS PROGRAM

• **Deadline:** Feb 12 at 5 p.m.

• **Program Dates:** May 2024 – December 2024

• **Benefits:**
  
  • Support and guidance from pedagogy experts
  
  • Space and time to think creatively about course design
  
  • Engagement with a cohort of other faculty
  
  • $5,000 in funding + option for additional graduate student support

• **Learn more:** [https://bassconnections.duke.edu/collaborative-project-courses-faculty-fellows-program](https://bassconnections.duke.edu/collaborative-project-courses-faculty-fellows-program)