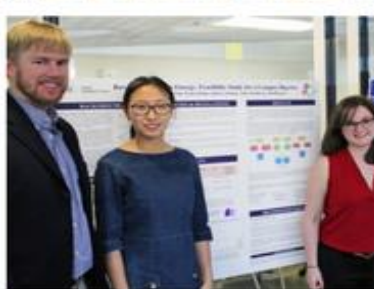


Duke



BASS CONNECTIONS

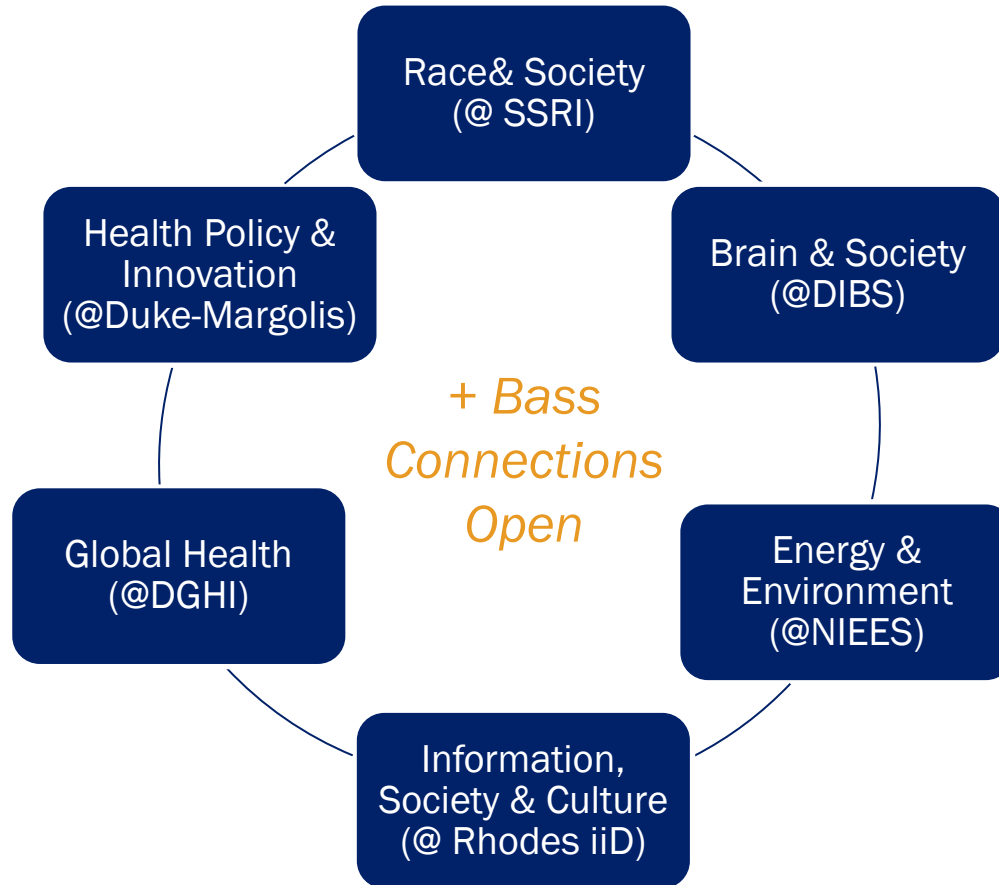


The Bass Connections Model

THREE CORE CONNECTIONS



6 Interdisciplinary Themes



Theme Leaders & Administrators

Brain & Society

Nicole Schramm-Sapyta (Duke Institute for Brain Sciences)

Kelly Harrison (Bass Connections)

Kate Sullivan

Energy & Environment

Luana Lima (Nicholas School of the Environment)

Bryan Koen (NIEES)

Colleen Nieto (NIEES)

Katie Cloud

Information, Society & Culture

Robert Calderbank (Computer Science; Rhodes iiD)

Phil Stern (History)

Liana Coste-Gaton (Bass Connections)

Global Health

Charlie Nunn (Evolutionary Anthropology)

Lysa MacKeen (Duke Global Health Institute)

Race & Society

Tyson Brown (Sociology)

Kelly Harrison (Bass Connections)

Kate Sullivan

Health Policy & Innovation

Beth Gifford (Sanford School of Public Policy)

Tiffany Chan (Margolis Center for Health Policy)

Central Program Office & Open Teams

Ed Balleisen (VP for Interdisc. Studies)

Laura Howes (AVP for Interdisc. Studies)

Meghan O'Neil (Associate Director)

Kelly Harrison (Sr. Program Coordinator)

Kelly Quesnel (Finance)

Project Teams

- 78 teams in 2024-25: 650 undergraduates; 200 graduate students; 250 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](#)

Elements of Team Success



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

Elements of Team Success



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)
- 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. 15 to Feb. 10
- Bass Connections Student Fair: Jan. 24
- Application review/interviews: Feb. 11 to March 5
- First round offers: by March 6
- Students respond to offers/offers to waitlisted candidates: March 7-30
- All student selection completed: by March 31

DKU Students

Can apply if: 1) they will be at Duke for one semester, or 2) there is a DKU co-leader.

Not eligible for credit if participating from DKU with no DKU co-leader.

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, 2025 - June 30, 2026
- 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](#)
- [CTSI Facilitated Collaboration Planning Workshop](#)
- 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