The Integrated Sciences First-Year Program (ISFP) is a new initiative at Hampshire College designed to challenge students to learn about complex systems and systems thinking, improve quantitative skills, make connections among fields of science, develop innovative collaborative projects, and create a vibrant science community. Currently the program is using the Hampshire College Kern Center, built to the living building challenge standard, as a case study. There are three parts to the program: collaborative courses, student design projects, and a summer research experience.

To join the program please register for one of the three listed collaborative courses. Students will meet twice a week to explore the science behind the systems of the living building in their specific discipline. Once a week all three classes (NS132, NS140 and NS143) will meet together to complete interdisciplinary projects, share expertise, and form a collaborative science learning community. Students will read and share primary literature and work collaboratively on projects. We will learn about the campus living building from the architects and design engineers, take field tours, and meet faculty across campus engaged with the project.

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