Aggie Advising Registration Support FAQ's

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Course Registration

What is a Registration Pass Time?

Registration takes place during two intervals called "Passes." Undergraduate students are assigned an appointment time during each of the two passes. Each pass appointment is the start of a four-hour window during which students can register for classes. You can find your pass time on OASIS.ucdavis.edu and at the top of your schedule builder. After this four-hour window, students have access to register during Open Hours. For additional details visit: https://registrar.ucdavis.edu/registration/register/pass-times.

I was preparing to register for classes and noticed that all the classes I need have ZERO seats left. What should I do?

You are experiencing an administrative process called "seat release". As our incoming first year and transfer students get ready to register for classes, the university works with the academic colleges to reserve open spaces in courses and release a portion of open seats just prior to each registration window. This is the reason you may be seeing "Zero" available seats in a course. You will be able to see accurate seat numbers an hour before your registration pass time.

I am registering for Fall courses and my major courses are full. What should I do?

While 2 STEM courses along with some General Education (GE) courses may have been recommended to you for fall, it is okay to take 1 STEM course or all GE courses your first quarter. Doing so will not delay your graduation timeline. Please utilize the lower division GE list found on BASC's Newly Admitted Students Webpage to identify additional GE courses to enroll in. Once you are enrolled in at least 12 units during Pass 1, you can plan to waitlist a major course during Pass 2.

Can I plan to enroll in 1-2 courses in Pass 1 and just waitlist my major courses in Pass 2?

No. Prioritize enrollment in 12-16 units during Pass 1 even if this includes all GE courses. You can waitlist major courses during Pass 2, but you should be enrolled in at least 12 units without waitlisted courses. This will ensure that you are on track to graduate in 4 years by securing full-time status at UCD and if you are a financial aid recipient, to ensure financial aid disbursement in a timely manner.

Can I enroll in more than 15 Units my first quarter at UCD?

A well balanced, first-quarter schedule will have anywhere between 12-16 units. Although we are confident in your academic abilities, successful UC Davis students allow themselves time to adjust to their new academic environment and make a smooth transition to their first quarter at UCD. If you do exceptionally well your first quarter and you obtain stellar grades, there are at least 11 other quarters during which you can adjust your course load as needed!

I have a hold on my account. What should I do?

Registration holds are placed for various reasons: non-payment of fees, missing immunizations, and academic issues. The unit that placed the hold is the only one that can remove it. You can find information about your hold on the academic record tab on OASIS.ucdavis.edu. In the advising portal, you can also find instructions on how to remove your hold to register for classes. If the instructions are confusing, not to worry! You can always get in touch with the unit that placed the hold. For additional information, please visit: https://registrar.ucdavis.edu/registration/schedule/holds.

Can I take courses Pass/No Pass? How do I do this? Can I take major courses Pass/No Pass?

You can take up to 1/3 of your courses Pass/No Pass, however, no CBS major courses may be taken Pass/No Pass unless this is the only grade mode available. Be sure to discuss the pros and cons of Pass/No Pass with your major advisor. To select Pass/No Pass for a course, go to Schedule Builder, click the edit button next to "Letter Grading," click the drop-down menu, and opt-in for "Optional Pass/No Pass."

Can I take Upper Division courses my first quarter?

If you are a first year (not transfer) student, no, you should not take Upper Division courses (numbered above 99) during your first quarter at UC Davis. Please work with an advisor to discuss your academic interests and goals in this regard.

What are virtual/hybrid classes?

Virtual courses are completely online and will have a "V" at the end of the course number. Hybrid courses are a mix of online and in-person and will have a "Y" at the end. If you are on a student visa, you must take at least 9 units "on-ground" each quarter. The rest can be online.

What is the last day to remove classes from my schedule?

You can drop courses from your schedule according to their drop deadline, which you can find on schedule builder. Some classes have a 10-day or even 20-day drop deadline after the first day of instruction.

Schedule Builder

Some courses have a "Consent of Instructor Required" on Schedule Builder. How do I enroll in those classes?

You can contact the instructor listed to teach the course via email to obtain their written consent to enroll in the class. You can find the instructor contact information by doing a quick online search or by using the UCD people search tool: https://directory.ucdavis.edu/directory/PeopleSearch.htm

How do I use the "Swap Section" feature on Schedule Builder?

Under Actions on schedule Builder, select Swap Section/Course. Find the new section of the same course or another course to add and select Swap.

- If seats are available in the new section/course, the old one will be dropped and enrollment in the new section/course will occur simultaneously.
- If you cannot register for the new section/course because it is full and you selected the allow wait listing option, you will be dropped from the previous section/course and placed on the waitlist for the new section/course.

- If you cannot register for the new section/course because it is full and you did NOT allow wait listing, nothing will change with your course registration.

- If you cannot register for the new section/course because of registration errors, such as restrictions, nothing will change with your course registration.

What happens if I enroll in a class with "TBA" for timings and the timings later end up clashing with another class?

You will have to adjust your schedule then! but it is very common for students to enroll in TBA courses they really like and wait to see how they will be scheduled by the department.

I am trying to register for a class, but schedule builder says I don't have the pre-requisite(s) needed to enroll. I took the pre-requisite(s) at my Community College. What's going on?

If the system does not recognize that a prerequisite is satisfied, submit a prerequisite petition through Schedule Builder. Otherwise, you will not be able to enroll in the course.

If you think you have completed all the prerequisites, you can provide an explanation on the petition along with supporting documentation and submit it for evaluation during your pass time. After submission, if you have no other enrollment restrictions, you can then register for the course. The instructor will decide if you provided sufficient evidence to satisfy the prerequisite. If the instructor requires additional information, he/she can email you. Once the instructor has decided on your petition, an email notification is sent to you. Any questions or concerns regarding the status of your prerequisite petition should be directed to your instructor.

Placement Exams, AP/IB Scores, and Transfer Credit

What do I do if I have not taken the math or chem placement exam?

For some CBS majors, you do not need to take math the first quarter, and for some, you don't even have to take Chemistry the first quarter. Do plan to take the placement exam, though. You can find all the information here:

The Math Placement Examination is only available online. There will be two testing sessions per quarter (Fall, Winter, Spring), and a student may only take it once per testing session. For additional information, visit: https://www.math.ucdavis.edu/undergrad/math_placement/

The Chemistry Placement Exam is only available online. The exam may be taken twice per quarter, but only once per testing session. For more information, check: https://chemistry.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate/general-chemistry-series/chemistry-placementrequirements

I have scores from AP/IB exams; where can I see what credit I get and if I can take the course at UC Davis?

AP Chart

IB Chart

I have AP or IB credit for MAT 17A/MAT 21A and/or CHE 2A can I skip these courses at UC Davis?

We strongly recommend not skipping these courses. Taking these courses will help you to have a stronger foundation for the next course in the series. Also, many health profession programs may not accept AP or IB credit to meet admission prerequisites for their programs. You can check with the Health Professions Advising (HPA) office for more information about admission prerequisites for health profession programs.

Can my AP/IB scores be used to fulfill my General Education (GE) requirements?

No, UC Davis policy does not allow AP or IB scores to fulfill GE requirements. However, Lower Division English Composition may be fulfilled with an AP or IB score.

General Education (GE), Entry Level Writing, and English Composition

How do I fulfill my GE requirements?

Please refer to GE requirements in Aggie 101. There are two points to keep in mind, however, as you register for your first quarter:

1. Your major coursework as a CBS Student will satisfy the Topical Breadth area of Science and Engineering, as well as the Core Literacies Oral Skill, Visual Literacy, Quantitative Literacy, and Scientific Literacy. We recommend for a balanced first-quarter schedule two major courses and two Arts and Humanities (AH) or Social Sciences (SS) courses.
2. If a GE course you are taking satisfies both a topical breadth and core literacies requirement, it can be counted towards one of each. However, overlap isn't allowed within core literacies or topical breadth components.

Ex: If a course you are taking fulfills AH, SS, WE, and DD, you can choose one topical breadth and one core literacies requirement to fulfill. Therefore, you could get credit for AH and WE, AH and DD, SS and WE OR SS and DD.

If you are a transfer student and attended a California Community College (CC), chances are you have heard about IGETC (Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum). If this is something you worked toward and completed at CC, GREAT! Your GEs are 100% satisfied through your IGETC. We must just make sure that we have the IGETC on file for you before your graduate. With a partial IGETC, you will still need to complete one or two GE courses. Once you start classes this fall, make sure to connect with an academic advisor in BASC to go over recommendations to complete your IGETC.

I have an IGETC, can I take three major courses my first quarter at UC Davis?

We strongly recommend you take no more than two major courses your first quarter to UC Davis as you transition to the campus and the courses. We recommend taking a non-STEM elective and a one- or two-unit seminar/ BioLaunch course with your major courses.

What do I do if I have not fulfilled my Entry Level Writing Requirement?

To satisfy your Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR), you must take and pass an ELWR approved course. These courses include:

- UWP7
- UWP 7M (for multilingual students)
- UWP 1A (take while also enrolled in UWP 1)
- ENL 3A (take while also enrolled in ENL 3)
- NAS 5A (take while also enrolled in NAS 5)

Depending on your Writing Placement (https://elw.ucdavis.edu/writingplacement) results, you may be required to take UWP 21 and/or 22 before taking one of the ELWR-completing courses.

For more information, check https://elw.ucdavis.edu/elwr-at-davis

What classes can I take to fulfill the English Composition requirement?

To fulfill the lower-division English composition requirement for the college, you can take COM 1-4; ENL 3; UWP 1 (including 1V or 1Y), 18, 19; or NAS 5.

To fulfill the upper-division English composition requirement, you can take UWP 101, the 102 series or the 104 series. Or you can pass the English Composition Exam after completing 70 units.

There is no time period regarding when you need to fulfill this requirement, just by the time you graduate. Most students fulfill the lower-division part within first two years at UC Davis.

Change of Major

How do I change my major within CBS? If I want to change my major, should I take courses for my current major or the major I want to switch into?

You may be eligible to change your major after your first quarter at UCD pending your intended major requirements for a change of major. All first year and transfer students must obtain a UC GPA before changing majors. It is recommended to discuss your change of major plans with your intended major advisor for further guidance.

Undeclared Life Science students who want to stay in CBS (not sure of major or exploring CBS majors) can take a combo of two major courses from MAT 17A, BIS 2B, CHE 2A, a GEs course, and a seminar.

Global Learning

Where can I find more information about study abroad?

To find more information, check out https://globallearning.ucdavis.edu/pathways/academics/studyabroad. You can also stop by the Global Learning Hub to talk with a Peer Advisor or make an appointment with a staff advisor.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

For a scholarship that I got, I need an enrollment verification letter that states that I'm taking at least 12 units in the Fall. Where can I get this letter now that I have registered for classes?

Requests for education verification letters can be made here: https://registrar.ucdavis.edu/records/verifications