UC DAVIS
LEARN • DISCOVER • ENGAGE

College of Letters & Science
ORIENTATION 2015
FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

Associate Dean Jim McClain
and
Director of Advising Beth Floyd
Welcome to the College of Letters and Science!

VIDEO
Overview of:

- The College
- Graduation Requirements
- Fall scheduling
- Tips for Success

First-Year Student Handbook, pp. 51-58
The College

- Largest and most academically diverse of the undergraduate colleges
  - Humanities, Arts & Cultural Studies
  - Mathematical & Physical Sciences
  - Social Sciences
- Over 11,000 students
- Over 50 majors and 60 minors
One Future – Many Paths

Breadth of knowledge is crucial.
- Exploration of different fields is encouraged.
- Lots of choices, and you get to make your own decisions!


Advising in L&S

- Undergraduate Education and Advising – L&S Deans’ Office, 200 SS&H; 752-3092
  - University, Campus and College requirements
  - International Student Academic Advising

- Residence Hall Advising Team (RHAT)

- Major Advising – Department or Cluster Offices (Faculty, Staff, Peer)
  - Specific curriculum requirements for your major

Video
L&S Mandatory Advising

New service added to help you navigate your first year at UC Davis

• Meet with an adviser during your first year to discuss your academic plans and get connected with campus resources

HOLDS: Advising holds will be assigned in random clusters to determine the quarter in which a student must meet with an adviser.
How we communicate with you:
UCD e-mail account
  - Official University communications
  - Get it, check it, protect it!

Online aids
- https://appointments.ucdavis.edu
- Online Advising Information System (OASIS)
- FAQ at https://ls.ucdavis.edu
- LS-UEA email: lsuea@ucdavis.edu
- My.ucdavis.edu (secure message system)
What is an A.B.?
• The A.B. is an abbreviation of the Latin name for the Bachelor of Arts degree “artium baccalaureus.”

What is a B.A.S.
• A Bachelor’s of Arts and Science (i.e. PSC(B.S.)/SPA(A.B.) or BIS(B.S.)/AHI(A.B.)
Impacted Majors

• Psychology (preparatory coursework with 2.50 GPA)

• L&S’ Computer Science (preparatory coursework with C- or better grades AND a 3.00 UC GPA)
Graduation Requirements

- Three components:
  - University and Campus – Dean’s Office
    - Example: ELWR and GE
  - College – Dean’s Office
    - Example: English Composition
  - Major – Department
L&S College Requirements

Requirements to consider in your first-year:

• English Composition
• Foreign Language

First-Year Handbook, pp. 55-56
College of Letters and Science
College English Requirement

1 Lower Division Course
• ENL 3* (satisfied by 4+ on AP English or 5+ on IB English A1)
• COM 1
• COM 2
• COM 3
• COM 4
• NAS 5
• UWP 1* (satisfied by 4+ on AP English)
• UWP 18 or UWP 19

1 Upper Division Course
(after completing 84 units)
• UWP 101*
• UWP 102*
• UWP 104*

*Please note the prerequisites (ENL 3, COM 1, COM 2, COM 3, COM 4, NAS 5, or UWP 1)

OR

English Composition Examination
(after completing 70 units)
**College of Letters and Science**  
**Foreign Language Requirement**  
**(A.B. Degrees only)**

Complete 15 unit level of proficiency by completing one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UC Davis Language courses 1-3</td>
<td>(or other College Equivalent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score of 550+ on SAT II Foreign Language Exam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score of 3+ on AP Foreign Language Exams</td>
<td><em>(except Latin)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score of 5+ on certain IB Foreign Language Exams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language Placement Exam</td>
<td><em>(must qualify for intermediate level of language)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If high school language of instruction is clearly in a language other than English, foreign language requirement can be satisfied with submission of official high school transcript.*
Questions?
First Quarter Program Planning

- Everything “counts”
- Systematically explore
  - Course numbers 1-99 = lower division
  - Course numbers 100-199 = upper division
- Schedule Builder
  - Final Exam schedule
How many courses?

- Expected Progress: average 15 units/quarter (45 units/yr.)
- Minimum Progress: average 13 units/quarter (39 units/yr.)
- 13-15 units for fall quarter
First Quarter
Program Planning
(everything counts)

- Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) – *critical*
- English Composition (lower division class)
- Mathematics
- Foreign Language (if A.B. degree)
- Introductory courses for possible majors
- Courses just for interest
  - First-Year Seminar
First Quarter Planning: Writing

1) Have you satisfied ELWR?
A) No? Register for appropriate UWP or WLD 57 course & do not take any College English Composition, or writing experience “WE” GE courses

• B) Yes? Take a lower division English Composition course (UWP 1, ENL 3, COM 1-4, NAS 5), if you have not already earned credit for an equivalent course
• First Quarter Planning: Mathematics

1) Are you interested in studying science or a major that requires math?

• Yes? Take the on-line math/chemistry placement exam & register for the appropriate course.
  • MAT 16 series=Social Science majors (i.e. ECN, PSC –B.S., ANT-B.S.)
  • MAT 21 series=Physical Science majors (i.e. CHE, CSI, GEL, MAT, PHY, NTS, STA)
  • MAT 17 series=Students who are pre-health science and/or interested in double majoring with a Biological Science
First Quarter Planning: Foreign Language

Are you interested in a Bachelor of Arts degree (A.B.) for your major or 2nd major?

• Yes? Take the foreign language placement exam & register for the appropriate course (if you have not already satisfied this requirement through transfer credit, AP, or SAT-II score).
First Quarter Planning: Courses of Interest

- Introductory Courses – introduce you to a field of study/major
- General Education (GE) courses
- First-Year Seminars: https://cetl.ucdavis.edu
Questions?
Tips for Success

- Register for **lower-division** (0-99) level courses
- Check **prerequisites** (Schedule Builder will *not* automatically block registration.)
- Take the appropriate math, chemistry or foreign language **placement exams**
- **Balance** your courses (mix science, humanities & social science courses)
- **Unit Load** (13-15 units)
How to Succeed in L&S

- Maintain GPA of at least 2.000 each quarter.
- **Carnegie Rule** for studying
  - Average at least 13 units per quarter.
- Avoid academic dishonesty.
- See your Major and College Advisers regularly
- Read the General Catalog and Supplements (catalog.ucdavis.edu).
- Get to know other students in your classes; form study groups
- Get help when you need it.
Tips for Success

Faculty
Three missions:
1. research
2. teaching
3. campus, professional, and public service

- Get to know faculty and TA’s
- Undergraduate research
Tips for Success

- Get involved!
  - Internships
  - Education Abroad Program
  - U.C. Washington Center
  - Student clubs
  - Intramurals
  - Lectures and cultural events
  - Be unique – ride a bike
Thank you!