Course Information - Undergraduate

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Courses listed in this catalog are subject to change through normal academic procedures. New programs/courses and changes in existing coursework are initiated by departments or individual programs and approved by the appropriate academic dean, the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and the Faculty Senate. Additions to the curriculum for the ensuing years are published in the official Undergraduate Curriculum Committee minutes (https://www.uwlax.edu/faculty-senate/committees/faculty-committees/curriculum/#tm-undergraduate-curriculum-ucc-) by Faculty Senate and are on file with the Office of Records and Registration.

Many course descriptions list the semester/year during which a course is normally offered. This serves as a guide; however, actual offerings may vary depending on staffing levels and enrollment demands.

A course marked “repeatable for credit” may be repeated for credit only once unless otherwise specified. See the undergraduate course repeat policy (p. 1) for information on repeating a course to improve one’s grade.

Undergraduate course repeat policy

When an undergraduate course in which a student has previously earned a "D" or "F" is repeated, the grade earned in repetition will supersede the previously recorded grade. The original grades earned are never deleted from the permanent academic record when a course is repeated; however, such grades are dropped from the calculation of cumulative grade point average. It is thereby possible to improve a grade point average. Courses for which grades of "C" or better have been recorded may not be repeated.

In compliance with established university policy, failing grades and deficiencies in grade point averages may be removed only by taking work in residence at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Courses may not be repeated at another institution and transferred to this university.

If a student withdrawals from a course taken as a "repeat," the original grade earned will remain in the overall grade point average calculation.

Departments may designate courses such that class rank should not be considered with respect to registering to repeat a course.

The grade point average(s) recorded at the time the degree is awarded will not be affected by future enrollment, including repeated courses.

Remedial math policy

The UW System remedial education policy was approved by the Board of Regents in November 1988. Remediation data supports the notion that a high percentage of students needing remediation in the skills area (English/math) continue to be successful college students.

Placement and registration in math courses is determined by using the scores earned on the Wisconsin Regional Placement Exams (WRPT) and the American College Test (ACT). Students not demonstrating adequate competency in math will be required to enroll in a remedial math course(s).

MTH 050 Basic Algebra and MTH 051 Topics in Intermediate Algebra are remedial courses designed for students whose test scores indicate a low probability for success in college-level courses. Students are required to complete one or more of these courses before they can take a math course that counts toward the General Education Program’s Mathematical Systems requirement. In addition, students who place into MTH 051 may be required to enroll in this course for their major(s). These credits do not count toward graduation. MTH 050 and MTH 051 are letter-graded (“F” counts as credits attempted and is averaged into GPA; other grades do not).

Students required to take MTH 050 must complete the requirement prior to earning 30 degree credits. There is no prerequisite to enroll in MTH 050. However, students must have taken a placement test in order to enroll in MTH 051.

ENG 100 policy

Placement and registration in ENG 110 College Writing (3 cr.) is determined by using the scores earned on the Wisconsin Regional Placement Exams (WRPT) and the American College Test (ACT). Students not demonstrating adequate competency in English will be required to enroll in ENG 100 and ENG 110 concurrently (six credits).

ENG 100 College Writing Workshop (3 cr.) is a non-remedial course designed to give students additional practice in and strategies for developing writing skills in post-secondary academic contexts. Students taking ENG 100 and ENG 110 together will have enhanced support in writing composition to help them successfully complete the General Education Program's Literacy requirement in their first Fall semester. ENG 100 and ENG 110 are letter graded with the grades calculated into the GPA. These credits count toward graduation.

Students required to take ENG 100 must complete the requirement prior to earning 60 degree credits. They will not be allowed to register in higher level English courses until they have successfully completed this requirement.

Cross-listed courses

A course offered by more than one department that has the same course description, credits, and title but different prefixes (e.g., ECO/THA 376; BIO/MIC 714) is a cross-listed course. Students may earn credit only once for taking a cross-listed course.

Undergraduate course numbering policy

Courses with numbers in the 100/200 series are primarily for first years and sophomores; those in the 300/400 series, which normally carry a prerequisite, are primarily for juniors and seniors. Many courses in
the 500 series are "slash" courses; they are graduate courses with a companion number in the 400 series and are open to upper level undergraduates who have earned at least 60 credits and graduate students. Students may not earn credit in a slash course at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. All courses with numbers in the 600, 700, 800, or 900 series are for graduate students only.

Undergraduate students must earn at least 40 credits in the 300/400 numbered courses. See university degree requirements (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/degreerequirements/#baccalaureatedegree) for more information.

Course prerequisites

Course prerequisites, listed in the course description, indicate the academic preparation required for successful completion of the course. Occasionally students may have sufficient knowledge to enter courses without the formal prerequisites. In these circumstances, students may ask instructors for consent to enroll; all instructors retain the right to admit any student to their classes, subject to departmental policy. Students who do not meet the stated prerequisite(s) or the required class standing must obtain permission to enroll in a class. Students will not receive credit for courses for which they do not have the appropriate class standing, specified prerequisites, or permission to override the requirements.

Course modes of instruction

1. Face-to-Face (F2F) or In-Person or On Campus: Course in which content delivery, course activities, and assessments take place in a physical classroom.
2. Hybrid: Course in which content delivery, course activities, and assessments take place in a physical classroom and online. This combination of online and in-person elements is based on meaningful learning strategies that best serve an instructor's pedagogical goals and objectives. This classification signals to students that there is an expectation of both physical presence and online learning in the instructor's design of the course. While a percentage is not mandated, hybrid courses are traditionally 30% to 50% of seat time replaced with online components. Hybrid courses include a class note available to students at registration, which indicates anticipated in-person and online class time.
3. Online courses (fully) - students do not meet in person at a physical site. All content and course activities take place online.
   a. Synchronous - some or all of the elements of the class occur in real time. Elements can be required (e.g., a lecture or exam) or optional (e.g., office hours or discussion times). The course should be listed as online in the timetable and a meeting date/time should be noted.
   b. Asynchronous - although there are deadlines for students by which they need to complete work, there are no requirements for a specific date/time when the student must be available.
4. Independent Study - individual reading or research under the guidance of a faculty member.

Curriculum requirements

A statement of various major and minor course requirements (the curriculum) accompanies the list of courses offered in each department and/or program, with a few exceptions. In addition to major and minor course requirements, students also must meet general education requirements (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/generaleducation/#generaleducationrequirementstext), the applicable college/school requirements, and university degree requirements (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/degreerequirements/#baccalaureatedegree) in order to earn an undergraduate degree.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC) is the curriculum review faculty body for all academic programs at the baccalaureate level. Membership of this committee consists of nine faculty, with proportional representation by college, and three students. The Provost, Registrar, Director of the Library, and the dean of each college serve as administrative consultants.

A full copy of the UCC bylaws is in the Faculty Senate's articles and bylaws (https://www.uwlax.edu/faculty-senate/articles-bylaws-and-policies/).

Course prefixes

The following is a list of course prefixes used by departments and programs at UWL. Both undergraduate and graduate prefixes are included.

ACC: Accountancy
ANT: Anthropology
ARA: Arabic
ARC: Archaeology
ART: Art
ATS: Athletic Training
BIO: Biology
BLAW: Business Law
BUS: Business Administration
CEI: Cooperative Education and Internships
CHE: Community Health Education
CHI: Chinese
CHM: Chemistry
CI: Curriculum and Instruction
CLI: Clinical Laboratory Science
CMP: Computational Science
CPE: Computer Engineering
CS: Computer Science
CST: Communication Studies
CT: Computational Thinking
CYB: Cybersecurity
CYC: Child Youth Care
DMS: Diagnostic Medical Sonography
DOS: Medical Dosimetry
DS: Data Science
ECE: Early Childhood Education
ECO: Economics
EDM: Educational Media
EDS: Education Studies
EDU: Education
EFN: Educational Foundations
ENG: English
ENV: Environmental Studies
ERS: Ethnic and Racial Studies
ESC: Earth Science
ESL: English as a Second Language
ESS: Exercise and Sport Science
FIN: Finance
FRE: French
FYS: First-Year Seminar
GCL: Global Cultures and Languages
GEO: Geography
GER: German
GRC: Graduate Registration Continuation
HCA: Healthcare Administration
HED: Health Education
HIMT: Health Information Management and Technology
HIS: History
HMG: Hmong
HP: Health Professions
HPR: Health, Physical Education, & Recreation
HWM: Health & Wellness Management
IB: International Business
INS: International Studies
IS: Information Systems
ITM: Information Technology Management
JPN: Japanese
LS: Liberal Studies
MIC: Microbiology
MIND: Mindfulness
MGT: Management
MKT: Marketing
MS: Military Science
MTH: Mathematics
MUA: Applied Music
MUS: Music
NEU: Neuroscience
NMT: Nuclear Medicine Technology
NUT: Nutrition
OT: Occupational Therapy
PAS: Physician Assistant Studies
PH: Public Health
PHL: Philosophy
PHY: Physics
POL: Political Science
PSY: Psychology
PTS: Physical Therapy
PUB: Public Administration
RAD: Radiologic Technology
RDG: Reading
REC: Recreation Management
RGS: Race, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
RT: Radiation Therapy
RTH: Therapeutic Recreation
RUS: Russian
SAA: Student Affairs Administration
SHE: School Health Education
SOC: Sociology
SPA: Spanish
SPE: Special Education
SPY: School Psychology
STAT: Statistics
THA: Theatre Arts
TSL: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
UWL: University-wide Learning
WGS: Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

(See graduate catalog (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/) for graduate courses and program descriptions.)