

Planning Your Degree

Common UCLA Terms

- **Study List**
 - All classes in which you are enrolled in a given term
- **Department Counselor**
 - Provide information about major/minor requirements in the various major departments
- **College Counselor**
 - Provide information about requirements towards UCLA degree

Overview of the Degree

- **University Requirements**
 - Entry Level Writing
 - American History & Institutions
- **College Requirements**
 - Writing I Requirement
 - Writing II Requirement
 - Quantitative Reasoning
 - Foreign Language
 - Diversity Requirement
 - General Education
- **Departmental Requirements**
- **Rules**

University Requirements

- **Entry Level Writing Requirement**
- **American History & Institutions**

Entry Level Writing Requirement

Satisfaction before coming to UCLA:

- 3, 4, or 5 on the AP English Literature or English Language Exams
- Taken January 2016 & prior: 680+ on the SAT Reasoning Test – Writing Section
- 30+ on ACT English/Writing Combined
- Transferring in one appropriate English Composition course from another institution with a mandatory grade of “C” or better
- Passing the Statewide Analytical Writing Placement Exam
- 5 or higher on the Higher Level test on the International Baccalaureate Language A1 – English (native speakers) test
- 6 or higher on the Standard Level test on the International Baccalaureate Language A1 – English (native speakers) test

Entry Level Writing Requirement

Satisfaction while at UCLA:

- Taking the Analytical Writing Placement Exam and passing
- Completing English Composition 2 with a mandatory grade of “C” or better
- Must be satisfied by the *end of the first year*

American History & Institutions

Satisfaction before coming to UCLA:

- Achieving a “B” (+/- grades excluded) average in one year of High School American History, Government, Civics or Political Science
 - Students taking Honors or AP courses can “weight” their GPAs to achieve a “B” average
- 500+ on the U.S. History SAT Subject Test
- 3, 4, or 5 on the AP U.S. History or U.S. Government & Politics Exams
- 5 or higher on the Higher Level test on the International Baccalaureate History of the Americas test
- Transferring in one appropriate course from another institution with a grade of “C” or better or “Pass”
- Students who have an A1/2, F1, or J1 visa are exempt

American History & Institutions

Satisfaction while at UCLA:

- Taking a course from the approved list of courses with a grade of “C” or better, or a “Pass”
 - The list of approved classes can be found in the online catalog and the Degree Audit Report
- Transferring in one appropriate course from another institution with a grade of “C” or better or “Pass”
- This course can double with General Education Requirements
- Must be satisfied by graduation

Letters & Science College Requirements

- **Writing I Requirement**
- **Writing II Requirement**
- **Quantitative Reasoning**
- **Foreign Language**
- **Diversity Requirement**
- **General Education**

Writing I Requirement

Can be satisfied by:

- 4 or 5 on the AP English Literature or English Composition Exams
- Taken January 2016 & prior: 720+ on the SAT Reasoning Test – Writing Section PLUS scoring in the superior range on the English 3 Proficiency Exam
- Passing English Composition 3 with a mandatory grade of “C” or better at UCLA
- Transferring in one course equivalent to English Composition 3 with mandatory grade of “C” or better
- Satisfying IGETC
- 5 or higher on the Higher Level test on the International Baccalaureate Language A1 – English (native speakers) test
- Must be satisfied by the *end of the first year*

Writing II Requirement

Can be satisfied by:

- Passing a Writing II course with a grade of “C” or better
 - Writing II Courses are any courses with the letter W in the title (Ex. Scandinavian 50W, History 96W, English 4W)
- Transferring in an equivalent Writing II course with a mandatory grade of “C” or better
- Satisfying IGETC
- Must be satisfied by end of 6th quarter
- This course can double with General Education requirements

Quantitative Reasoning

Satisfaction before coming to UCLA:

- 3, 4, or 5 on the AP Math, Computer Science (AB), or Statistics Exams
- Taken January 2016 & prior: 600+ on the SAT Reasoning Test – Math Section
- Taken March 2016 & after: 620+ on the SAT Test- Math Section
- 550+ on SAT Subject Test, Math (Level 1 or 2)
- 26+ on ACT Math Section
- Transferring in one appropriate course from another institution with a mandatory grade of “C” or better
- Satisfying IGETC
- 5 or higher on the Higher Level test on the International Baccalaureate Computer Science or Mathematics test

Quantitative Reasoning

Satisfaction while at UCLA:

- Taking a course from the approved list of courses with a mandatory grade of “C” or better
 - The list of approved courses can be found in the online catalog and the Degree Audit Report
- Transferring in one appropriate course from another institution with a mandatory grade of “C” or better
- Must be satisfied by graduation
- These courses can often double with major preparation courses (Ex. Statistics 10, Math 3A, 31A, Political Science 6)

Foreign Language

Satisfaction before coming to UCLA:

- 3, 4, or 5 on a foreign language AP exam
 - Except Latin – 4 or 5 required
- Placing into Level 4 or higher on a UCLA foreign language departmental placement exam
- Transferring in one appropriate college-level 3rd quarter course from another institution with a grade of “C” or better or “Pass”
- Satisfying IGETC
- Students with an A1/2, F1, or J1 visa from a NON-English speaking country and have attended a non-English speaking high school are exempt from this requirement
- Students who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States and can supply documentation that they attended a secondary school taught in a foreign language for at least 2 years are also exempt

Foreign Language

Satisfaction while at UCLA:

- Taking the equivalent of the third level in a foreign language with a grade of “C” or better or “Pass” in the third level
 - Ex. French 3, German 3, Spanish 3
- Placing into Level 4 or higher on a UCLA foreign language departmental placement exam. Note that there is not one standardized placement exam and that it is up to the department.
- Transferring in one appropriate college-level 3rd quarter course from another institution with a grade of “C” or better or “Pass”
- Must be satisfied by graduation

Diversity Requirement

Can be satisfied by:

- Transferring in an appropriate course with a mandatory grade of “C” or better
- Taking a course approved for the requirement with a mandatory grade of “C” or better
 - The classes approved for the requirement will be designated in the Schedule of Classes and the Degree Audit Report
- Diversity courses can overlap with GE, major, or minor courses
- Must be satisfied by graduation

General Education Requirements

- **Foundation of the Arts and Humanities (15 units)**
 - Literary and Cultural Analysis (1 course)
 - Philosophical and Linguistic Analysis (1 course)
 - Visual and Performance Arts Analysis and Practice (1 course)
- **Foundation of Society and Culture (15 units)**
 - Social Analysis (1 course)
 - Historical Analysis (1 course)
 - Course from either subgroup (1 course)
- **Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (17 units)**
 - Physical Sciences (2 courses)
 - Life Sciences (2 courses)
 - One of the above courses must be a 5-unit lab/demo
- **Minimum 10 courses and 47 units**

General Education Requirements

Can be satisfied by:

- General Education courses must be completed with a grade of “D-” or better or “Pass”
- GE Courses can double with other requirements (e.g. prep and major coursework)
 - Check the required grading for the prep courses
- AP & IB units do not count for GE Requirements
- Must be satisfied by graduation

Departmental Requirements

Course Numbering

- **Lower Division (1-99)**
 - **No limit for units towards graduation**
 - **Typically taken during first and second year**
 - **Can include general education courses, major preparation/prerequisites, and more**
- **Upper Division (100-199)**
 - **Minimum of 60 units towards graduation**
 - **Typically taken during third and fourth year**
 - **Can include major classes and upper division electives**
- **Graduate (200-299)**
 - **Count towards the 60 units of upper division work if they can be applied toward the major**

Preparation for the Major

- Preparation courses are usually lower division courses numbered 1-99
- Check the requirements for grading with your specific department
- In most cases, preparation courses have to be taken for a mandatory grade of C or better
- Some majors have specific GPA requirements before you can declare it (e.g. Political Science needs a 2.0 GPA in the prep courses while Economics needs a 2.5 GPA)

Major Requirements

- **Courses you will usually take once you have declared a major**
- **These are mostly Upper Division courses numbered 100-199**
- **They have to be mostly taken for a mandatory grade of C or better**
- **However, it is not always necessary to wait before declaring the major to start major requirements**
- **Some majors require an application process (e.g. Human Biology and Society, Global Studies, Communication Studies, etc.)**

Rules and Regulations

Expected Cumulative Progress

# of completed quarters	Units completed
1	13
2	27
3	42
4	56
5	71
6	86
7	101
8	116
9	132
10	148
11	164
12	180

- Minimum of 13 units per quarter
- ECP is checked every even number quarter
- Failure to meet ECP requirements will result in a hold being placed on your record

Study List Limits

- **Students can enroll in up to 19 units without a petition**
- **Anything above 19 units must be approved with an Excess Study List Petition**
 - **Must have an established UC GPA**
 - **Petitions are to be submitted at your Counseling unit (e.g. College Academic Counseling in Murphy and they usually take 2-3 days to process the petition)**

Minimum and Maximum Units to Graduate

- A UCLA degree is a four year degree program
- Students must complete between 180 and 216 units to graduate
 - Which means students should be taking at least 45 units per year
- AP/IB units can be applied towards the 180 units, and can go over the 216 maximum (AP/IB can always help you, never hurt you!)

Add/Drop Policy: Impacted Courses

Drop Period	Method	Fee	Transcript Notation
End of Week 2	MyUCLA	No fees	None
Weeks 3-10	Petition	\$20	Yes

- **Classes can be added and dropped until the end of Week 2 without any fees or Transcript Notation**
- **Any class drop after week 2 will require a petition**
- **Classes dropped after Week 10 are called retroactive drops**

Add/Drop Policy: Non-Impacted Courses

Drop Period	Fee	Transcript Notation
End of Week 2	No fees	None
End of Week 4	\$5	None
End of Week 7	\$20	Yes

- **Classes can be added and dropped until the end of Week 2 without any fees or Transcript Notation**
- **Any class dropped after Week 7 will require a petition**
- **Classes dropped after Week 10 are called retroactive drops**

Concurrent Enrollment

- **Concurrent Enrollment is when a student is enrolled in a UCLA regular session and also attending another institution**
 - **Includes UCLA Extension**
- **This is not allowed**
 - **Exceptions are by petition and rarely given**

Pass/No Pass Option

- **Two grading types at UCLA: Letter Grade (A, A-, B+...) and Pass/Not Pass**
- **Students in good academic standing can enroll in 5 units of P/NP per quarter**
 - **10 units of P/NP may be taken if the student did not take any in the previous quarter**
- **These units do not count toward the student's GPA but still give units towards graduation**
- **The American History & Institutions, Foreign Language and General Education Requirements can be satisfied through the Pass/Not Pass Option**

Repeat Rule

- A student can repeat up to 16 units of coursework from a UC in which they received a grade of “C-” or lower or “NP”
- A course may only be repeated once for degree credit
 - For better or worse, the second grade will be computed into GPA
 - Check with your major department for rules on repeating prep and major courses

Incomplete Rule

- A class cannot be finished – must be for emergency circumstances
- IF a professor is amenable, an Incomplete can be granted if:
 - Student's work is of passing quality
 - Only a small portion of coursework is unfinished
- Incomplete must be completed by the end of the next regular session quarter – professor files paperwork for grade
- The professor and the student contract the terms

Withdrawing From A Quarter

- Dropping all classes in one academic term
- Must be in good academic standing (2.0 GPA or higher) and not have taken any final exams
- MyUCLA will automatically activate enrollment for the following quarter
 - If out for two or more quarters, you must apply for readmission
- To withdraw, you have to declare non-attendance on MyUCLA

Academic Scholarship

- **Academic Probation**
 - Quarterly or overall GPA falls below 2.0 but is above or equal to a 1.5 ($1.5 \leq \text{GPA} < 2.0$)
- **Subject to Dismissal**
 - GPA is less than 1.5 for any regular session quarter
 - While on probation, the student does not receive a quarterly GPA of 2.0 the following quarter
 - After two quarters on probation, the student does not have an overall 2.0 GPA or higher
- **Scholarship Requirement**
 - Need a 2.0 GPA to graduate

Residency and Upper Division Requirements

- **Residency Requirement**
 - 35 of the last 45 units must be taken at UCLA, and 24 of these must be upper division units in the major
- **Upper Division Requirement**
 - Must graduate with 60 units of upper division coursework

How GPA Is Calculated

UCLA abides by the A, B, C, D, F grading scale
GPA is calculated using minuses and pluses

- **A = 4.0**
- **A- = 3.7**
- **B+ = 3.3**

Fiat Lux

- **One Unit Course taken Mandatory Pass/Not Pass**
 - **Up to 2 can count towards College Honors**
- **Restricted Enrollment to First-Year Students**
- **Small Classroom Setting, Seminar Format**
- **Up to 200 offered every year on a variety of subjects**
- **Any course numbered 19 (e.g. Political Science 19)**

UCLA Clusters Program

- Year-long interdisciplinary courses offered only to incoming first year students
- Students' satisfy four GE's with the three-quarter GE Cluster
- Writing II can be granted with a mandatory grade of "C" or better in the third quarter of the course
- Some of the GE Clusters will also satisfy the Diversity Requirement
 - Refer to the Student Handbook or Schedule of Classes
- Each quarter course is 6 units
- Honors credit can be received with a grade of "B" or better
- Descriptions of the courses can be found on the Schedule of Classes, under the Clusters Department as well as in the brochures in your New Student folders.

Planning Your Degree

www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/degreepath


- A UCLA degree is completed in 4 years – plan ahead to make the most of your time here
- To help with this, 3 and 4 year degree plans are provided for some of our most popular majors

UCLA Undergraduate Education

Tassels to the Left

Degree Paths for Three and Four Year Degrees

[ABOUT](#) [MAJORS](#) [PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES](#) [HELP](#) [Q](#)



Tassels to the Left

Choosing An Area of Study

www.newstudents.ucla.edu



201 Covell Commons, Los Angeles, CA 90024 | (310) 206-6685 | newstudents.ucla.edu

Study Area

Please select one area of study to explore: ▾

Choosing Your Course of Study at UCLA

Making the Right Decision

One of the most important decisions you will make in college is your choice of major -- the field of study that represents your principal interest and that will likely contribute to your career goals. Some students select their major at the time they fill out the University's application for admission, although a far greater number are undecided about their major.

Students in the College of Letters and Science do not need to declare their major in their freshman year. In fact, you can be an "undeclared major" until the end of your sophomore year, which is particularly advantageous if you are not certain of your specific academic goals. It is wise to wait and explore the diversity of subject areas offered at UCLA through taking introductory courses in a variety of disciplines. It would not be unusual for you to become enthusiastic about disciplines previously unfamiliar to you. With careful planning, these courses may also apply toward fulfilling your university and college requirements.

- Under the resources tab, you can find a list of all the majors and minors at UCLA
- This is a great way to start exploring and see what you are interested in studying