UCSC UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING NEWS (Fall 2013, Issue 8)
This newsletter is designed by your college advisers to keep you informed of important deadlines and alert you to programs and resources that may enhance your undergraduate academic experience.

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THINKING OF ENROLLING IN MORE THAN 19 CREDITS?
No one can enroll in more than 19 credits until the first day of instruction of the quarter. On the first day of classes for winter quarter (Monday, January 6th, 2014) students with a cumulative UCSC GPA of 3.0 or above may enroll in up to 22 credits without approval from their college. You need college approval for an increased course load if you would like to:
• Enroll in more than 22 credits and you have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above
• Enroll in more than 19 credits and you have a cumulative GPA below 3.0
• Enroll in more than 19 credits and winter is your first UCSC term
To request an increased course load, contact your college adviser. In most cases, approval will not be granted until after your fall grades can be reviewed.

Please note: UC regulations indicate that 3 hours of academic work per week is expected for each earned credit. Twenty credits will necessitate about 60 hours of academic work per week (including class time). So take this into consideration before enrolling in 19+ credits!

ANALYTICAL WRITING PLACEMENT EXAM PREPARATION WORKSHOPS: NOVEMBER 19, 21 & 22
Students currently in an 80A college core course who have not yet passed ELWR (section numbers 1-15): Attend one of these workshops next week, designed to help you pass the next Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE): http://writing.ucsc.edu/news-events/news/nov-awpe-workshop.html. We really want you to pass! Remember, if you do not pass the AWPE, you must take Writing 20 in the Winter.

A SMALL CHANGE TO THE ENROLLMENT SYSTEM
Beginning with Winter 2014 enrollment, undergraduates will be prevented from enrolling in a class if they have already passed the same class (or its equivalent) at UCSC by earning a grade of C or better (or P). (Students can still enroll again in a course that is designated as "May be repeated for credit." This designation is found in Course Description by clicking the Class Title when searching; there are only a few courses with this designation.) You may repeat a class in which you earn a D, F, W or NP once only, unless granted an exception by your college; consult the "repeats" section of the grading policy for further information. Repeating a course passed with C or better (or P) doesn't give you credit or improve your GPA, so this will help prevent mistakes! You'll still need to be careful not to repeat a course at UCSC that you have transfer credit for. See your adviser for help or questions.

THINKING ABOUT TRANSFERRING?
A common question that comes to college advisers from students is, "I'm thinking about transferring. What do I do?" The first step you should take is to consider these questions:
• What academic advantages will transferring give me?
• What goal am I trying to achieve by transferring?
• What are the pros and cons of UCSC and the prospective transfer institution?
• Have you shared this idea with your family?
It can be hard to adjust to any college or university, especially in your first quarter. Evaluate whether or not your desire to transfer is based on general college transition issues or specifics regarding UCSC. Your RA, NA, or CA and college adviser can be great resources and sounding boards for helping to ease those college growing pains you might be experiencing, so take advantage of their expertise!
If transferring still looks like an option you seriously want to consider, then the first step you need to take is to research the prospective university or college and their admissions policies. Your best resource will be contacting the admissions department at the prospective school. A visit to the institution is always a strong recommendation as well.

For campuses with different majors, look beyond the title of the major. Often the same skills, kinds of classes, and knowledge base are built under different major names. Comparing majors and institutions with an adviser at the Career Center and your college adviser is a good idea. There may be less costly alternatives (in time and credits), such as incorporating an intercampus visitor program to take specific courses not offered here.

**STUDENT SUCCESS TIP OF THE WEEK: CONNECTING WITH YOUR INSTRUCTORS**
Do you take advantage of your professor, lecturer or TA's office hours? Do you feel that you could ask one of them for a letter of reference at this point in your college career? If the answer to both of these questions is "NO," then this brief article is for you! Yes, it might seem intimidating to visit instructors, but the bottom line is that they are here to help you succeed and earn a college degree. You are paying for your education here at UCSC and all of the resources that come along with it, one of those being your instructors. So the next time you are feeling timid or shy about asking a question or going to office hours, remember that you will only get out of your education what you put into it. Here is a quick video from studentmentor.org that will help deliver this message further: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVklvBzGu90](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVklvBzGu90).

**STUDENT SERVICE/PROGRAM OF THE WEEK: LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES (LSS)**
Learning Support Services (LSS) is located on the 2nd floor of the Academic Resource Building (ARC). They offer services designed to help students excel academically. Peer guided group sessions called Modified Supplemental Instruction (MSI) are available for selected lower and upper-division undergraduate courses. Tutoring is available for a variety of additional classes that may not be supported by MSI. Additionally, writing tutoring is available in courses sponsored by the Writing Program (such as core courses and C2 courses) as well as for writing assignments in courses throughout the disciplines. The best news is that these services are available at no cost to students.

Students can also receive assistance in organizing course related peer study groups. In addition, LSS functions as a referral service, and directs students to appropriate learning assistance at UCSC, including study strategies workshops, department sponsored tutoring, and organized study groups.

For more information, please visit: [http://www2.ucsc.edu/lss/](http://www2.ucsc.edu/lss/).

This newsletter is produced by the UCSC Colleges Advising Support Team.