

Department Waitlist Practices

Last revised: April 5, 2021

Dear students and academic advisers: See below for how departments generally address registration waitlists.

Anthropology and Sociology

Each section of ANTH-100 and SOC-100 is capped at twenty-five. We've allocated seats as follows: four for seniors, four for juniors, seven for sophomores, and ten for first-years. The seats allocated to each graduating class will open up when it's time for members of that class to register.

Art and Art History

For Studio Art classes, there will be 3-4 seats allocated for each class year. After that, priority will be given to Art majors by year, beginning with seniors. For all other Art & Art History classes, students should contact the instructors if they are hoping to get into a course from the waitlist. Sometimes the seats available in a class are divided into 2 sections listed at different levels (e.g., 250 and 350), and the instructor is able to move seats from one to the other to let in waitlisted students. Again priority is given to Art majors.

Biology

1. **BCMB-351:** Waitlisted students will be brought in to BCMB351 (Protein Biochemistry) once junior and senior BCMB majors have been accommodated, up to a maximum of 36 students
2. **BIO-101 and 101L:** Seats are reserved for the class of 2025. These seats will become available when incoming students register.
3. **BIO-345 microbiology:** Waitlisted students will be brought in to Bio345- Microbiology once biology majors and students needing it for prehealth programs have been accommodated, up to a maximum of 32 students.
4. **BIO/ENV cross-listed courses:** Courses taught by Biology faculty and cross-listed with Environmental Studies (i.e. BIO/ENV-310, BIO/ENV-365, BIO/ENV-415W) will typically have 16 seats available. Most semesters, BIO/ENV courses will have 10 seats designated for BIO and 6 seats designated for ENV. Waitlisted students will be moved into the course once all students have completed the registration process.

Business and Economics

The B&E department reserves two spaces in many of its upper-level courses for possible transfer students. If you find yourself first or second on the waitlist for any of these courses, the instructor has no way of knowing if you will get in until transfer students choose their courses, which sometimes happens up to the first day of fall courses. The relevant courses are: ACCT-140, ACCT-240, ECON-201, ECON-202, ECON-231, ECON-263, ECON-300Q, FIN-270, FIN-370.

Chemistry

In multi-section courses (CHEM-107, 108, 207, 208 and the associated laboratory sections), limits are set to distribute students across sections and ensure each group that registers has seats available in all sections. If a student is waitlisted for a multi-section course, we strongly recommend moving into a section that has open seats. A student may choose to remain on the waitlist, but waitlisted students will only be added if seats are available in a section at the end of

the entire registration period. Laboratory sections are firmly capped at the stated limits. Students on a waitlist for a closed laboratory section will be moved into an open section at the end of the registration period. For single-section courses, we will do our best to accommodate all students who wish to enroll in the course.

East Asian Studies

1. Waitlisted students will be admitted until all seats are filled with preference given to majors and minors in East Asian Studies, and minors in Chinese and Japanese.
2. In courses cross-listed with Film Studies, waitlisted students in that minor will also be given preference.

Education

1. EDUC-100: Seats in EDUC-100 will not be available to rising seniors and juniors during their registration periods (students in these classes with a specific need for the course should reach out to the department chair, John Spencer). Eight seats will become available for rising sophomores and ten seats for incoming first-years. If possible, rising sophomores who hope to major in Educational Studies or pursue teaching certification should notify the chair of their interest in the course before their registration period starts. Juniors and Seniors will be able to add the course if any seats remain after the incoming first-years register.
2. EDUC-265: This course is also closed to seniors and juniors during their registration periods. Rising sophomores who need the course for the Educational Studies major or teacher certification should notify the department chair (John Spencer) that they hope to register for the course; after students who need the course have been accommodated, remaining seats will be available to sophomores and first-year students (and juniors and seniors if any seats remain at the end).
3. EDUC-350: This course is intended for juniors in the teaching certification program; other students interested in this course should e-mail John Spencer to discuss.

English

For all creative writing courses above the 100-level, courses are first-come, first-serve, with juniors and seniors having precedence over first- and second-year students. In ENCW-106, Introduction to Creative Writing, six seats are reserved for first year students, leaving nine seats available for the sophomores, juniors, and seniors. After those nine seats are filled, students who elect this course are put on the wait list. If fewer than six first-year students sign up for the course, students from the wait list are added to reach the class limit. Two sections of ENCW-106 are regularly offered both semesters if needed.

Environmental Studies

Waitlisted students seeking entry to Environmental Studies courses will be added to course sections until all seats are filled and in the following order: (1) declared ENV majors; (2) declared ENV minors; (3) declared minors in interdisciplinary programs for which the course is a requirement; and (4) all other students in order of waitlist position. In 100-level ENV courses (i.e. ENV-100 and ENV-140Q), seats are reserved for each class year, with a majority of seats reserved for the Class of 2024 and incoming first-year students (Class of 2025). Waitlisted students should not email individual instructors concerning waitlists, unless they are a declared minor in an interdisciplinary program for which the course is a requirement.

Health and Exercise Physiology (HEP)

Waitlisted students will be brought into the following courses once HEP majors have been accommodated, up to the maximum number of listed after the courses indicated below.

1. HEP-100 max. 25
2. HEP-150 max. 20
3. HEP-202 max. 25
4. BIO-205 max. 30
5. HEP-232W max. 20
6. HEP-245 max. 25
7. HEP-275 max. 25
8. HEP-334 max. 25
9. HEP-446 max. 20

History

Waitlisted students will be brought into history courses until all seats are filled in the following order: (1) declared history majors; (2) declared history minors; (3) declared majors and minors in interdisciplinary programs for which the course is a requirement; (4) all other students in order of waitlist position. In 100-level history courses, seats are reserved for each class year, with the majority of seats reserved for the Class of 2024 and incoming first-year students (Class of 2025). Courses that are cross-listed with GWSS have seats listed under both "HIST-000" and "GWSS-000." Waitlisted students should not email individual instructors concerning waitlists unless they are a declared major or minor in an interdisciplinary program for which the course is a requirement.

Film Studies

1. Waitlisted students will be brought in to film studies classes after film minors have been accommodated, as newly open seats allow. For cross-listed courses, majors in those departments may also be given preference.
2. For FS-101, Six seats are saved for sophomores and six for first-year students.

Math and Computer Science

In multi-section courses, some days after registration closes, waitlisted students will be moved to an open section.

Media and Communications Studies

The enrollment caps for MCS classes are as designated on the website/Grizzly Gateway. Some courses at the 300 level are cross-listed with courses in other departments (e.g., MCS-375 and FS-252). In these cases, the enrollment cap is split between the sections as listed in the two departments. Students should email the professor if they are on the waitlist for an MCS class and hope to get into the class. Priority is given to MCS majors.

Modern Languages

1. Waitlisted students in multi-section courses in Spanish and French will be moved to an open section after registration closes.
2. Waitlisted students for all other courses in modern languages will be admitted until all seats are filled in the following order: (1) majors in the target language, (2) minors in the target language, (2) all others.

Music

Five seats will open up for members of each registering class year. After a maximum cap is reached, faculty will consider making exceptions for Music Majors. Music ensembles and applied lessons are open to all without a course cap.

Politics

1. Both sections of POL-101 are open to incoming first and rising second year students—it may appear as if there aren't any seats until the registration period for rising second year students begin. Seats are open to rising third year and fourth year students only with permission of the instructor.
2. Six seats in each section POL-242 are reserved for first-year students.

Psychology

1. Waitlisted students will be brought into psychology courses until all seats are filled in the following order: (1) declared psychology majors; (2) declared psychology minors; (3) declared minors in interdisciplinary programs for which the course is a requirement; (4) all other students in order of waitlist position. This order will also depend on whether the course is cross-listed (e.g. with neuroscience).
2. In multi-section courses, limits are set to distribute students across sections. If a student is waitlisted for a multi-section course, we strongly recommend moving into a section that has open seats. Psychology has cross-listed courses with Neuroscience, Environmental Studies, and GWSS/IDS. Students should check any cross-listed sections for open seats.
3. PSYC/NEUR cross-listed courses: Courses taught by Neuroscience faculty and cross-listed with Psychology will typically have 18 seats available. Most semesters, PSYC/NEUR courses will have 9 seats designated for PSYC and 9 seats designated for NEUR. Waitlisted students will be moved into the course once all students have completed the registration process.
4. PSYC 100: Seats are reserved for first year students. These seats will become available when incoming students register

Physics

1. PHYS-111Q/111L: Initial caps on lab sections are set to enable us to balance enrollments across sections. If there are no available seats, place yourself on the wait list of your preferred lab section. Unless the total enrollment in PHYS-111Q reaches the capacity of the auditorium (very unlikely), all students will be placed in the course.
2. PHYS-121Q/121L: Initial caps on lab sections are set to enable us to balance enrollments across sections. If there are no available seats, place yourself on the wait list of your preferred lab section. Based on past enrollments, we expect to be able to move all students into the course.

Theater and Dance

1. Waitlisted students will be allowed into all DANC, TD, and THEA courses once Theater and Dance majors, minors, and intended majors have been accommodated, up to the class capacity
2. DANC-100 will hold spots for each class year so that all students have an opportunity to register for limited seats at their assigned registration time. After that, waitlisted students will be allowed in once Dance majors, minors, and intended majors have been accommodated, up to the class capacity.

3. THEA-100 will hold six spots for first year students. After that waitlisted students will be allowed in once all Theater majors, minors, and intended majors have been accommodated, up to the class capacity.