Frequently Asked Questions

Where do I get academic advising?
Incoming students with less than 45 earned college credit hours are advised through University Advising Services (UAS). Advisors are there to help you select your classes and answer any questions about academic policies and procedures. Students are assigned a specific advisor. Advising is mandatory for the first and second semesters of enrollment. You can contact UAS at (561)297-3064 or advisingservices@fau.edu. You may schedule an appointment through the Success Network at www.fau.edu/successnetwork.

Do I have to stay for the entire orientation?
You must attend ALL segments of your scheduled orientation. The University reserves the right to impose registration restrictions upon students who fail to attend the mandatory orientation session.

How many credit hours should I take per semester?
You must take a minimum of 12 credit hours (generally equivalent to four classes) to be a full time student. We recommend that you take 12-15 credit hours your first semester to give you time to adjust. However, to graduate in four years, you should plan on taking 30 credit hours per academic year.

Do I have to take math the first semester?
Although required for the Intellectual Foundations Program (core curriculum), it is not necessary to take a math course in your first semester unless indicated by the sample schedule or recommended by your academic advisor on your OARS advising form.

What is the WAC?
WAC stands for ‘Writing Across the Curriculum.’ This rule requires you to complete, with grades of “C” (2.0 GPA) or higher, 12 credit hours of writing and 6 credit hours of mathematics.

Which level of foreign language should I take?
All beginning language classes are 4 credits. If you have taken one year of a language in high school and you feel comfortable with your knowledge of the language, you may complete the foreign language requirement by starting with the 1121 level. While not part of the core curriculum, foreign language is often a graduation requirement. Language requirement may also be met through the CLEP exam.

FRE 1120/1121 Beginning French I/II  FOL 1120/1121 Beginning Chinese I/II
GER 1120/1121 Beginning German I/II  ITA 1120/1121 Beginning Italian I/II
JPN 1120/1121 Beginning Japanese I/II  LAT 1120/1121 Beginning Latin I/II
HBR 1120/1121 Beginning Hebrew I/II  SPN 1120/1121 Beginning Spanish I/II

NOTE: A placement exam is required of students planning to enroll in Spanish or French. http://www.fau.edu/spanish/SPN.php
**What is a discussion section?**

Some courses at FAU are offered as large lectures. Linked to the lecture sections are discussion sections that accommodate assignments and questions, and encourage student participation. The discussion section **must** be taken with the lecture section. Courses with discussion sections are indicated on the course description sheet.

You will need a CRN for **Lecture** and a CRN for the **Discussion** before you can register for the course. You can click on the CRN for the lecture and it will tell you which Discussion sections you can choose from:

*To register for this section, please also register for one of the following sections: 10002 10003 10004 10005 10006 16676*

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEC = Lecture Section</th>
<th>DIS = Discussion Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LECTURE COURSE INFORMATION</td>
<td>CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LECTURE COURSE INFORMATION</td>
<td>CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LECTURE COURSE INFORMATION</td>
<td>CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LECTURE COURSE INFORMATION</td>
<td>CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LECTURE COURSE INFORMATION</td>
<td>CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LECTURE COURSE INFORMATION</td>
<td>CR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**What does it mean if I take a course Pass/Fail?**

Certain courses are offered as Pass/Fail or Grade option. The grade of “P” is a passing grade, but it is not calculated into your GPA. However, the grade of “F” is a failing grade and will be calculated into your GPA. You cannot take a class for Pass/Fail if it is within your major or if you are on probation. You are limited to taking one 3- or 4- credit-hours Pass/Fail course per semester and a total of 12 credit hours of Pass/Fail coursework while at FAU. You must indicate if you would like to take a course for a grade or Pass/Fail at the
time of registration. The decision to take a course for Pass/Fail cannot be changed after drop/add week (typically the first week of classes in a semester). If you decide to take a class as Pass/Fail you are not eligible to participate on the Dean’s and/or Presidents List.

What if I have high school dual enrollment, CLEP/IB/AP or college credits from another school?

Will they transfer?
Advisors in UAS will help determine if your transfer courses are equivalent to any IFP (core) courses. Beyond IFP (core) requirements, transferred courses in the major will be evaluated by advising personnel in your college/major of record. If there is a question about your transferred coursework, you may be asked or required to provide a course description or syllabus to your advisor as documentation.

What is MAT 1033: Intermediate Algebra?
It is a math course designed to prepare you for College Algebra (MAC1105). This course is not a Gordon Rule class and will not count toward fulfilling the math courses required by the Intellectual Foundations Program.

How do I get support to obtain my username?
If you cannot get your username via the Username lookup page: http://myfau.fau.edu or your username will not work with MyFAU, then you should call the Help Desk at 561-297-3999. You can also submit a request for tech support at https://helpdesk.fau.edu/TDClient/Home/

When I try to register for a course it says I need Departmental or Instructor Permission. What should I do?
Select another section of that course that does not require permission. See the Common Error Messages document on UAS website. If you are still having problems with registration please contact an academic advisor (advisingservices@fau.edu).

Are there any additional costs involved with classes?
There may be additional fees associated with a class. For example: fully online courses, clickers, lab coats, attending performances, etc. Check your class syllabus during the first week of class to see what is needed for the class.

What can prohibit me from registering for classes?
As an incoming student, you will have registration holds. Registration holds are put on a student’s account to prevent the student from registering to ensure that certain matters are resolved. All holds must be cleared by the issuing office BEFORE a student can register. To view your current holds: Log on to myFAU. Click the FAU Self-Service (OWLs) link. Click the “Student Services” link. Click the “Student Records” link. Click the “View Holds” link. Holds are listed using codes, which refer to the issuing office. For a list of Hold Codes and the issuing office’s contact information, please visit http://www.fau.edu/registrar/registration/holds.php.

If you are still having trouble understanding what your holds mean and how to have them removed, please contact an academic advisor (advisingservices@fau.edu)