First-Year Course Registration Guide

Complete these 6 steps before you register for your courses!

The First-Year Course Registration Guide provides a step-by-step walkthrough of how to register for your Fall Semester courses and includes recommended first semester course schedules for each area of study within the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS). You will need to register for a minimum of 12 credits to be a full-time student, while the maximum number of credits you can take in your first semester is 17. A typical course load is 15-17 credits (most courses are each 3 or 4 credit hours), meaning you should register for 4 or 5 courses for your first semester. Soon you will receive an invitation from CAS to begin the course registration process by completing a short onboarding survey. Please be sure to complete this survey as it provides information critical to assigning your academic advisor. The Registrar’s Office will also contact you regarding your registration dates in July for completing the course registration process. It is imperative that you complete your course registration process during the assigned dates since courses have limited seating. Use the following instructions to ensure you are prepared for that process.

Should you need any additional information on the registration process, including step-by-step videos and the most common Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Registrar’s website.

College Course Requirements

Students in CAS have a few specific requirements during their first semester, meaning you will have ample choices in your initial course schedule. However, in order to graduate all CAS students have to complete two semesters of English, a First-Year Seminar, and our College Distribution Requirements.

In your first semester we recommend you begin the English sequence and select your First Year Seminar. Unless you placed out of ENGL 001 and 002, you will need to register for:

- ENGL 001 (or ENGL 011 if you have credit for ENGL 001)
- First-Year Seminar — You will select your seminar from more than 30 course offerings from a variety of CAS disciplines and interdisciplinary programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example Fall Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 001: Critical Reading &amp; Comp</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Seminar</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>14-15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The CAS Distribution Requirements are designed to introduce students to the diverse perspectives that can be used to understand our physical and social worlds. Although we expect our students to take courses in each of these broad categories, you will have flexibility in selecting courses from each area that are of interest to you. In addition to courses in traditional disciplines, CAS offers interdisciplinary courses in: Africana Studies; Asian Studies; Cognitive Science; Environmental Studies; Global Citizenship; Global Studies; Health, Medicine, and Society; Jewish Studies; Latin American Studies; Science, Technology, and Society; Sustainable Development; and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies that satisfy Humanities or Social Science distribution requirements.
Distribution Requirements for the College of Arts and Sciences

To graduate from Lehigh you must fulfill a specific number of credits in various subject areas.

**Mathematical Sciences (MA)** 3 credits
Choose from those designated in: mathematics, philosophy, statistics, or computer science.

**Natural Sciences (NS)** 8 credits
Choose from those designated in: astronomy, biological anthropology, biological sciences, chemistry, earth and environmental sciences, physics, and neuroscience. At least one science course must include or accompany the associated laboratory.

**Social Sciences (SS)** 8 credits
Choose from those designated in: anthropology, economics, political science, history, international relations, journalism, psychology, sociology, and science, technology, and society.

**Arts and Humanities (HU)** 8 credits
Choose from those designated in: architecture, art, design, classics, history, modern languages and literatures, english, music, philosophy, religion studies, and theatre.

Total required for graduation: 120 credits

STEP 1 ✔️

What interests you?

All CAS students begin their Lehigh career without a declared major, but you may be leaning towards a certain area of study. If you are undecided on a potential major, don't worry, we encourage first-year students to select courses in a variety of programs to find their intellectual passion. Most students use the Distribution Requirements to guide their first semester course selections so they can both explore their intellectual interests and start fulfilling the CAS distribution requirements. If you have an idea what you might like to pursue as a possible major, we encourage you to take at least one course in that subject to help you better understand that field to determine if it might be the right fit for you.

Consider your academic interests and record several areas you like, think you might thrive in, or that represent an exciting new intellectual challenge for you:

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Once you have determined the subject areas of greatest interest to you, review the courses being offered in those subjects to identify courses that you would be interested in taking during your first semester at Lehigh. You should try to find two to three courses in each of those subject areas since some classes have strict limits on the number of available seats and others may have a time conflict with another course you want to take. Listing multiple courses offered at a variety of days/times will ensure you the best opportunity to explore subject areas of greatest interest to you.
STEP 2

What Courses Should I Register For?

This booklet contains information on the various academic programs offered by CAS departments and interdisciplinary programs. You will see descriptions of individual programs and course offerings for the fall semester. Only a small fraction of the courses offered at Lehigh are available to incoming students, with first-year students limited to introductory courses (numbered below 100) unless they have appropriate AP or transfer credits that permit them to take an intermediate course offering. If you would like to see the variety of academic offerings available in CAS, an excellent summary is available in the University Catalog at:

http://catalog.lehigh.edu/coursesprogramsandcurricula/artsandsciences/

Are You Interested in a Specific Major or Area?

If the answer to this question is "yes", then look at the accompanying example course schedule for that major (see below). You can also see detailed information on requirements for individual majors in the Catalog. For many majors, you are not required to begin coursework in the first semester, meaning you are free to explore various course offerings. However, other majors (especially our BS degree programs), require you to start their degree requirements during your first semester. Some majors also require students to complete courses outside their department—called collateral requirements (like certain math or science courses)—so be sure to make your initial course selections with these requirements in mind if you wish to pursue one of those majors. See what special requirements that major may have for first-year students. If it is math, what level math course do they require? If it is chemistry or biology, which course is required to be taken first?

For example, if you think you want to major in History, you will see that you need a minimum of 9 courses (35 credits) and an early one should be HIST 011 or 012. It isn't essential that you begin the major in the Fall of your first semester, but it might be smart to take at least one of the recommended courses to see how you like it. The course credits you earn will still be useful for graduation as elective hours regardless of whether you eventually decide to pursue that major.

In another example, if you are interested in one of the Biological Sciences majors or are Pre-Med or Pre-Health, you will see requirements that include courses from other departments, and you will need to start by taking CHM 030 or 040 and MATH 051 because they are important prerequisites for all those degree programs.

List some courses that look interesting or are required for your intended major:

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STEP 3

What about Math?

The college requires 3 credit hours of any math as a CAS distribution requirement, but some majors have more specific math requirements. As mentioned above, review the accompanying sample course schedule for your intended major to see if it requires a specific math course. REMEMBER, not every subject requires
students to take Calculus—only majors in the Natural Sciences, Mathematics, Computer Science, Economics, Architecture, and Cognitive Science have that requirement. Please note that the Phi Beta Kappa profile also includes calculus. There are three distinct calculus sequences offered at Lehigh and subjects that require calculus make a distinction: between needing the MATH 020-series (more depth) and the MATH 50-series (less depth).

Students anticipating a major in the Social Sciences should take MATH 012 (Statistics), and students intending to pursue a major in the Arts or Humanities (other than Architecture) should select from MATH 005, MATH 012, or PHIL 114 as alternatives to calculus. For detailed information on individual courses, please see the Department of Mathematics page in this booklet (page 37).

Should your chosen curriculum require calculus, you should begin right away. At the same time, if you think you might want to follow a curriculum that requires calculus, you should seriously consider beginning right away. Experience indicates that it is unwise to let too much time elapse between your last high school mathematics course and your first mathematics course at Lehigh.

Students occasionally wish to take a calculus course at a higher level than we recommend given their SAT or ACT score. Those who feel the calculus courses initially available to them do not adequately represent their abilities may take an assessment during on campus Orientation in August. If the result of this assessment is favorable, the student will be granted permission from the Department of Mathematics to change their course registration. To review our SAT/ACT guidelines for appropriate calculus placement, please see the Department of Mathematics page.

- Based on your intended major or area of interest, which Math do you need?
Math _________

- Do you meet the criteria to register for that class?
- If yes, do you plan to take that class your first semester at Lehigh?
- If no, do you plan to take an introductory calculus or lower level Math course?

Do you have a specific major in mind?

NO

Decide whether to take math now NO

YES

Does it require a math course?

YES

Start math, especially Calculus, immediately.

Advantages of taking math early
- Holds door open for curricula that requires specific requirements
- Capitalize on high school mathematics “momentum”

Advantages of waiting to take math
- Use time to explore different curricula options
- Decide later on specific mathematics needs

STEP 4 ✔

Review Your Record for Advanced Placement (AP) Credits

If you expect AP credit, make sure to have your scores sent to Lehigh. If your scores are automatically reported to Lehigh they will be added to your academic record before you begin registering for classes. If your scores aren’t reported in a timely manner, you will be prevented from taking anything more advanced than introductory courses during your first semester. You should also review the “Advanced Placement, ACT, SAT, IB Credit” section in this booklet for detailed information on how various CAS departments treat AP credit.
STEP 5

Courses Available for the coming Fall

Once you know the types of courses you want to take, you need to see what specific courses are available this semester. This booklet contains lists of individual courses offered by each department or interdisciplinary program that are suitable for first semester Lehigh students. You can also login to the Lehigh Registration Portal to review all course offerings for the Fall Semester, or access it via the Registrar’s website at webapps.lehigh.edu/Registrar/Schedule/. Once registration has opened for incoming students, the Registration Portal allows you to make your course selections using a unique Course Registration Number (CRN) from courses offered in the coming semester. The online course search tool will also tell you whether each of these courses fulfills a CAS distribution requirement – arts and humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, and mathematics. To see information on individual courses, select 2017 Fall Semester under the Term dropdown menu and then select the appropriate department/program under the View Courses by Distribution/Subject menu. Using this tool will provide you with the CRN, number of seats available, and the days and times for each course.

STEP 6

Putting It All Together

Now you should have all the pieces to register for courses. Use the charts below to help design your first semester course schedule. We urge ALL Arts and Sciences students to take an English course and to complete their First-Year Seminar in the fall.

If you are considering a **BS science major**, your first semester schedule might look like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 001: Critical Reading &amp; Comp (or 011 if placed out of 001)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 021 or 051: Calculus I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Course + Lab *</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Seminar</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>14-16</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* ASTR 007/008 or CHM 030 or EES 080 or PHY 011/012

If you are considering **Biological Sciences or Pre-Med**, your first semester schedule should look like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 001: Critical Reading &amp; Comp (or 011 if placed out of 001)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 051: Survey of Calculus I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHM 030: Intro to Chemical Principles</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Seminar</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>14-15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you plan to major in Chemistry, one of the Biological Sciences, or follow the pre-med track, your fall science course must be CHM 030 or 040. The first biology core course (BIOS 041) and accompanying lab (BIOS 042) is offered only in the spring semester and has CHM 030 or 040 as a pre-requisite.
If you are interested in a **Social Science** major, the following is an *example* of a first semester schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 001: Critical Reading &amp; Comp (or 011 if placed out of 001)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro SS Course*</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective in Interest Area</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Seminar</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 14-15

*Please see course listing and course catalog for appropriate and available intro course

If you are interested in an **Arts & Humanities** major, the following is an *example* of a first semester schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 001: Critical Reading &amp; Comp (or 011 if placed out of 001)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro HU Course*</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective in Interest Area</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Seminar</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 14-15

*Please see course listing and course catalog for appropriate and available intro course

For more first semester and academic year course scenarios, please visit our website at: [https://cas.cas2.lehigh.edu/content/first-year-course-scenarios](https://cas.cas2.lehigh.edu/content/first-year-course-scenarios)