

Subject: [BioAdv] Spring Term Updates 1/4/2017
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From: For distribution of newsletters and announcement to majors in the Department of Biological Sciences (sent by BioAdvising <bioadvising-bounces@list.pitt.edu>)
To: For distribution of newsletters and announcement to majors in the Department of Biological Sciences
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

Welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable break. Please find some updates below.

ADVISING: Spring Term Updates – 1/4/2017

1. Advising: Drop-Ins & Appointments
2. Enrollment Deadlines: Add/Drop Jan 18; S/NC Grade Option Feb 1
3. UTA/Research/Internship Forms – deadline Jan 18
4. Electronic Waitlists
5. Seniors – Fall Grades & April Graduation Requirements

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1. Advising: Drop-Ins & Appointments

The advisors are primarily taking walk-ins to serve students with time-sensitive questions, scheduling issues, and permissions. Drop by if we can help you with something!

Appointments for in-depth Academic and Career planning, and Summer / Fall Term Advising Holds begin **January 19**. Sign-up Sheets with all four advisors are out in the Advising Office (A258 Langley) now.

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2. Spring Term Enrollment Deadlines

Add/Drop – Tuesday Jan 18
S/NC Grade Option – Wednesday Feb 1

"Certain courses are offered on the S/NC (Satisfactory/No-Credit) grade option. This option was designed to encourage students to explore new and potentially difficult subjects without fear of the risks of failure. Under this option, a student who does satisfactory work (a grade of C or better) in a course receives the grade of S. If the student's work is not satisfactory (a grade of C- or lower), the grade of NC (No Credit) is given. Courses for which an S is received are counted toward graduation, but are not computed in the GPA. Courses in which an NC is received are counted toward neither graduation nor the GPA."

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3. UTA/Research/Internship Forms – deadline Jan 18

Forms can be found online at: <http://biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/forms>

Forms need to be completed and turned in to any advisor at A258 Langley.

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4. Electronic Waitlists

There is no guarantee with wait-lists. Consider these points to assess your chances:

- 1) How big is the class? If there are 75-150 students there's a good chance of 2 students dropping. If there are 14 students there's a much lower chance of 2 drops.
- 2) Is the time-slot available in your schedule? If you are #1 on the wait-list but have a time conflict, the computer will skip you and enroll #2. So, make sure the time slot is open!

3) If you are adding onto a waitlist now, but have a conflict, use the SWAP function. This tells the computer to drop the conflicting class when it enrolls you from the waitlist.

4) Even if you don't get in this week, go to the first day of class! At the end of class introduce yourself to the instructor and explain that you are on the wait-list.

5) MOST IMPORTANTLY, come up with a plan B for if you do not get into this course. Find an open class that will satisfy the requirement. Finally... Please remove yourself (do a DROP) from wait-lists if you no longer want the class. Otherwise, the computer will put you in! Also, other students may be waiting for that seat.

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5. Seniors

If your Fall Term grades NOW PREVENT APRIL GRADUATION, go to 140 Thackeray and withdraw your application for April graduation and RE-APPLY for the appropriate term.

If you are planning April Graduation, double check your enrollment during the add/drop period. See an advisor if you have any questions.

Also be on the lookout for a special senior mailing list regarding the Senior Ceremony. Initial details can be found here: <http://www.biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/seniorceremony>

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Welcome back!

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