

Subject: [BioAdv] spring term 2016 updates

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From: BioAdv Biological Sciences (sent by BioAdvising <bioadvising-bounces@list.pitt.edu>)

To: BioAdv Biological Sciences

ADVISING: Spring Term 2016 Updates

1. Advising Drop-Ins, Appointments
2. Enrollment Deadlines: Add/Drop Jan 19; S/NC Grade Option Feb 3
3. UTA/Research/Internship Forms – deadline Jan 19
4. Seniors – Fall Term Grades Preventing April Graduation
5. Electronic Waitlists
6. Info Session: Finding a Research Lab – Jan 8

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1. Advising Drop-Ins, Appointments

We hope everyone had a safe winter break! Spring Term classes begin **Wednesday, January 6**.

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 20**. Sign-up Sheets with all three advisors are out in the Advising Office now.

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2. Spring Term Enrollment Deadlines

Add/Drop – Tuesday Jan 19
S/NC Grade Option – Wednesday Feb 3

"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 19

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

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4. 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.

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5. 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.
- 2a) 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!
- 2b) 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.
- 3) 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.
- 4) 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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6. Info Session: Finding a Research Lab – Jan 8, 4pm, Langley 219B

Sponsored by HHMI.

-Discuss searching for research both in the Department of Biological Sciences and throughout the University of Pittsburgh.

-Question & Answer session.

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Welcome back!

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