All You Need to Know About Pre-Reg with the APAs and Dean Leathers

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How Does Course Registration Work at Wes?

Pre-Registration Planning
You can explore courses in WesMaps and rank the ones you want to take
July 12nd - Aug 5th

Adjustment Period
You can add courses with seats available and drop classes you don’t want
Aug 9th – Aug 12nd

Drop/Add Period
You can shop around for new courses and drop the ones you no longer want to take
Aug 30th - Sep 17th
How Does Course Registration Work at Wes?

The 3 major components of Course Registration explained:

1. **Pre-Registration Planning Period**
   - This portion of course registration will happen from **July 12th to August 5th**
   - During this time, you will browse classes available on WesMaps and rank the ones that look interesting to you
   - The planning period closes on August 5th. On **August 6th**, you will be able to see which courses you were admitted into.

2. **Adjustment Period**
   - Adjustment is a one-day period during which all the courses on WesMaps go “live”. This means that you can drop any courses that you are no longer interested in taking, and pick up courses if they have any seats available. You can think of this process as a high-speed version of drop-add

3. **Drop-Add**
   - Drop-Add is the period during the first two weeks of classes. During this time, you are able to drop courses you don’t vibe with and find spots in courses you are interested in taking.
How Does the System Choose Which Classes I Get into?

- When a Professor creates a course, they decide how many students of each class year they want taking their class.
- You can find how many spots there are for students of your class year by looking here.
- The system will admit whichever 4 freshmen rate this course highest on their list.
- The system does not consider which other courses you ranked while determining whether to place you in a particular class. This means that there is no advantage to ranking fewer than all seven courses.
If you see a class that says FR:X, that means that the professor does not want any first year students in that course. You will not be able to rank these courses.

If you see a class that says FR:0, it means that the professor does not want any Freshmen getting into the course during pre-registration, but might be willing to consider admitting freshmen during drop add. Ranking a course without freshmen seats, however, will not help you since you would only be placed in the class if it is completely under enrolled, which hardly ever happens.
How high/low should I rank a course?

You should take into account how much you want to take the course, but also consider the past enrollment probability. If a course has above 70% enrollment probability, you can comfortably rank it lower in your list. If the course has a past enrollment probability of 25%, you should rank it among your top few courses if you want a good shot at getting in. This course has a high past enrollment probability, so I would rank it fourth or fifth even though it’s a class I might really want to take.
First Year Seminars (FYS)

What is an FYS?

- FYS classes are exclusively for freshmen.
- They are capped at 15 students.
- They emphasize helping students learn to write at the college level.
- FYS courses are available in almost every department.
- Every first year are strongly recommended to take one FYS.
## How to choose a section

- Some more popular courses have multiple sections that may meet at different times.
- Sometimes, certain sections are in-person while others are hybrid or online.
- To attain the best chances of getting into such a class, you should select “any” when determining which section you would like to rank.
How do I know which classes I should take?

This is your freshman year, and the best thing you can do to set yourself up for success is to explore and take whatever classes interest you. But the open curriculum can be daunting, and if you still would like more guidance, you can reach out to...

Your Faculty Advisor

It’s your faculty advisor’s job to help you through your academic pursuits. Email them to set up a zoom meeting!

The Academic Peer Advisors

There are peer advisors with many diverse academic interests who are here to help.

An Orientation Leader

You will all have an Orientation Leader that you will be meeting with weekly in a group with other students. Feel free to ask for their advice!

Your Class Dean

Your class dean is a one stop shop for all resources on campus. If they can’t give you informed advice, they will point you toward someone who can!
Faculty Advisors

- All incoming students are assigned a faculty member who should help guide them through class selection until they declare a major

- You will be able to see who your Faculty Advisor is in your WesPortal under the ‘Academics’ tab in early August. Feel free to email them!
What if I don’t get into a course I wanted?

It’s not too late! If you get your course schedule back and aren’t completely happy, you have plenty of time to change it. That’s what adjustment and drop add are for!

Sometimes, you’ll get lucky and a seat will open up during adjustment. In this case, getting into the class is as simple as clicking the “add to my courses” button while the class has an open seat.

If you don’t get in during adjustment either, then you can secure your seat during drop add. You should email the professor of the class as soon as possible, introduce yourself, and communicate your interest in their course. People switch their classes around all the time during drop add, so getting off a waitlist is actually super likely!
Tips for Building a Balanced Schedule
Frequently Asked Questions

Can I rank multiple courses happening at the same time?

- Yep! You will only get into one of them, but they will not work against each other. In other words, don’t only rank classes happening all at the same time, but ranking a couple of overlapping courses is alright.

Can I use AP credit to override a prerequisite course?

- This is pretty hard to do. You’ll need to ask your Faculty Advisor and communicate with the Chair of the department which houses the course you are hoping to take.

What is a POI and can I request a POI?

- POI (permission of instructor) courses are classes that do not use the normal class ranking system. Instead, the professor handpicks the students in their class by holding interviews.
- Usually, POI classes don’t have freshmen seats, but you can always send an email to the professor teaching the course and ask!
Who to Ask for Advice?

Academic Peer Advisors
Email peeradvisors@wesleyan.edu if you have questions!

Emailing Professors
Don’t be afraid to reach out to a potential professor!

Reaching out to your Dean
Dean Leathers can be reached at tleathers@wesleyan.edu
Q&A!
Thanks!

Don’t forget that Pre-Reg is confusing for everyone and there’s nothing wrong with asking for help! Email peeradvisors@wesleyan.edu :)

We can’t wait to see you in the fall!

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