



Undergraduate Advising Newsletter

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May 2008

UMUC Tips and Tricks

Your Degree Progress Report

You can now access your degree progress report by logging on to the MyUMUC Web site at <https://my.umuc.edu>. Degree progress reports detail how your transferred credits fit into your degree plan and outline all of the remaining requirements you must meet to complete your degree. These reports are an invaluable tool you can use in conjunction with the undergraduate course catalog to plan your degree completion.

To access your degree progress report

- Log on to MyUMUC at <https://my.umuc.edu>
- Click on "MyAcademics"
- Select "Academic Report"
- Choose "View My Degree Progress Report"
- Select the "View My Audit" button
- Click "OK"

► "It's great to have all of my requirements listed in one document—and only the courses that I really need are listed. Plus, I don't have to go to my catalog to see what courses can fulfill each requirement, the link is right in my degree progress report!"

Ashley Harmon '06

After a few moments, your report should be visible. The four main sections of the report are general education requirements, major requirements, minor requirements (if applicable), and electives. In the box for each requirement, the report details how many credits are required, how many you have completed, and how many you still have to complete. Requirements with a number in the "Remaining" column are still to be completed.

► IMPORTANT DATES

- **May 17:** Commencement 2008
- **May 26:** Memorial Day holiday, no classes at some locations
- **May 27:** Standard and session 1 summer courses begin
- **June 1:** Priority filing deadline for fall 2008 financial aid
- **June 15:** Graduation application deadline for summer 2008
- **July 4:** Independence Day holiday, no classes held
- **July 7:** Summer session 1 courses end
- **July 8:** Summer session 2 courses begin
- **August 17:** Summer session 2 courses end
- **August 24:** Online fall session 1 courses begin
- **September 2:** Standard and on-site session 1 courses begin
- **September 8:** Online fall session 2 courses begin
- **September 21:** Online fall session 3 courses begin
- **October 5:** Online fall session 4 courses begin
- **October 23:** On-site fall session 2 courses begin

► CONTACT US!

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For more information, visit the Undergraduate Advising Web page at www.umuc.edu/ugadvising. For help registering via MyUMUC, visit <http://webservices.umuc.edu/soc/sochelp/help.html>.

REGISTER FOR SUMMER 2008 COURSES! There's still time to register for summer 2008 undergraduate courses. Course listings are available at www.umuc.edu/gen. Courses start May 27.

Undergraduate Advising Mission Statement

The mission of the Undergraduate Advising Center is to retain and empower all students to achieve their academic goals by providing unsurpassed accessibility to the university's resources, knowledgeable guidance, and an unwavering commitment to world class service. In collaboration with the UMUC community, we will advance our vision of bold global leadership.



There's still time to register for summer term 2008 undergraduate classes starting May 27!
Course listings are available at www.umuc.edu/gen.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: What should my major be? How can I choose a major? Are there some majors I can complete more quickly than others?

ANSWER: Many UMUC students find it difficult to choose a major, and with the busy lives they lead, it's easy for them to fall into the trap of choosing a major based on the amount of time it will take to complete a degree. Focus, instead, on pursuing a degree in an area that appeals to you. UMUC provides three major resources to help you get started on choosing the right major for you or changing your current major.

- The School of Undergraduate Studies Catalog: The course catalog offers a wealth of information about the content and objectives of each major at UMUC. The catalog also details all of the courses required for each major, which will give you an idea of whether the majors you are considering will help you meet your personal and professional goals.

- The "How to Choose a Major" Web page: This page can be found online at www.umuc.edu/ugp. Scroll down and click on "How to Choose a Major" under "Degrees and Certificates." This page will help you evaluate your interests and career goals and can recommend some majors and minors that may be a good fit for you.

- Career Services: UMUC's Career Services offers various resources to help you choose a major based on your ultimate career goals, as well as online assessments to help you identify your interests, skills, abilities, and values. Career Services also provides information on potential careers and recommends majors based on the careers students want to pursue. Career counselors are available by appointment. Contact Career Services at 800-888-UMUC (8682), ext. 6785, or at 301-985-6785, or by e-mail at careerservices@umuc.edu. If you would like to change your major or minor, please e-mail your advisor.

EXCEL—Is It Right for You?

Do you have extensive practical or job experience? Have you taken courses or completed training that you haven't earned college credit for? If so, UMUC's EXCEL program may be for you.

UMUC's Prior Learning department oversees the EXCEL program, a program through which students can earn up to 30 credits toward a bachelor's degree based on the verifiable college-level learning they've gained through life experiences. Students who have completed WRIT 101 Introduction to Writing (or an equivalent course) and LIBS 150 Information and Literacy Research Methods and have completed a degree progress report are eligible.

Here's how you can get started:

- Apply online at www.umuc.edu/priorlearning. Click on "EXCEL Through Experiential Learning" and then on "Apply."

- Once you have been accepted, register for EXCL 301 Learning Analysis and Planning.

- Your EXCL 301 professor will review your résumé and experience, decide which courses you should seek credit for, and help you create a portfolio that documents your college-level learning. Your advisor can help you to determine how many credits and what kinds of credits you should try to obtain through the program.

- At the end of the semester, faculty experts will evaluate your portfolio and make credit recommendations based on the learning narratives and supporting documentation. These credits are charged at a discounted tuition rate, and are awarded after the faculty review is complete.

Note: Some additional fees are associated with the EXCEL program. Further information about fees and answers to frequently asked questions can be found online at www.umuc.edu/priorlearning. Click on "EXCEL Through Experiential Learning" and "FAQs."

► QUICK FACTS

Recommended Summer Courses

UMUC recommends these great courses for the summer:

- LIBS 150 Information Literacy and Research Methods (required for all students)
- EDCP 100 Principles and Strategies of Successful Learning (recommended elective)

Finding your advisor

If you don't know who your advisor is, log in to MyUMUC at <https://my.umuc.edu>. Enter the student portal and click on "MyAcademics," and then on "Registration/Enrollment." Then select "View my Assigned Advisor."

Making a Payment

Tuition payment is due at the time of registration. Log on to MyUMUC to check your account balance and your payment due date/s. Click on "MyFinances," "Finances," and "Account Summary" to see what you owe. To make a payment, click on "MyFinances," "Finances," and "Make a Payment."

Financial Aid Questions

Questions about your financial aid or financial aid processes should be directed to the Student Financial Services department. Contact Student Financial Services at

Phone: 800-888-UMUC (8682), ext. 7510
301-985-7510

E-mail: finaid@umuc.edu

Technical Support:

If you have any difficulties logging on to MyUMUC or accessing your online classroom in WebTycho, contact technical support.

MyUMUC
Technical Support: 877-868-2847

WebTycho Help: 800-807-4862