

Frequently Asked Questions About Freshman Requirements

1. I took an AP test in French [or any other foreign language]. Do I still need to take an SAT Subject test in French?

No, your AP test score will suffice as a placement test. In fact, if you took, or plan to take, any AP or IB exam, you do not need to take the SAT Subject test in the same subject. You should take an SAT Subject test only if you did not, or will not, take the AP or IB exam. You can earn college credit with qualifying scores on AP or IB exams, while the only SAT Subject exams for which you can earn credit are the foreign language exams. Qualifying scores on SAT Subject tests may be used to waive requirements (no credits earned).

2. Do I have to take a foreign language at Wheaton College?

Yes; however, some students meet the foreign language requirement with a qualifying score on an AP, IB, or SAT Subject exam. Others may take a test in a language that is not taught at Wheaton College. (Such students should see the Foreign Language Department for test options and fees.) Students are required to pass the final exam in the 200 level course of French, German, Greek, Spanish, or Mandarin Chinese or, Hebrew 401. (See Course Guide p. 8)

3. If I score 4 or 5 on the AP US History exam, will that meet the general education history requirement?

Such a score will earn gen ed credit ONLY if you are seeking teacher certification. If you will be a history major, it will count toward your major requirements. Otherwise it will be elective credit. That is, the 4 credits you earn will count toward the 124-hour degree requirement. The history gen ed requirement can be met with qualifying test scores in European or World History or by HIST 105, 111 or 115, or, in some cases, HIST 131. (See Course Guide p. 10)

4. Since I had AP calculus, do I still need to take the Quantitative Skills Competency test at Orientation?

No, if you had AP Calculus AB score of 3, 4, or 5 or AP Calculus BC score of 2, 3, 4 or 5, you've met the Quantitative Skills Competency.

5. When can I meet with an advisor to work out my class schedule?

You will not be assigned an advisor until after you submit your proposed class schedule. Your first meeting with your advisor will be during Freshman Orientation in the fall. All of the information that you need in order to select courses is posted on the Freshman Advising website: http://www.wheaton.edu/Registrar/fresh_advising/ . If you have specific questions, send them to Freshman.Advising@wheaton.edu , or call 630-752-7373.

6. Where do I direct questions about BannerWEB access?

Contact the Computing Services department at 630-752-4357. They will be able to assist you with your PIN and other questions you may have.

7. How do I get a "time ticket" to register in BannerWEB?

Freshmen cannot register using BannerWEB. You must submit a completed Proposed Class Schedule form that you were mailed or that you can print from this Web site. You may mail the form, email it as a pdf attachment to Freshman.Advising@wheaton.edu, or FAX it to 630-752-5245.

8. On the class schedule under Time, what does "R" mean?

Because we use one-letter abbreviations for days of the week, R is the abbreviation we use for Thursday, since we use T for Tuesday. So a course that meets "TR" meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

9. What are Quads?

Some 1- and 2-hour courses meet for only half of a semester. Those meeting during the first half are referred to as "A Quad" courses, and those meeting during the second half, as "B Quad" courses. A Quad courses end at fall [or spring] break, and B Quad courses begin after fall [or spring] break. The Quad designation on the course schedule appears in the column labeled "Qd". (See p. 3 of Course Guide, "Course Load")

10. I want to be a medical doctor; is it necessary for me to take both biology and chemistry my first semester?

Because the BIOL 241 and CHEM 236 courses are offered only in the fall semester, to keep from falling behind, it may be necessary for you to take both as a first semester freshman. Otherwise, you will have to wait until the next fall semester to begin the biology or chemistry sequence.

11. How can I register for the Oral Competency and Bible Competency exams?

Both exams are offered during the fall semester. The Broadcaster (official notices for students, faculty, and staff that is published in "my wheaton" online) will have information about how, when, and where to register. (See p. 1 of memo sent with Competency testing information.)

12. How can I test out of the Writing requirement?

Only students with qualifying test scores on the ACT Writing, SAT Essay, or AP Lang/Comp exam are exempt from taking writing. Some of those students may have to take ENGW 104 (2 hours). All other students must take ENGW 103 Writing Effective Prose (4 hours). (See brochure Meeting General Education Requirements at Wheaton College by Testing.)

13. Will I have a chance to change my schedule before classes begin?

Yes, anytime before freshman registration closes for the summer (July 7th), and again during fall freshman orientation.