

The KU Advising Nest

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Lawrence Campus Alerts
Alert.ku.edu

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Send a plain text message to Listproc@ku.edu with signoff uac-l in the body of the message.

The message must come from the original address used to subscribe.

I hope that you find the information within the newsletter useful. If you have a question, please feel free to contact me by email at smarino@ku.edu or by phone at 785-864-0178.

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING

The Power of Electives



By Carsten Holm, Academic Advisor

What was the most engaging learning experience you have had? Chances are good that the experience you may be thinking of was something you did voluntarily, not because it was required of you. It could have happened outside of the classroom, or it could be that you took a class that just sounded really interesting. At KU, we think it is important to have those learning experiences, and we want to encourage students to think of them as part of their education.

Understandably, many of the students we advise think first and foremost about requirements, and some even think that that a class that is not required is "wasted." Fortunately, for the vast majority of students, their degree plans allow for much more flexibility than they realize, and with proper planning elective courses will not only count; they can

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also provide a quality experience that can be a lasting inspiration long after graduation. To see how, let's take a look at how the components of a KU degree fit together.

The typical degree at KU consists of at least 120 credit hours of coursework distributed between the KU Core, degree-specific requirements such as the BA language requirement, major requirements, and electives. For most students, the KU Core, the major, and the degree-specific requirements add up to considerably less than 120, and the difference gives students the power to pursue engaging learning experiences that they can choose for themselves. That is where electives can become an essential part of your student's KU education.

An elective is basically a course that gives students credit towards the 120 hours needed for graduation but is not otherwise taken to satisfy a requirement. That means that any course that the student is eligible to enroll in can work. Some students choose to pursue creative interests in music or art that can enrich their lives for decades after graduation. Others choose to take courses that pique their intellectual interest, or they decide to learn the language of a country they would like to visit some day – or the heritage language. The possibilities are not quite limitless, but almost.

Because the KU Core has many interesting courses at the junior or senior level, there are excellent reasons for your student not to focus exclusively on courses that satisfy requirements in the first year or two at KU. There is room – and good reason – to consider taking an elective in the freshman or sophomore year. Sometimes, it can be the starting point for a deeper commitment that can lead to a minor or one of KU's engaged learning certificates. Not all degree plans leave enough freedom for students to pursue interests beyond the major, but many do. If you or your student are in doubt, the best approach is to schedule an appointment with an advisor to talk about electives. Don't let your student pass up a powerful learning experience because they are not sure how it will fit into their degree plan.

The School of Health Professions wants your student!

Is your student interested in a healthcare profession? The School of Health Professions has programs for everyone. Here's what we have to offer:

Programs at all levels – undergraduate, graduate, and certificate

Looking for patient contact? We have programs with lots of patient contact. Looking for no patient contact? We have these too.

Lots of hands-on experience in every program with clinicals and practicums

Small class sizes – the largest class at the School of Health Professions is 64 students

Excellent job prospects

We have fifteen different programs. They include:

Audiology
Clinical Laboratory Science
Health Information Management
Molecular Biotechnology
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Respiratory Care
Speech-Language Pathology
And more!

Student Account Services (formerly Bursar's Office)

Does your student have a hold?

By Karen Bailey, Assistant Comptroller

Enrollment for summer 2016 and fall 2016 is rapidly approaching. Besides thinking about their next classes, students should look to see if they have any holds on their account. Holds must be cleared before trying to enroll.

One of the holds could be an NPY hold. If they have an NPY hold, it means there is an unpaid balance on their student account. These balances need to be paid prior to enrolling. If the student doesn't have the necessary funds to pay the outstanding charges, they should contact Financial Aid and Scholarships for assistance and guidance.

Academic Achievement and Access Center

By Kristin Scott, Associate Director

It's Spring Break—time for students to rest and refresh! It's also a time to get ready for the next eight weeks of the semester! If your student speaks about the need for help in a specific course(s), opportunities for academic engagement outside the classroom are available to them. Specifically, through the AAAC, Tutoring Services and Supplemental Instruction are available!

Tutoring Services - The deadline to request a tutor group through Tutoring Services is **Friday, April 1**. Tutoring Services provides small group, course specific tutoring. It is structured by design in that the student meets with the same tutor, at the same time, in the same place, two times a week. Students may login to our request system where they can see if a tutor group meets their availability. If a course is not listed or a time does not meet their schedule, they should request a group and a tutor may be available. More information can be found at www.tutoring.ku.edu.

Supplemental Instruction - Supplemental Instruction is offered in 20 courses this semester and students enrolled may attend SI Sessions and SI Office Hours throughout each week. The students in these classes may attend as many SI offerings as their schedules allow! There is not a deadline but students **should not delay**—we know that regular participation in SI bodes well for their academic performance in class. More information can be found at www.si.ku.edu.

Importantly, students should not hesitate in seeking academic support immediately following Spring Break—in addition to the AAAC, additional resources include: visiting Professors during office hours, using help rooms if available, and participating in other KU resources (like the KU Writing Center).

The Academic Achievement and Access Center is available if you have any questions, you may call (785) 864-4064 or visit the AAAC website at www.achievement.ku.edu.

Financial Aid & Scholarships

By Carolyn Caine, Financial Aid Program Coordinator

Completing Your Financial Aid File

Once KU receives your student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Financial Aid & Scholarships staff review each application to make sure we have all the information we need to award financial aid. In some cases, students need to submit additional information to complete their financial aid files before KU can provide information about their financial aid awards.

KU's Financial Aid & Scholarships staff will send students notice of missing information and reminders to provide missing information primarily through email. Students can also check to see if there are any outstanding items for financial aid on the To Do list in Enroll & Pay. To access that list, students can log in at sa.ku.edu and click on the Student Center.

Summer Financial Aid

Enrollment in KU courses for summer 2016 starts soon. If your student is considering summer courses, don't forget to complete the Summer 2016 Financial Aid Request form, available at affordability.ku.edu/forms. Students are required to enroll in a minimum of three credit hours during the term, through an official KU program, to receive federal loans, grants, or work-study. To ensure financial aid is in place by the time the summer 2016 term begins, submit the request form no later than Friday, April 15.

If your student has questions about summer financial aid and how it affects eligibility for financial aid in other terms, contact Financial Aid & Scholarships at 785-864-4700 or financialaid@ku.edu. We also take appointments on a scheduled or walk-in basis.

Academic Calendar

Spring Schedule

Tuesday, January 26, 2016	First day 50% refund *
Monday, February 8, 2016	Last day to withdraw/drop without a "W" *
Monday, February 8, 2016	First Period Drop ends *
Monday, February 8, 2016	Last day to request a Petition to Late Enroll form (non TBA, full semester classes)
Tuesday, February 9, 2016	Second Period Drop begins *
Monday, February 15, 2016	Census Day - 20th Day of classes
Monday, February 15, 2016	Last day to add or swap a class *
Monday, February 15, 2016	Last day petition late enrollment (non TBA, full semester)
Monday, February 15, 2016	Last day 50% refund *
Tuesday, February 16, 2016	Start Credit/No Credit *
Tuesday, February 16, 2016	0% refund begins *
Thursday, February 18, 2016	Tuition Adjustment & Residency Application deadlines
Monday, February 29, 2016	Deadline Credit/No Credit *
Tuesday, March 1, 2016	Undergraduate Application for Graduation deadline
Tuesday, March 1, 2016	Law Application for Graduation deadline
Tuesday, March 1, 2016	Last day to submit Application for Graduation and assure inclusion in the Commencement Program and July diploma delivery
Monday, March 14, 2016	First day of Spring Break
Sunday, March 20, 2016	Last Day of Spring Break
Monday, April 18, 2016	Second Period Drop Ends *
Monday, April 18, 2016	Last day to withdraw from a class or the University semester classes, excluding Law)
Friday, April 22, 2016	Law Grade Roster creation
Thursday, May 5, 2016	Last day of classes
Thursday, May 5, 2016	Grade Roster creation (excludes Law)
Friday, May 6, 2016	Stop Day
Monday, May 9, 2016	First day of Finals
Friday, May 13, 2016	Last day of Finals
Friday, May 13, 2016	Graduate Application for Graduation deadline
Sunday, May 15, 2016	Commencement
Friday, May 20, 2016	Grade Submission deadline -- 11:59 p.m. (excludes Law)
Saturday, May 21, 2016	Collection of non-posted grades begins for all careers
Friday, May 27, 2016	Law grade submission deadline -- 11:59 p.m.
Friday, May 27, 2016	Law grade roster entry access shut off
Friday, May 27, 2016	Grade roster entry access shut off (excludes LAW)
Friday, June 10, 2016	Course Completion Deadline
Friday, June 10, 2016	Official Degree list due
Monday, June 20, 2016	Degrees post to transcripts

KU News - Headlines:

Chancellor's Report 2016
<http://report2016.ku.edu/>

University Innovation Alliance receives \$3.85M in new grant funding to improve student success
<https://news.ku.edu/2016/03/04/university-innovation-alliance-receives-385-million-new-grant-funding-improve-student>

More News

Looking for more news from KU? [Sign up](#) for Inside KU, a daily newsletter from the KU News Service.

Other Useful KU Websites:

Academic Achievement and Access Center: <http://www.achievement.ku.edu>
Admissions: <http://www.admissions.ku.edu/>
Billing Information (Bursar): <http://student-account-services.ku.edu>
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Services: www.collegesas.ku.edu
Counseling and Psychological Services: <http://www.caps.ku.edu>
Enrollment questions: www.registrar.ku.edu/
Financial Aid & Scholarships: <http://www.financialaid.ku.edu>
First-Year Experience: <http://firstyear.ku.edu/orientation>
KU Continuing Education: <http://kuce.ku.edu/>
KU Online Courses: www.online.ku.edu
KU Parent/Family Assistance: <http://www.vpss.ku.edu/pal.shtml>
KU Writing Center: <http://www.writing.ku.edu>
Multicultural Affairs: <http://www.oma.ku.edu/>
Parking Department: <http://www.parking.ku.edu>
Sexual Harassment: <http://www.sexualharassment.ku.edu>
Student Account Services: <http://student-account-services.ku.edu>
Student Affairs: <http://studentaffairs.ku.edu/>
Student Involvement and Leadership Center: <http://www.silc.ku.edu>
Student Housing: www.housing.ku.edu/
Supportive Educational Services: <http://www.apex.ku.edu/>
Timetable of Classes online: <http://www.classes.ku.edu>
Undergraduate Advising Center: www.advising.ku.edu
University Career Center: www.kucareerhawk.com
Watkins Health Services: <http://studenthealth.ku.edu/>
(For specific School phone numbers, call KU Directory at [785-864-2700](tel:785-864-2700).)

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