

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT ENROLLING IN A FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR

### Where can I find the most current information on First-Year Seminar offerings?

For current information about seminar offerings, see the [LSA Course Guide](#).

### How can I find out what seminars are still open?

All seminars remain closed until Summer Orientation. Then the FYS office tries to post online a weekly list of all **OPEN seminars** as of a specific date. For real-time information, refer to the [Time Schedule](#). Most spaces are open for general enrollment, while others are reserved for participants in a Michigan Learning Community. Be sure you meet the criteria for enrolling. Some spaces are designated as “**enrollment management**,” which is simply a tool for keeping some a number of spaces closed until later in the summer.

### What if only certain sections of a course are open?

***This is often the case, so you need to pay very careful attention to section numbers!***

For almost all first-year seminars, each section addresses a *distinct topic* taught by a *different instructor*. With only basic course information on Wolverine Access, many students assume that each section of a course varies only in time and unwittingly registers for an altogether different seminar than intended! Unfortunately, this mistake may not be discovered until most seminars are full or classes have begun.

### What if a seminar is closed and has no wait list?

*Just keep checking!* Spaces are opened incrementally during Summer Orientation to save spaces for students who register later in the summer. Classes open due to drop and add activity as well--even after classes begin! We discourage students emailing instructors about your special case and ask for permission to enroll. While occasional requests may be warranted, the goals of the FYS program make it essential to limit maximum enrollment to around 20.

### Can I take more than one first-year seminar?

Some students who register early do enroll in more than one first-year seminar, thus leaving fewer spaces for others who register later. While this practice is not prohibited, it is definitely discouraged. That being said, advisors may occasionally consider approving a student's elections if he or she has academically sound reasons for enrolling in a second FYS. Even though each seminar addresses an entirely different topic or is taken during a different term, students who enroll in two sections under the same course number may not receive credit until they request permission of the department.

### How many seminar spaces are available this term?

We currently have about 60 seminars scheduled for Fall 2009, with approximately 1150 available spaces. While students may not be able to enroll in a seminar they especially want, most are able to find space in another.

### Why does the FYS Program not include some courses or sections listed as "first-year seminars" in the First-Year Course Guide?

The FYS Program lists only seminars that conform to specific guidelines concerning factors such as faculty rank, enrollment restrictions, class format, and size.