

Scheduling Strategies for Freshmen

- ◆ Take a manageable unit load in the freshmen year. Non-working students should not take more than 16 units, including University 100. Working students should take no more than 13 units, including University 100.
- ◆ Don't schedule classes one after another. You will need some time to review information which you have just received in a class. You may want to transcribe the notes you have taken or go to the library.
- ◆ Look for GE courses in which you have done well in high school, have had some previous experience, or in which you have a particular interest.
- ◆ Drop a course during the first week of instruction if it is not right for you. You can make your decision based upon the following questions:
 1. Have I completed the listed prerequisites?
 2. Is this a lower division course (#100-299)? Only lower division courses are suitable for freshmen.
 3. Do I understand the instructor?
 4. Do I have enough time to spend on reading, writing, or research assignments? (If you want to receive an "A" grade, it is necessary for you to spend at least nine homework hours per week for each three unit class.)
 5. How well do I usually do on the types of tests required in this course?
- ◆ Take an English writing class during the first semester. Good writing skills are essential to a successful freshman year.
- ◆ Get help from an academic advisor. The Academic Advising Center, Educational Equity Program, Learning Alliance, Student Access to Science and other advising programs are anxious to help you chart a successful academic course.
- ◆ Officially drop classes through my.CSULB.edu or IVR during the first two weeks of the semester. During the third week of the semester, if you believe the course is not right for you, use a schedule adjustment form to drop the course. Even if the instructor volunteers to drop you from a course, YOU must drop it officially. Otherwise, you will receive a "WU" which will count as an "F" in your grade point average.

