Programs of Study

The programs of study, known as majors, include a narrative description and a summary of course requirements. Students should read the complete narrative descriptions because the summary eliminates essential information. An explanation of the components of each course entry follows.

Unless an exception is noted, course numbering typically follows standard guidelines. Courses numbered 10000 are general education and introductory courses. Courses numbered 20000 are intermediate, advanced, or upper-level courses that are open only to undergraduates. Courses numbered 30000 and above are graduate courses that are available only to undergraduate students who obtain the consent of the instructor. Higher numbered courses within these categories do not indicate increasing levels of difficulty. Undergraduates registered for 30000-level courses will be held to graduate-level requirements. College students use the undergraduate number to register for courses that are cross listed with graduate divisions or professional schools. In some departments, students with advanced standing and consent of instructor may register for higher-level courses. Except for language instruction courses, these courses are not listed in this catalog; students should contact individual departments for further information. A number shown, for example, as 211xx, indicates that it is a course within the series 21100 through 21199; any information that describes 211xx applies to the entire range of courses available within the series.

Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the College, many courses have departmental cross listings. For example, “Introduction to the Civilizations of South Asia” is cross listed among the departments of Anthropology, History, and South Asian Languages and Civilizations, as well as the Division of Social Sciences. Cross listings are found in parentheses after the course title. Subject abbreviations are listed elsewhere in this catalog.

A narrative description follows the course number, title, and cross listings (if any). Unless otherwise designated, courses are taught on campus.

PQ, which is an abbreviation for “prerequisite,” may appear before the description. Before registering for Organic Chemistry, for example, a student must first have completed General Chemistry. L at the end of the entry indicates that the course has a laboratory requirement. Courses with laboratories do not yield extra credit.

For faculty contact information, visit the University of Chicago online directory at directory.uchicago.edu. Many departmental websites include additional information about research and scholarly interests.

Major revisions to this online edition of the 2010–11 College course catalog were based on information received before April 1, 2010; and updates are posted regularly. For updated information and additional course listings, consult the time schedules (timeschedules.uchicago.edu), as well as appropriate departmental offices and websites. Information is subject to change without notice.