Registration FAQ

Q: The class is full, but I want to register for the course, can you add me?
A: Sorry, no. I have no control over enrollment no matter how delighted I would be for you to take the course.

Q: Are you sure? I read that….
A: I am absolutely certain that I have no control over enrollment. My excitement for you to take the course is unfortunately irrelevant. It is unfortunate that there is considerable misinformation about this process floating about.

Q: Okay, can you add me to the waiting list?
A: It is now departmental policy to not have wait lists for courses because the enrollment system is not intelligently setup to handle wait lists. Wait lists have been artificially giving students hope and eating up too much time for the advising office. Wait lists have not been working, so they have been cut.

Q: Can you increase the enrollment cap?
A: No, I cannot increase the enrollment cap. I have no control over enrollment.

Q: Will the cap be raised?
A: Possibly. Depends on when you are asking. Enrollment is usually capped a little lower than maximum to enable particular types of students to be added to the course at specific times (e.g., some seats are reserved for transfer students early in the enrollment period). This process again is again outside my control, and I honestly don't know how it works. I believe that the caps are raised shortly before the semester begins and about a week or so after it starts. If you have more questions about enrollment caps, talk to the advising office in Siebel Center.

Q: But I really need to take this course to graduate <on time, in 3 semesters, insert other reason>. Can't you make an exception?
A: I really am sorry, but I have no control over enrollment. If you have a truly extenuating circumstance, then your best bet is to talk to the advising office, but getting into the course is unlikely even if you do talk to them.

Q: Well, what can I do then?
A: Check back in the registration system every day and hope that someone has dropped and you can take their slot. Someone (even many people) WILL drop, but you will need to be vigilant to take their spot before the semester begins.

Q: The semester has started, and I'm still not registered for the course but still want add it. What should I be doing now?
A: 1) attend lecture and participate in the clicker questions, 2) complete the prairielearn homework assignments, 3) attend any discussion section and lab that works for you, but be respectful to those who are actually registered and let them find seats first, 4) sign up for Piazza so that you don't miss any announcements, 5) Make friends in the course and ask them to help you access any lab materials that you can't access without subversion. Note, we cannot give you subversion access until AFTER you register for the course. Because you can access prairielearn before registering, there will be NO late policy for prairielearn for students who add the course late aside from the standard 80% credit for late submissions policy.

Q: The last day to add courses is soon, and I'm still not registered for the course but still want add it. Can I add the course after the last day to add courses?
A: Yes, there will still be opportunities to add courses after the last day to add courses, but it will still be a bit difficult to add the course. There will likely be a handful of seats that open up in the course over the course of next week. If you want to add, you will need to get a late add form from the advising office and ask me to sign it. If you want me to sign the form, I will expect that you have been doing the activities listed above. I want you to be in a position to succeed. If you have not been keeping up with the work, I can't in good conscience sign your form because I don't want to set you up to fail.

Q: I just added the course, can I still submit the labs I missed for full credit?
A: Yes. You have 48 hours from the moment you are given subversion access to submit any missed labs after you register for the course.

Q: I just added the course, can I still get full credit for the discussion section quizzes I missed?
A: Sorry. No. There is no practical way for us to give credit back for these assignments. If you attended discussion sections as described above, you should have been able to take the quizzes when they were offered.

Q: I just added the course, can I still get full credit for the PrairieLearn homework?
A: You should ideally have been keeping up with the PrairieLearn homework as that access was not restricted. You can still earn up to 80% of the credit for any late submissions on PrairieLearn.

Q: I just added the course, when will I get subversion access?
A: Unfortunately, we do not control subversion access. Subversion access is tied to the official course registration list and a repository will be automatically generated for you once your registration propagates through the system. The speed at which this happens varies, so we cannot make any promises.