A copy of this email message, being sent to students in Medical Sciences 2, is located on the landing page for Medical Sciences 2. This landing page is a hub of links that are useful for students in Medical Sciences 2.

Please read all of this information - I will refer you back to this email message if you send questions that are answered below!

Registration begins today for students going into Medical Sciences 2 with enrollment appointments generated randomly and spread throughout this week. Your enrollment appointment time represents the first time that you can register for your Fall/Winter courses and is posted in Student Center. You can continue to revise your courses until September 17th.

Although you are not registered in a module(s) in Medical Sciences 2, you need to know in which module(s) you would like to register for Year 3 BMSc when registering for courses. See Courses for Year 2 for which courses to take during Medical Sciences 2. Keep in mind that your course selection should be geared toward the module(s) in which you wish to register in Year 3 but that you should have a back-up plan (e.g., another Honours Specialization module or Double Majors). The chart of minimum averages for admission to Honours Specialization modules has been updated for 2020/21 and is accessible via the landing page for Medical Sciences 2.

When registering for courses, you must satisfy the prerequisites (found in the Academic Calendar) for each course. If you don’t satisfy the prerequisites to take a course, you may contact the department offering the course to ask if you might be granted special permission to register without the prerequisite. Keep in mind that prerequisites are in place for a reason and that special permission is not granted in many cases. Some departments may grant special permission for students to take a course without the prerequisite but they may wish to give students with the prerequisite a fair chance to register before students without the prerequisite. In these situations, special permission to take a course without the prerequisite will be accompanied by a date on which you may register in the course. It takes time for special permission requests to be reviewed and you can see what/when special permissions have been granted for you on Student Center > My Academics > View Special Permissions.

In addition to satisfying prerequisites, you may also have to satisfy any priorities in place for a course. Priorities are a way in which departments manage the enrollment in some of their courses which have a fair amount of enrollment pressure on them. Priorities are noted in the Fall/Winter timetable.

- All students in Medical Sciences 2 have priority access to Biochemistry 2280A, Biology 2290F/G, 2382A/B, 2581A/B, Biology/Stats 2244A/B and Chemistry 2213A/2223B.

- Most basic medical science courses have priorities in place during the Priority Enrollment Period which can include reserved spaces or limited spaces for students in certain modules/programs (e.g., Medical Sciences 2). Take a very close look at the constraint charts for the 2000-level courses offered by the various basic medical science departments (Anatomy and Cell Biology 2200B, Epidemiology 2200B, Microbiology and Immunology 2500A/B, Pharmacology 2060B) to see what priorities are in place for students in Medical Sciences 2. If you receive an error message during registration such as “available seats are reserved …”, then this means that you either don’t have priority for the course or the limited number of spaces available to students in Medical Sciences 2 have been filled. You cannot register for the course when you get this error message but you can put yourself on a wait list (see wait lists for courses below). Basic medical science departments do NOT grant special permission to waive constraints.

Fall/Winter Timetable:

Although many courses are offered online this year, there are often dates/times associated with online courses so that instructors can hold live lectures which may/may not be recorded for later viewing. Many basic medical science departments have created condensed course outlines to provide a bit more information about the timing of their courses than is posted in the Fall/Winter timetable. Even though lectures may be recorded, if you want to register for two courses that have conflicting dates/times, then you have to see if both instructors would be willing to grant you special permission to register with a timetable conflict.

NOTE: Manual intervention is required for you to register in a course when you have special permission to either register in a course despite a timetable conflict or register on a particular date in a course for which you are missing the prerequisite. In these situations, you need the assistance of the Office of the Registrar (via either the live chat function that pops up in Draft My Schedule and on some of their webpages or the virtual helpline) to register in the course. Keep in mind that putting yourself on a wait list is not helpful for a course for which you have been granted special permission AND you need manual intervention to register in the course. You will not be enrolled from the wait list since you either lack the prerequisite or have a conflict (see wait lists for courses below).

Some students think that a lack of dates/times for lectures or labs or tutorials means that the departments have not yet determined when courses will be offered. This isn’t the case with most courses, as far as I know. For example, I checked with the instructors for Biology 2382B and 2581B and they have confirmed that no dates/times are associated with these courses because lectures/learning activities are being recorded and can be viewed online – there are no “live “components to the course.
Wait lists for courses:
When you register for courses, you can put yourself on a wait list for a course that is full or for which you do not have priority access IF the course has a wait list enabled. Make sure, however, that you know the impact of putting yourself on a wait list before registration begins (see Wait List a Class). If you come up as the next person on the wait list (and you satisfy the conditions to be enrolled from the wait list when the Office of the Registrar runs the wait lists), then you will be enrolled in the course. The Office of the Registrar will NOT notify students to ask if they truly want to be registered in the course from the wait list – they will register students in the course if they satisfy all the conditions for enrollment from the wait list. It is wise to indicate which course you would like to swap for the course for which you are joining the wait list when you are registering for courses.

If you don’t have priority to register for a course and the course has a wait list enabled, then you can put yourself on a wait list even if the entire course has not filled to capacity. The Office of the Registrar will run wait lists once the priorities lift and you might be enrolled in the course on that date (usually July 29th for most 2000-level courses but check the Fall/Winter timetable for all courses)

Keep in mind that, to be enrolled from a wait list, you must meet the conditions for enrollment from the wait list: you must have the prerequisite, you must satisfy any priorities in place, adding the course will not cause a timetable conflict, and adding the course will not put you in a course overload (course overload = either more than five courses in one term or more than 5.0 courses for the Fall/Winter).

NOTE: there are no wait lists for 2000-level Biology courses.

If a required course becomes full, then you may contact the department offering the course to seek special permission to register even though the course has reached its capacity. The BMSUE Office does not have the authority to register students in any course that has reached its capacity.

If you are taking a summer course on a Letter of Permission at another university, then make sure that you order an official transcript to be sent to Western upon completion of the course.

I hope that you find this information useful.

... Kathy Boon
BMSUE Coordinator