

About the Catalog

A Guide to Using the 2024-25 APU Catalog

The university's catalog is a comprehensive source of information to help students throughout their college experience. This guide helps students navigate the catalog by offering a glossary defining, in common language, the various academic terms and acronyms used throughout the catalog.

University Structure

Classroom faculty at APU hold positions in academic departments, which are organized within either a college, a school, or both.

Degrees

A degree is an academic rank that the university confers on a student who satisfactorily completes a designated program of study. APU grants the following undergraduate (also called baccalaureate degrees), master's and doctoral degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA)
- Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)
- Bachelor of Music (BM)
- Bachelor of Science (BS)
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
- Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)
- Master of Arts (MA)
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Master of Business Management (MBM)
- Master of Divinity (MDiv)
- Master of Fine Arts (MFA)
- Master of Music (MM)
- Master of Public Health (MPH)
- Master of Science (MS)
- Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)
- Master of Social Work (MSW)
- Educational Specialist (EdS)
- Doctor of Divinity (DMin)
- Doctor of Education (EdD)
- Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)
- Doctor of Psychology (PsyD)

Major

A major (<http://catalog.apu.edu/policies-procedures/undergraduate/major-minor-policies/>) is an undergraduate program of study that provides students with the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to pursue a specific career or advanced study and leads to an undergraduate degree in that subject. Each major is offered in an academic department or program. Undergraduate applicants to APU can select a major at the time they apply for admission.

For more information and advice regarding academic programs, see the Academic Resources (<http://catalog.apu.edu/student-resources/undergraduate/academic-resources/>) catalog entry.

Minor

A minor (<http://catalog.apu.edu/policies-procedures/undergraduate/declaration-change-majors-minors/>) is a supplemental undergraduate program of study, in a field different from a student's major, that provides educational breadth.

Concentrations, Emphases, and Tracks

These are groups of courses within a degree program designed to provide specialized knowledge.

Courses

Course descriptions explain the content and scope of each course. The course prefix (an abbreviation that represents the subject or offering department), course number, prerequisites, unit value, and other pertinent information can be accessed by clicking on the hyperlinked course number (e.g., MATH 110), which produces a pop-up window with the full description. Alternatively, view a full list of course options under the school, college, or department level by selecting the “Courses” tab.

Electives

These are courses that students can choose from within the parameters set by their departments.

The General Education (GE) Program

The GE program (<http://catalog.apu.edu/academics/general-education/general-education-requirements/>) comprises a common set of requirements and provides a common foundation of knowledge for all undergraduate programs. The specific requirements for a particular major degree program are listed under the academic department or program that offers the major.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites are one or more courses that *must* be completed—or other knowledge, skills, or standards that *must* be demonstrated—*before* a student is permitted to take certain courses. Prerequisites (if any) for a course are listed in the course's description in the catalog.

Some prerequisites have their own prerequisites, forming a string of courses that must be taken in sequence. The catalog course description shows only the last course in the prerequisite string of courses. For example, MATH 460 Topology has a prerequisite of MATH 450 Real Analysis. MATH 450 requires MATH 280 Discrete Mathematics and Proof, which requires MATH 165 Calculus I, which requires MATH 150 Precalculus *or* an appropriate score on the APU math placement assessment *or* MATH 149 Fundamentals of Precalculus (which may be taken concurrently; see next paragraph). It is important that students are aware of these prerequisite strings to ensure timely completion of all requirements.

Statements in the catalog course descriptions may also contain the word “concurrently,” which means that two or more courses may be taken in the same term, or “corequisite,” which means that the course or courses *must* be taken in the same term (or some prior term) as that of the course being described.

If a student does not meet a prerequisite as outlined in a course's description, but through alternative means can demonstrate to the department offering the course that he or she possesses the necessary knowledge or skills, the department may grant the student permission to enroll in the course with consent of the department chair.

Cross-Listed Courses

These are courses that are shared by two or more academic departments and have identical titles, descriptions, units, and modes of instruction. They are interchangeable for degree requirements. They cannot be repeated for degree credit under separate prefixes.

Topic Courses

Topic courses are shown in the catalog with generic titles and are repeatable with different topics. Specific topic titles appear in the Schedule of Classes and on students' transcripts. Example: HIST 368 A Year in Time is repeatable with different topics; in this case, the topic varies each term with a focus on different years (e.g., 1492, 1776, 1865, 1968).

Credit Hour

A credit hour—the amount of work established by stated student learning outcomes and achievement—is approximately one hour (or 50-55 minutes) of classroom or direct faculty instruction, plus a minimum of two hours (for undergraduate) or three hours (for graduate) of out-of-class work, each week for a 16-week term (or the equivalent amount of work for a term of a different length). Classroom or direct faculty instruction and out-of-class student work leading to the award of credit hours may vary for courses that require laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, online work, research, guided study, study away, and other academic work to achieve the identified student learning outcomes. In addition, student workload may vary based upon program expectations established by national or regional accrediting bodies.

Semesters and Semester Units

Azusa Pacific is on the semester (term) system, offering three semesters (terms) per calendar year:

- Fall: September through December
- Spring: January through May
- Summer: May through August

Many graduate and undergraduate programs also employ 2, eight-week sessions in each of these terms.

For undergraduates, 24 units per year is considered full time, though a student must average 15 units per semester (30 per year) to complete the 120 total units required for graduation in a traditional four-year period.

For full-time graduate status, refer to the Study Load (<http://catalog.apu.edu/policies-procedures/graduate/general-enrollment-information/study-load/>) page in this catalog.

Many institutions are organized in quarters with quarter units. To convert APU semester units to quarter units, multiply by 1.5. For example, 6 APU semester units x 1.5 = 9 quarter units.

To convert quarter units to APU semester units, multiply by .667. For example, 9 quarter units x .667 = 6 semester units.

View the most current Academic Calendar (<http://www.apu.edu/calendar/academic/>) for more information. For answers to questions not answered here, contact the Academic Success Center (<https://www.apu.edu/academic-success/>).

Course Numbering and Subject Codes

Course Numbering System

Courses are generally numbered according to the following structure:

- 010-099: Nondegree credit or precollege courses
- 100-299: Courses primarily for freshman and sophomore students
- 300-399: Courses primarily for advanced undergraduate students, usually with prerequisite coursework
- 400-499: Courses for advanced undergraduates.
- 500-599: Master's and credential-level courses
- 600-699: Master's and doctoral-level courses
- 700-799: Doctoral-level courses

Course Subject Code System

Courses are identified by a subject abbreviation followed by a course number.

ABA	Applied Behavioral Analysis
ACCT	Accounting
AES	Applied Exercise Science
ALNG	Ancient Languages
ANIM	Animation
ART	Art
ASL	American Sign Language
ATHL	Athletics
BIOC	Biochemistry
BIOL	Biology
BIOT	Biotechnology
BUSI	Business Administration
CCSD	College Counseling and Student Development
CHEM	Chemistry
CHIN	Chinese
CINE	Cinematic Arts
CJ	Criminal Justice
CMUS	Commercial Music
COMM	Communication Studies
CS	Computer Science
DSGN	Design
ECON	Economics
EDCO	Educational Counseling
EDL	Educational Leadership
EDLS	Education – Liberal Studies

EDPY	Educational Psychology
EDUC	Education
ENGL	English
ENGR	Engineering
ENTR	Entrepreneurship
ETHN	Ethnic Studies
FFL	Fitness for Life
FIN	Finance
FREN	French
GAME	Gaming
GBBL	Biblical Studies: Graduate
GDMN	Doctoral Ministry
GE	General Education
GERM	German
GINS	Graduate Integrative Studies
GLBL	Global Studies
GMAC	Artist Certificate
GMIN	Graduate Ministry
GMUS	Graduate Music
GNRS	Graduate Nursing
GRAD	Faculty Development
GRKB	Greek (Biblical)
GRKC	Greek (Classical)
GSPH	Public Health
GTHE	Graduate Theology
GURS	Urban and Multicultural Programs
HEBB	Hebrew (Biblical)
HED	Higher Education
HEDL	Higher Education Leadership
HIST	History
HON	Honors
HROD	Human Resource and Organizational Development
HUM	Humanities
IBUS	International Business
JAPA	Japanese
JOUR	Journalism
KIN	Kinesiology
LDRS	Leadership Studies
LTN	Latin
MATH	Mathematics
MGMT	Management
MHA	Healthcare Administration
MIN	Ministry
MINC	Christian Ministries
MINY	Youth Ministry
MKTG	Marketing
MNCE	Ministry: Cultural Engagement
MODL	Modern Languages
MUS	Music
OPSY	Organizational Psychology
PADM	Public Administration
PCLS	Psychology: Child Life Specialist

PE	Physical Education
PHIL	Philosophy
PHYC	Physics
POLI	Political Science
PPSY	Clinical Psychology
PRAR	Art: Professional
PRBA	Business: Professional
PRBI	Biology: Professional
PRBL	Biblical Studies: Professional
PRCH	Chemistry: Professional
PRCJ	Criminal Justice: Professional
PRCO	Communication Studies: Professional
PREC	Early Childhood Education: Professional
PREN	English: Professional
PRGL	Global Studies: Professional
PRHI	History: Professional
PRLD	Leadership: Professional
PRMA	Math: Professional
PRMI	Ministry: Professional
PRMU	Music: Professional
PRPH	Philosophy: Professional
PRPO	Political Science: Professional
PRPS	Psychology: Professional
PRPY	Physics: Professional
PRRS	Religious Studies: Professional
PRSO	Sociology: Professional
PRSW	Social Work: Professional
PRTH	Theology: Professional
PRWR	Writing: Professional
PSYC	Psychology
PT	Physical Therapy
PUBR	Public Relations
RELG	Religion
RMS	Rehabilitation and Movement Science
RNRS	Nursing: Professional
SCW	Screenwriting
SOC	Sociology
SOCW	Social Work
SPAN	Spanish
SPED	Special Education
STAT	Statistics
TEP	Teacher Education Program
TESL	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
TESP	Teacher Education: Special Education
THEO	Theology: Undergraduate
THTR	Theater Arts
UBBL	Undergraduate Biblical Studies
UNRS	Undergraduate Nursing
VOC	Vocation
WEB	Website and Information Technology
WRIT	Writing