

**COUNSELOR  
CONFERENCE**

**Ask and You Shall Receive Answers:  
Enlightening Q&A  
with  
Admission Evaluators**

UC Counselor Conference  
September 2016

**UNIVERSITY  
OF  
CALIFORNIA**

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# First, answers to frequently asked questions

- **Definition of a Freshman Applicant**
- **Nuances in Meeting the Subject Requirements**
- **Problematic Subject Area Requirements**
- **International & Domestic Academic Records**
- **Senior Year Courses & Grades**
- **Provisions of Admission Offer**

**Then, questions from you!**

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# Definition of a Freshman Applicant

**Q:** If a student graduates from high school early, like in December, can they still apply as a freshman?

**Q:** If a student has completed college courses during high school, must they apply as a transfer?

**Q:** If a student will earn an AA degree/IGETC Certification, can they apply as a freshman?

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# Nuances in Meeting Requirements

**Q:** How is the UC freshman admission GPA calculated?

**Q:** By what test date must the SAT/ACT be completed? Is the writing/essay portion required?

**Q:** Which SAT exam should students take: old or new?

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# Nuances in Qualifications

**Q:** What is UC's ELC Criteria? How are students notified they are ELC?

**Q:** How can a high school participate in the ELC Program?

**Q:** What is the top 9% Statewide ?

**Q:** Can a student apply for freshman admission with a GED or California High School Proficiency Exam?

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# Validation

**Q:** My student took a course called 'Math' in China in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and is now taking Alg II at my high school. Does she need to go back and take Alg I to meet the a-g requirements?

**Q:** My student earned a D grade in the 1st sem of Spanish 1, but he passed the 2nd sem. He wants to move on to Spanish 2, but I think he needs to repeat the D grade first. Am I right?

**Q:** I have a student who passed the 1<sup>st</sup> sem of English 9, but she failed the 2<sup>nd</sup> sem. She thinks she should repeat the F grade, but 9<sup>th</sup> year grades aren't counted in the UC GPA. I think she should just move forward. Wouldn't the 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> year English courses validate the F grade anyway?

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# Repeats

**Q:** What about repeats? Does UC average grades?

**Q:** Can you repeat a bad grade?

**Q:** Does it have to be the exact same course?

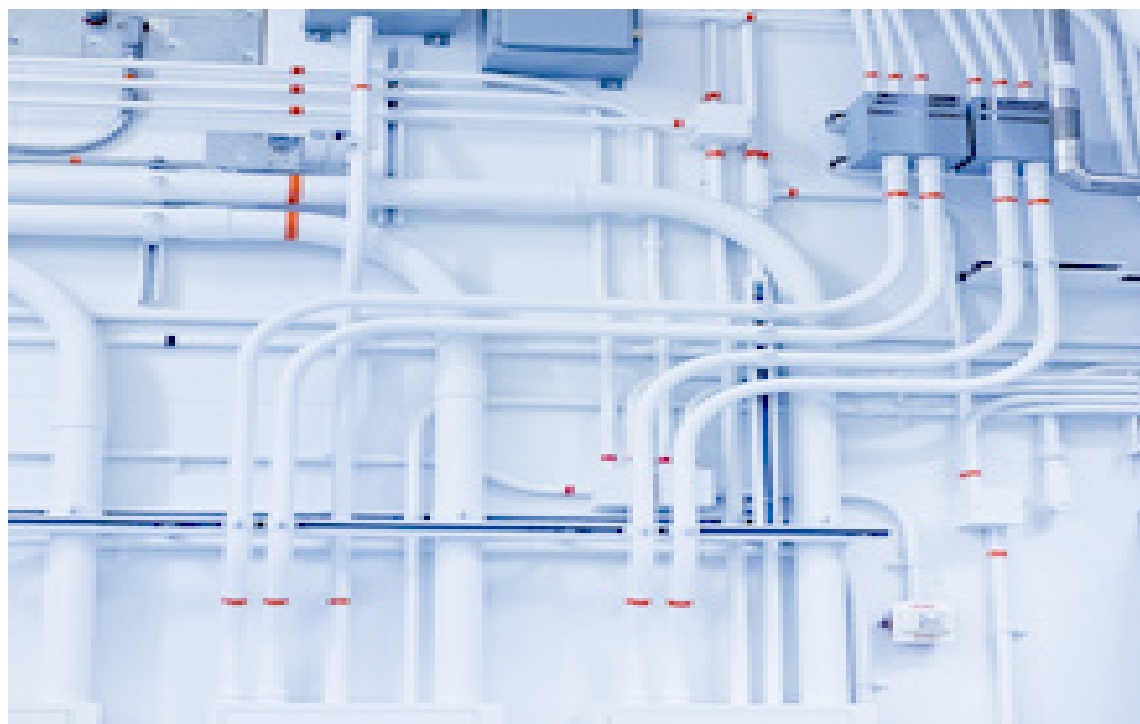
**Q:** What happens if a student doesn't repeat a course in which they earned a deficient grade?

**Q:** Is credit recovery acceptable?



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# Problematic Subject Area Requirements





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# The Geometry Requirement

**Q:** If a student has not taken a geometry course, can they still apply?

**Q:** I have a student who has a D (or F) in geometry, haven't they still met the requirement?

**Q:** My school switched to integrated math, I'm not sure what course my student should take next, can you help?

**Q:** We have a student at our school you came from another country and she was placed in Calculus, does she have to go back and take geometry?

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# Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)

**Q:** My student has been taking private violin lessons since she was 7, and she plays with a community orchestra. She hasn't taken a VPA course in high school, and she really wants to take an additional AP course next year. Can she use her outside experiences to meet the VPA requirement?

**Q:** A student completed one semester of dance and one semester of art. That satisfies the VPA requirement, right?

**Q:** Can a student take an online course to meet the VPA requirement?

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# Laboratory Science

**Q:** I heard UC requires a physical science course, but my student would rather take AP Environmental Science. The course list says this is an interdisciplinary science. Does that mean it's not a physical science?

**Q:** My student isn't strong in science and has already completed 1 year of Biology and 1 year of Chemistry. Does he have to take the 'recommended' 3<sup>rd</sup> year of science? Doesn't 'recommended' really mean 'required'?

**Q:** I know that an online high school lab science course is not acceptable, but what about an online college course?

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Did you know that UC has a *Quick Reference for Counselors* guide on our website?



You don't have to "chase butterflies" for answers, use Quick Reference.

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# International and Domestic Courses

## “Mixed Records”

**Q:** I have a student who says she’s proficient in German, does she have to take Spanish to meet the foreign language (LOTE) requirement?

**Q:** My student completed grade 9 in another country then took a UC-approved ESL course. How many more English courses does he need?

**Q:** Are students who’ve attended schools outside the U.S. required to report international courses/grades?

**Q:** My student was educated in Vietnam, where she completed math each year, how do I know if she has satisfied the area ‘c’ requirement?

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# Senior Year Course Changes & Deficient Grades

**Q:** How do students notify UC of class changes and/or deficient grades?

**Q:** I have a student who wants to drop AP Physics because he *thinks* he's going to get a C. What should he do?

**Q:** If a student earns a D in AP English in the 1<sup>st</sup> sem of senior year, does that mean she won't be offered admission?

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# Provisions of Admission Offer

**Q:** My student knows he's going to get a D in Honors Chemistry. Should he submit his SIR by May 1 anyway?

**Q:** I have a student who was in a car accident just before final exams. She may receive a D or two as final grades. Will UC cancel her offer of admission?

**Q:** My school cannot get transcripts to UC by July 1; it's not the students' fault, can UC help?

**Q:** Can a student defer the admission offer to another term?



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# Resources

## Quick Reference for Counselors

<http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/quick-reference-2016.pdf>

Be sure to bookmark the 2016 version (You can't refresh the browser-the new version has a different url)

## A-G Guide

<http://www.ucop.edu/agguide/>

## Subscribe to the UC Counselors and Advisers Bulletin

If you're already a subscriber? [Update your profile](#)

<http://universityofcalifornia.us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=85dd67450c3165234698f75b7&id=3bf066f8f5>

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# Future Questions

If your question was not answered today;  
or when you have questions in about  
UC systemwide  
freshman admission policies, practices and procedures,  
please email us at

[AskUC@ucop.edu](mailto:AskUC@ucop.edu)