# **Intro to MYDEGREES**

# For Advising



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# What is MYDEGREES?

MYDEGREES is the web-based degree audit system. It is an advising tool that enables students and their advisors to review past, present, and future academic coursework to evaluate which degree requirements are complete and which degree requirements are remaining.

Who has access to MYDEGREES?

- Advisors
- Students
- Office of the Registrar

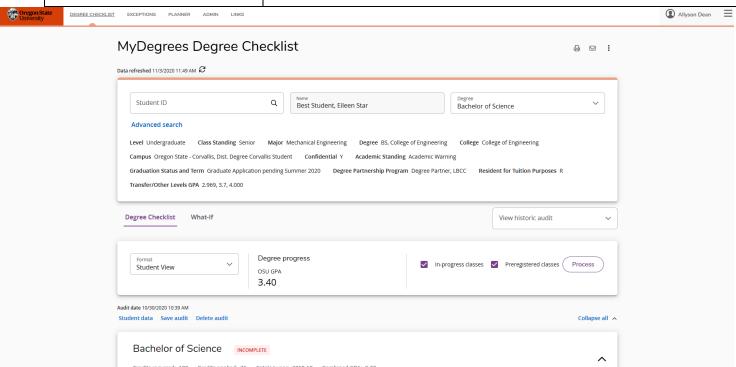
# The Concept of "Best Fit"

"Best fit" is an important MYDEGREES concept to understand. It is used to determine how degree requirements are met as the student takes courses toward degree fulfillment. MYDEGREES looks at each student's program holistically and places each course in the requirements checklist using a "best fit" scenario. The "best fit" process will not always be perfect, particularly when multiple possibilities exist. Classes may apply to different sections as more courses are taken.

✓ If there is a course requirement that does not appear where you expected on the checklist, please contact the Registrar's office.

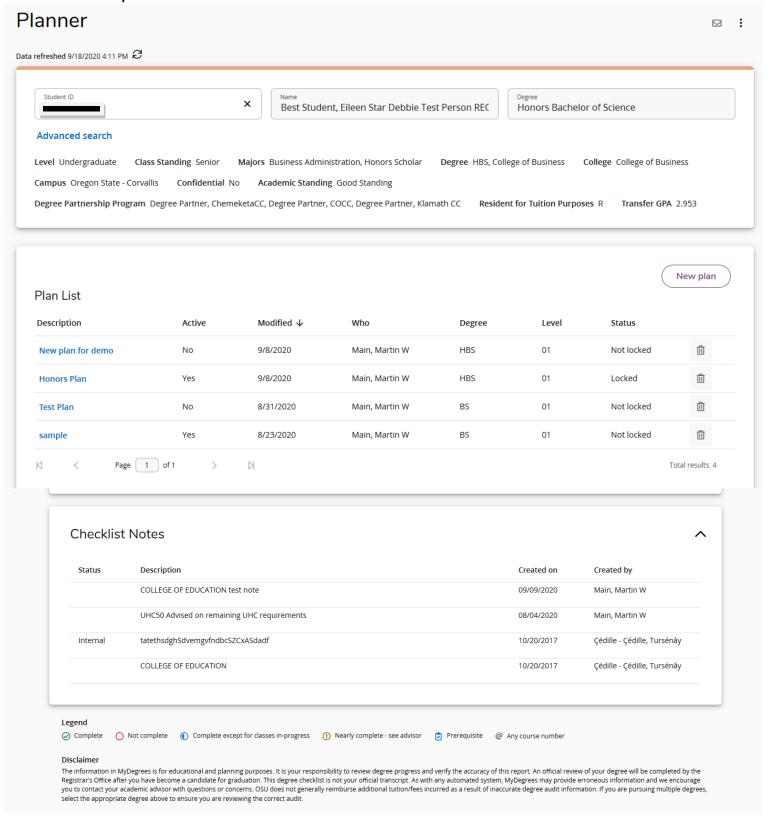
# **MyDegrees Functionality Summary**

| M       | yDegrees Functionality                      | Description  |
|---------|---|--|
|         | Degree Checklist                            |  |
|         | Degree Checklist: Student View (default)    | Provides general information about the student's complete and incomplete requirements, grouped into logical sections/blocks  |
| Format: | Degree Checklist: Registrar<br>Report       | Used primarily by the Registrar's Office, this displays the same information as the Student View.  Use to view hidden course substitutions and header information such as Minimum GPA or grade requirements for the block. |
| Forr    | Degree Checklist:<br>Registration Checklist | Shows only the unfulfilled requirements that are "Still Needed" on the checklist   |
|         | Class History Link                          | Provides a listing of all courses taken by the student, with grades and credits, grouped by the term taken   |
|         | Alpha History Link                          | Provides a listing of all courses taken by student in alpha order, with grades and credits   |
| Hi      | story                                       | Shows the last three student checklists that were run  |
| w       | hat-If                                      | Allows you to process speculative degree audits for a student using their current class history and freeze What-If scenarios. Students can freeze their own What-If scenarios.   |
| W       | hat-If History                              | Allows you to view available frozen What-If Scenarios  |



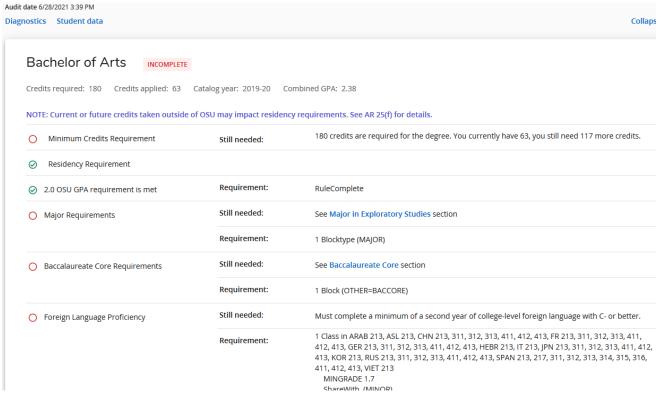
| MyD                 | egrees Functionality | Description   |
|---------------------|----------------------|---|
|                     | Plans                |   |
| Stud                | ent Planner          | Used by students and advisors to create academic plans.                         |
|                     |                      | Used to edit student planner, and apply and edit templates                      |
|                     | Edit (default)       | Add, delete and reassign requirements   |
| >                   | Euit (delauit)       | Write notes per requirement   |
| View                |                      | Activate and inactivate planners  |
| >                   | Audit                | Allows viewing student audit and template                                       |
|                     |                      | Allows viewing student audit and planner  |
|                     |                      |   |
| Tomi                | plates               | Pre-defined plans, or templates for particular programs of study, can be        |
| reiii               | piates               | created ahead of time and loaded for student advising.                          |
| Blanl               | k Plan               | Advisors create a new plan with terms, requirements, and notes.                 |
| Tomplata Managament |                      | Lists all available templates, advisors have the ability to apply a template to |
| _                   | Template Management  | student's planner and edit, add delete as needed per student educational        |
| Link                |                      | program   |

#### Planner & plan list



Х

#### Plans in *Audit* View



**Advanced Search for Templates** 

## Create Plan

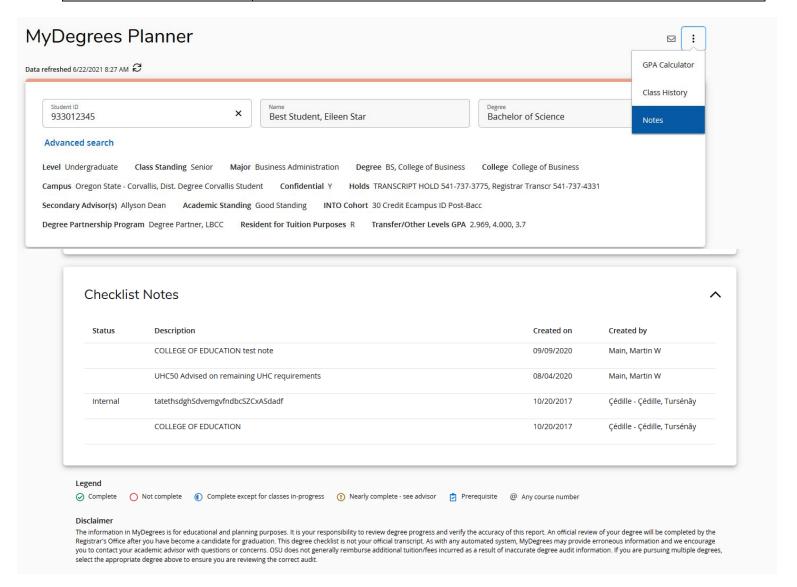
Would you like to create a plan based on a template or would you like to start from scratch?



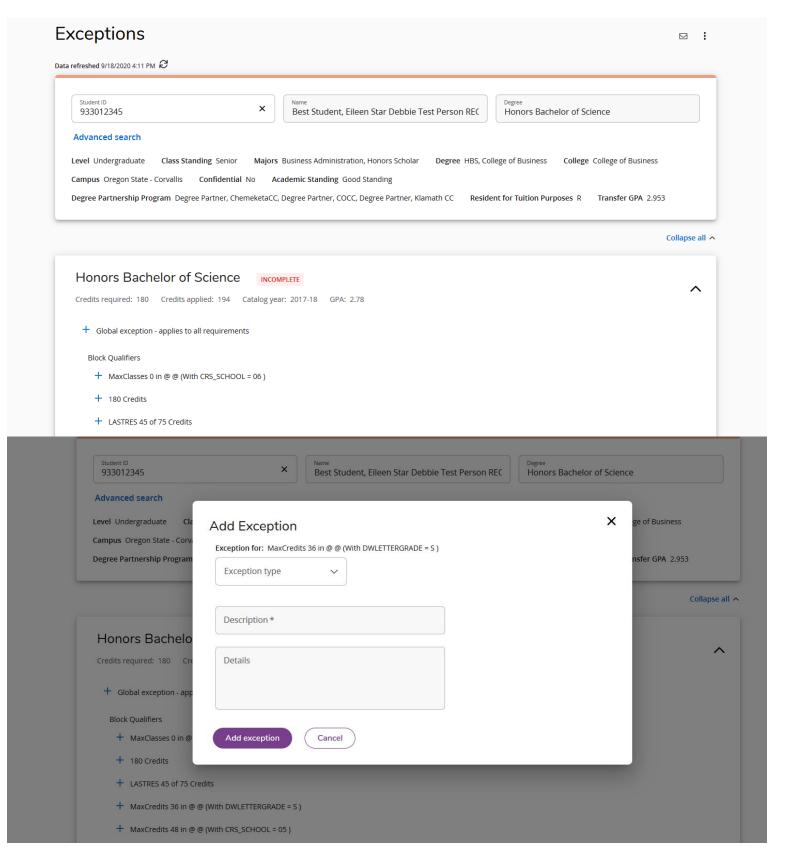
Select template



| MyDegrees Functionality | Description   |  |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Tab 3: Checklist N      | otes  |  |
| Add/View Note           | Use to enter any notes about the student's checklist. Use optional Pre-<br>Defined Notes dropdown to begin note, then Save. |  |

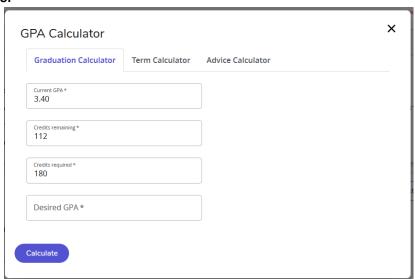


| MyDegrees Functionality                  | Description  |
|--|--|
| Tab 4: Exceptions                        |  |
| Also Allow<br>(default)                  | Use Also Allow to allow an additional class to be used to meet a course requirement.  It allows the additional course the flexibility of being moved if there are better fits elsewhere in the student's checklist.  This is a flexible option, where the Apply Here exception is not. The audit engine may change where the course is applied in the checklist, based on additional courses taken.                        |
| Apply Here                               | Use Apply Here to <i>require</i> that a course be applied to a rule. Where <i>Also Allow</i> is flexible <i>Apply Here</i> is inflexible, and the auditor will not move courses applied to rules with this exception type unless a block or rule qualifier overrides the exception.  This exception allows the user to apply a specific course to a rule regardless of the Scribe text or the auditor best- fit algorithm. |
| Substitute                               | Use Substitute if there is a course in a required course list that you would like to replace.  Do not use it to substitute transfer courses – use Also Allow or Apply Here instead.  |
| Remove Course and/or<br>Change the Limit | Use Remove Course and/or Change the Limit to change Max Credits rules, to change the number of credits required for a rule, or to remove a course from a requirement course list.  DO NOT use this exception to remove a rule with one course. If you need to "remove" a requirement with one course, you will need to do a Force Complete.  |
| Force Complete                           | Use Force Complete as a last choice option, such as in block qualifiers, and college-level GPA requirements.  This exception completes a course rule, subset rule, block qualifier or rule qualifier without applying additional classes. Use this exception if you need to "remove" a requirement from the checklist.   |
| Remove Exception                         | Use Remove Exception to delete an exception that was applied in error.   |
| Exception Management Link                | Use this link to run the Exceptions Report.  |

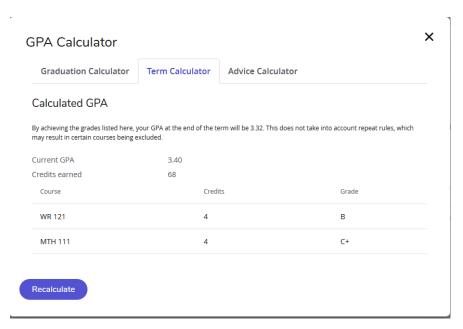


| MyDegrees Functionality | Description   |
|-------------------------|---|
| GPA Calculator          |   |
| Graduation Calculator   | Use to determine the average grade required to reach a desired GPA.                       |
| Term Calculator         | Use to determine the term GPA based on courses and anticipated grades.                    |
| Advice Calculator       | Use to determine the grade and number of credits still required to reach the desired GPA. |

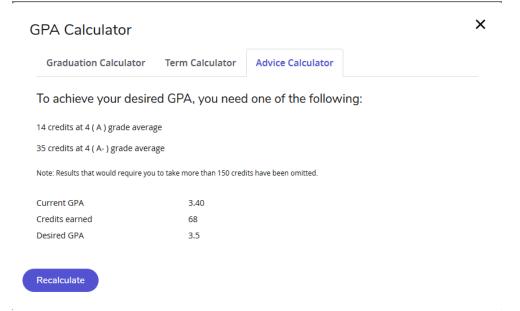
#### **Graduation Calculator**



#### **Term Calculator**



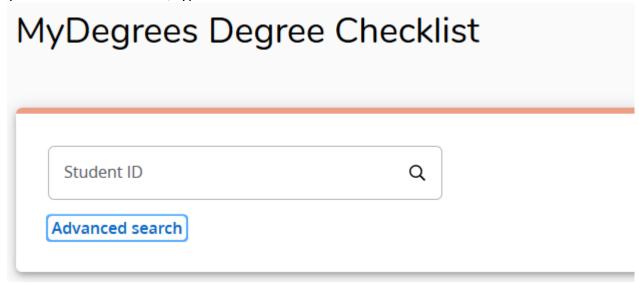
#### **Advice Calculator**



# **Using MyDegrees for Advising**

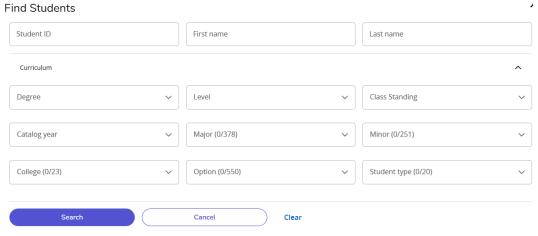
# **Selecting Students**

If you know the student ID, type the ID in the Student ID field.



If you do not know the student's ID, click Advanced Search, which will take you to the *Advanced Search* filter.

#### Advanced Search filter:



<u>To select a single student</u>, enter the student's ID number in the Student ID field or enter the student's first or last names (or both) in the Name fields.

The First and Last Name fields are not case sensitive. Typing in the first letters of a first or last name will produce a list of all names starting with those letters.

Wild cards (@) can be used in any of these fields. Entering "@west@" in the Last Name field will produce a list of all students whose last names contain the letters "WEST".

To search for a group of students, use one or multiple fields to build your search criteria:

| ✓ Degree  | ✓ Student Level |
|-----------|-----------------|
| ✓ Major   | ✓ Concentration |
| ✓ Minor   | ✓ Student Type  |
| ✓ College | ✓ Class Level   |

#### Click Search to execute the search.

Only valid combinations of search criteria will produce search results. For example, since the Biochemistry major can only be taken as a Bachelor of Science Degree, a search for Biochemistry majors pursuing a Bachelor of Arts Degree will not produce results.

Find results are limited to 400 students and, based on your criteria, you may receive a warning message if the results produce a list of more than 400 students. Click OK to proceed. MyDegrees will randomly choose the 400 students, and you may not get the same students every time, so select your criteria wisely.

Once you have created a list of students who meet your selection criteria, you can sort the list by clicking on any of the field headers in the Students Found window. The red arrow indicates the sort field being applied to the list of students found. Click on the field Header to change the sort order.

You can remove or alter the list of students from the selection list by un-checking the check boxes to the left of the students.

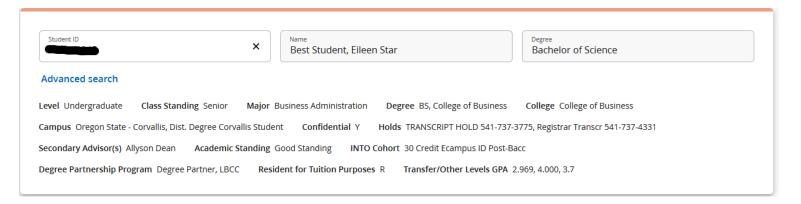
Click <u>Select</u> to close the search window and load the list of students into MyDegrees. Once loaded, the checklist for the first student in your list will automatically display. You can only view the data for one student at a time.

To move to a different student in the list, click the student name from the "Select Student" dropdown.



#### Advanced search

## **MYDEGREES Student Header**



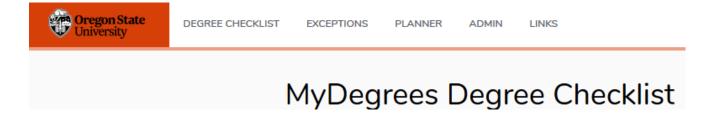
The MYDEGREES student header displays:

- A. Student ID
- B. Name (in Last Name, First Name format)
- C. Degree(s) (Select the dropdown to view the checklist for any additional degrees)
- D. Major
- E. Student Level
- F. Student Classification
- G. Last Audit Run Date
- H. Last (Banner Student Data) Refresh
- I. Process Banner Refresh

If a student has multiple degrees, select **Degree** dropdown to toggle between them. If the student has multiple majors on the same degree (for example, one B.S. in Civil Engineering *and* Science), both majors will be reflected in the checklist for that degree.

# **Tab 1: Degree Checklist**

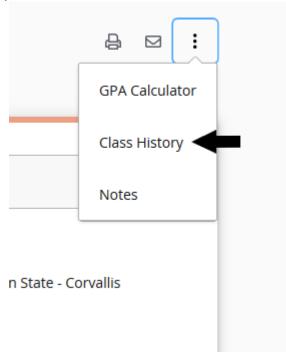
Most of an advisor's time will be spent using the Degree Checklist. MyDegrees defaults to this view.



**To process a new checklist** for the student (if you know changes to the requirements have been coded or there are changes to the student's record), refresh the data by clicking the circle next to the "Data refreshed."

Data refreshed 7/1/2021 1:05 PM *2* 

The Class History link will provide you with a listing of all of the courses taken by the student, with grades and credits, grouped by the term taken.



### Class History

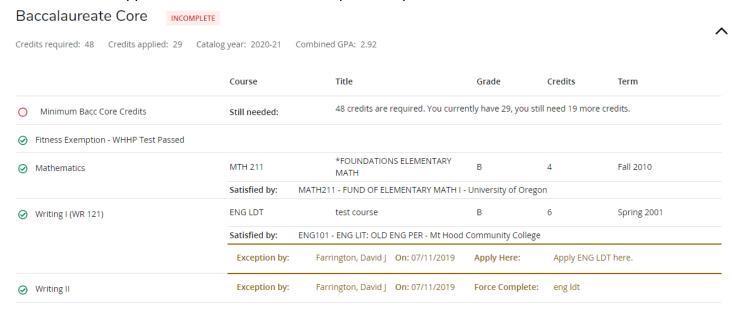


#### **Student Blocks**

Each checklist displays the students audit information in sections or blocks presented in the following order:

- ✓ Degree
- ✓ 1st major
- ✓ Major-specific requirements
- ✓ Option
- ✓ Minor(s)
- ✓ Additional Majors, if any
- ✓ Baccalaureate Core
- ✓ BA Language Requirement
- ✓ Deficient Foreign Language Requirement

Each section has a header containing the block's catalog year and GPA. Depending on how the requirements were entered, it may also contain the number of credits required for completion and the number of credits applied to the block based on completed requirements.



Completed requirements display the course number(s) and title(s), the grade(s) received for the course(s), the credit totals, and the term(s) taken.

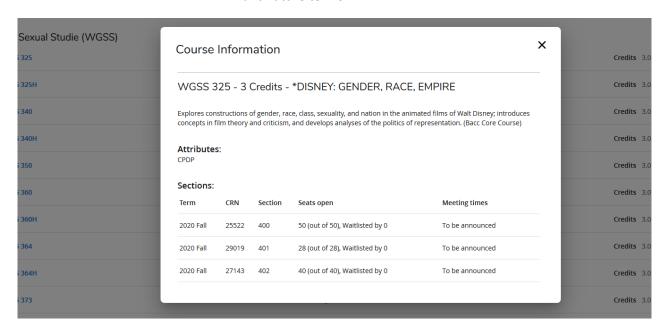
Incomplete requirements will present the information the student needs to know to fulfill the requirement such as "Still Needed: 1 Class in SPAN 211" or "Still Needed: See advisor regarding upper-division Spanish requirements for minor (6 credits)."

In-progress courses are designated with a blue halfmoon and will show the course number and title, anticipated credits, "TBD" in place of the grade, and the anticipated term the requirement will be fulfilled. Note: This includes the current term and future registered terms.

You can find a legend of what classes are complete, in progress, or still needed at the very bottom of the degree checklist.



If you click on a hyperlinked course, you can find more information on the course, including when it is offered in the current and future terms.



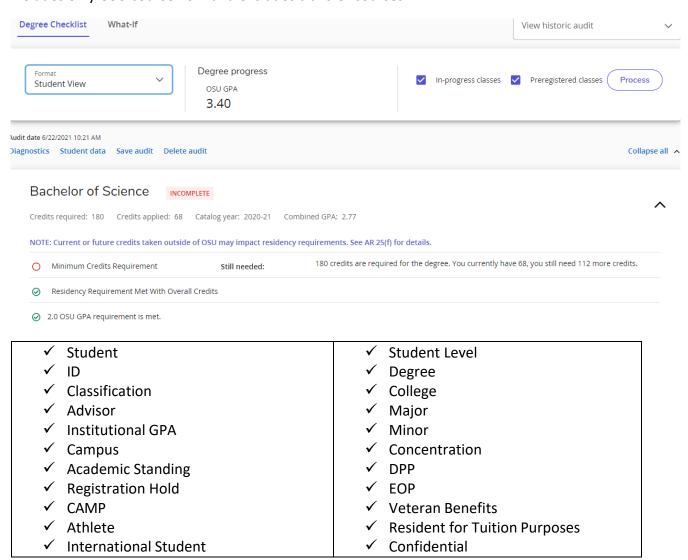
#### **Degree Checklist Views**

There are four checklist formats available to advisors:

- ✓ Student View (default)
- √ Registrar Report
- ✓ Registration Checklist
- ✓ Student Data Report

**The Student View** is the default worksheet type. It provides general information about the student's complete and incomplete requirements, grouped into logical sections or blocks.

The student's checklist header reflects general student information such as the name, ID, Level, Degree, College, Minor and Major. (Additional changes will be made to this header, including the addition of student concentration.) The overall GPA displayed is the OSU institutional GPA from Banner. This GPA includes only OSU coursework and excludes transfer courses.



# The checklist also includes: Electives

#### Electives

Credits applied: 27 Classes applied: 10

| Course | Title   | Grade      | Credits | Term        |
|--------|---|------------|---------|-------------|
| BA 211 | FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING  |            | 4       | Winter 2012 |
|        | Satisfied by: BA211 - FUND OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING - Portland State | University |         |             |
| CS 161 | INTRO TO COMPUTER SCIENCE I   | Α          | 4       | Summer 2018 |

# Excluded courses (courses that do not meet the requirements due to grades and other limitations)

#### Excluded

Credits applied: 3 Classes applied: 13

| Course   | Title                         | Grade | Credits | Term        |
|----------|-------------------------------|-------|---------|-------------|
| AEC 603  | THESIS                        | W     | 0       | Fall 2018   |
| ANTH 101 | *INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY | F     | 0       | Summer 2019 |
| MUS 101  | *MUSIC APPRECIATION I: SURVEY | F     | 0       | Spring 2019 |
| OSAB 388 | OVERSEAS STUDIES              | N     | 0       | Spring 2019 |

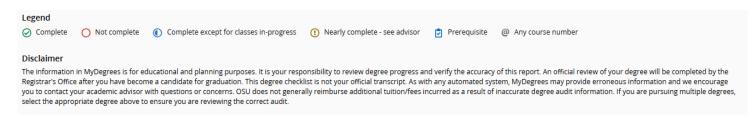
## In-Progress courses

## In-progress and Preregistered

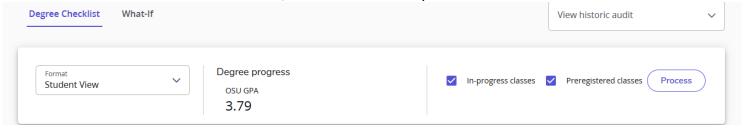
Credits applied: 12 Classes applied: 4

| Course  | Title                     | Grade | Credits | Term        |
|---------|---------------------------|-------|---------|-------------|
| PAC 105 | CPR/FIRST AID             | TBD   | (1)     | Summer 2021 |
| PHL 203 | *THE MEANING OF EXISTENCE | TBD   | (4)     | Summer 2021 |
| H 445   | *OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH      | TBD   | (3)     | Fall 2021   |
| HST 416 | *FOOD IN WORLD HISTORY    | TBD   | (4)     | Fall 2021   |

# Legend and Disclaimer



You can view the checklist without in-progress classes and pre-registered classes by un-checking the checkboxes in the worksheet header, which are checked by default.



To choose a different view, select from the dropdown menu "Format" and click the desired view.

<u>The Registrar Report</u> will be used primarily by the Registrar's Office. This checklist the same information as the Student View with additional detail from Scribe, MyDegrees' coding tool. However, this report may be helpful to advisors because it presents some scribe detail for block, and may present hidden block attributes such as hidden course rules and minimum or maximum course or GPA requirements.



Above, the top row displays the requirement as it is shown in the Student View checklist. The bottom row shows the scribed requirement. In this example, ENGR 112 is hidden ("HideFromAdvice") and is only applied to the requirement if taken during or prior to Summer 2010 ("WITH TERM <=2010 Summer"). Additional explanations of these terms and others can be found in the Terms and Concepts section at the back of this document.

<u>The Registration Checklist</u> shows only the unfulfilled requirements from on the checklist. It does not provide any of the detailed explanations of requirements that may be found in the Student View.

# Major in Animal Sciences INCOMPLETE

Catalog year: 2020-21 Combined GPA: 2.60

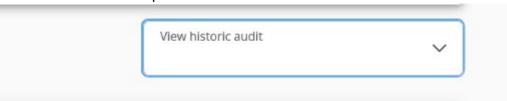
| Still needed: | 1 Class in COMM 111 or 114 or 218 |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Still needed: | 1 Class in ANS 100                |
| Still needed: | 1 Class in ANS 121                |
| Still needed: | 1 Class in ANS 207                |
| Still needed: | 1 Class in ANS 251                |
| Still needed: | 1 Class in ANS 311 💆              |

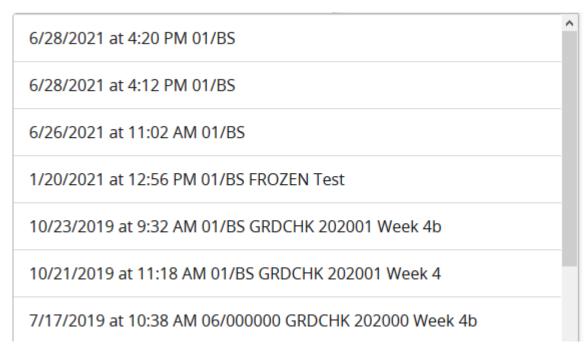
# <u>The Student Data Report</u> provides technical detail about the entire student data used in the MyDegrees

| Primary-Mst               |          |            |                         |           |               |            |              |  |
|---------------------------|----------|------------|-------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|--------------|--|
| Name                      | Nickname | FormatName | SortName                | AssocType | BridgeDate    | BridgeTime | ChangeDate C |  |
| Best Student, Eileen Star |          |            | BESTSTUDENT, EILEENSTAR |           | 20210628      | 1630       | 20210626 0   |  |
| Student-Mst               |          |            |                         |           |               |            |              |  |
| Term                      |          |            |                         |           |               |            |              |  |
| 202103                    |          |            |                         |           |               |            |              |  |
| Goal-Dtl                  |          |            |                         |           |               |            |              |  |
| School                    |          | Degree     |                         | Deg       | Degree Source |            |              |  |
| 01                        |          | BS         |                         | S         | S             |            |              |  |
| GoalData-Dtl              |          |            |                         |           |               |            |              |  |
| School                    | Degree   |            | CatalogYr               | Goal      | GoalCode      |            |              |  |
| 01                        | BS       |            | 2021                    | ADVI      | ADVISOR       |            |              |  |
| 01                        | BS       |            | 2021                    | COLL      | COLLEGE       |            |              |  |
| 01                        | BS       |            | 2021                    | MAJO      | MAJOR         |            |              |  |
|                           | BS       |            | 2021                    | PROC      |               |            |              |  |
| 01                        | BS       |            | 2021                    | STUS      | TATUS         |            |              |  |

# **Historic Audits**

Historic Audits allow you to view the history of degree checklists that were run for the student you are viewing. Click the "View historic audit" dropdown and select to view.

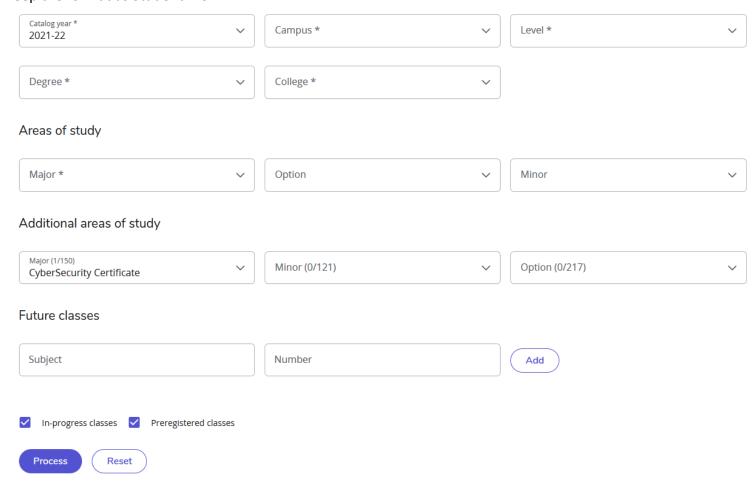




## What-If

What-If audits allow you to process speculative degree audits for a student using their current class history along with look ahead courses (see Look Ahead section for look ahead courses).

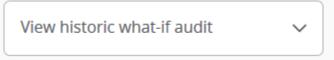
You can audit a student against the requirements for a different major, minor, degree, catalog year or any other selectable item on the What-If Audit screen. You can also enter future courses the student plans to take in order to view them in the speculative audit. To generate a What-If degree audit, select the requirements you wish to audit for the student. Be sure to choose parameters from each dropdown in the top section and allow it to load before moving to other sections. Use the Process button to generate the what-if scenario selected. Keep the format as Student View.



# **What-If Audit History**

Advisors and students can freeze What-If scenarios and view later. What-If Scenarios must be saved in What-If. To save a What-If scenario, once what-if is generated, click "Save Audit" and type in a description and click save.

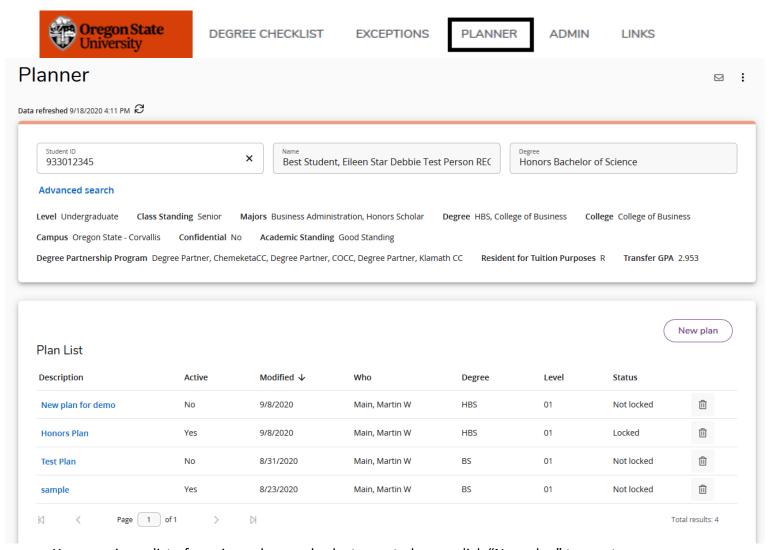
Student generated frozen What-If scenario will have (STUFRZ) code in title.





## **Plans**

The Student Educational Planner (SEP) is a tool in MyDegrees that students and advisors use to create academic plans. Pre-defined plans, or templates for particular programs of study, can be created ahead of time and loaded for student advising. Once a plan is populated it may be modified as needed per student.



You can view a list of previous plans and select a past plan, or click "New plan" to create one.

#### <u>Views</u>

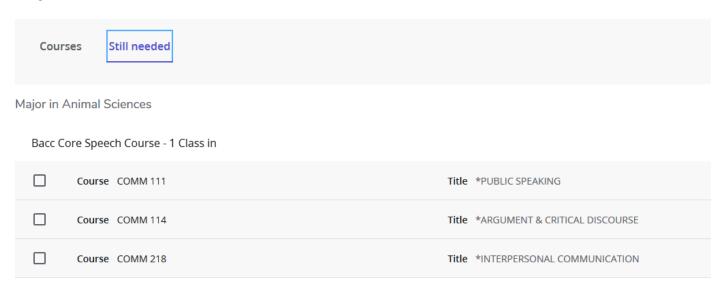
Plans can be viewed in various Views. Plans default to Edit View first and advisor can change the type of view need to work in.

**Edit View** – Clicking on a past plan takes you to the editing view by default. This is the view where most planning can happen. Advisors can add additional terms to the student's plan, add courses from the Still

Needed List of courses by dragging and dropping into a student's plan, delete and change requirements for each term and set courses and requirements as critical for student's educational program.

# Add requirements to 2021 Fall

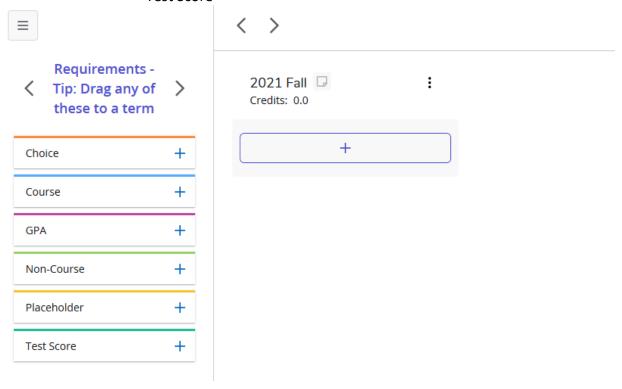
## Subjects



## **Adding Requirements in Plans**

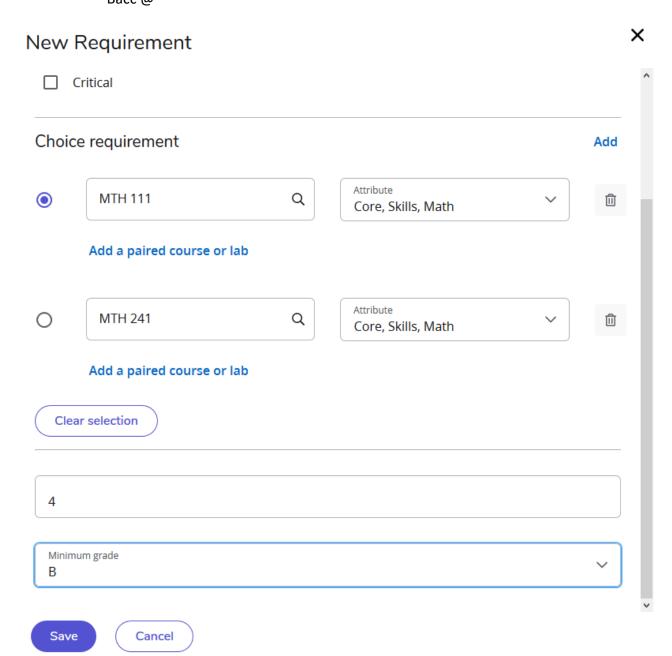
Add Requirements using the "Plus" under the Term header. You can also drag and drop from the requirements list on the left side. Select from:

- Choice
- Course
- GPA
- Non-Course Requirement
- Placeholder
- Test Score



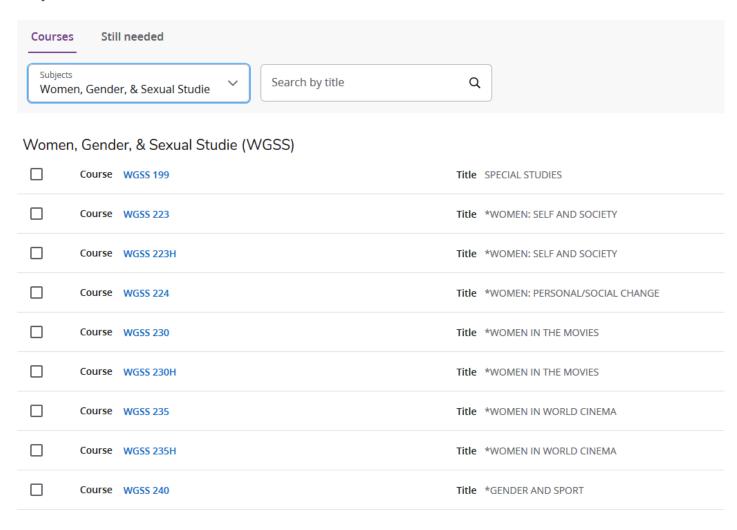
**Choice** – enter a choice for student in the following format.

MTH @ PAC @ Bacc @



# You can also search for courses to add by subject. Add requirements to 2021 Winter

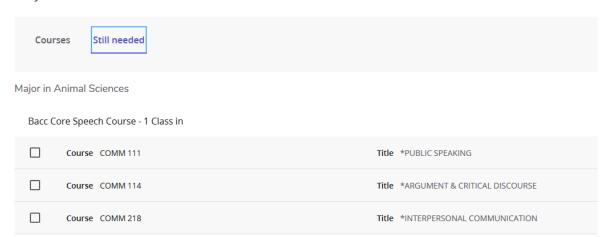
### Subjects



#### **Course** – Click the check box from the Still Needed list on the right side of Plans.

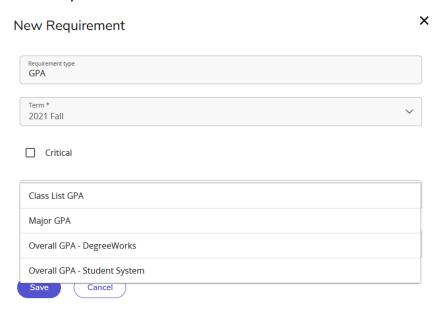
#### Add requirements to 2021 Fall

#### Subjects



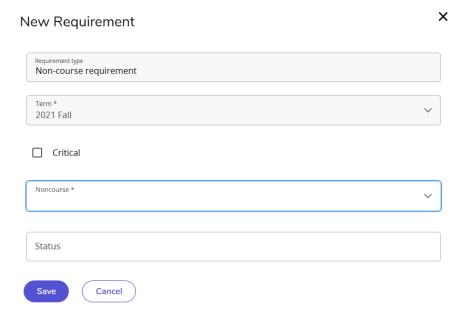
**GPA** – Requirement for GPA is set using one of the options from the drop-down menu.

- Class List GPA
- Major GPA
- Overall GPA DegreeWorks is calculated within MyDegrees
- Overall GPA Student System comes from Banner



#### **Non-Course Requirement**

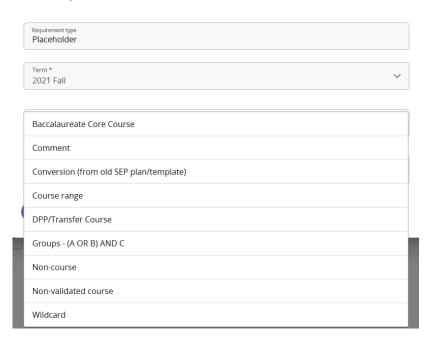
This allows you to enter requirements like work experience or required tests (e.g. GRE, TOEFL).



#### **Placeholder Requirement**

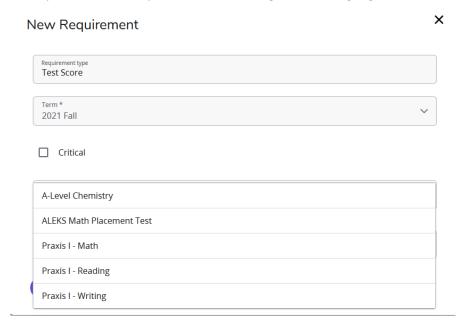
Placeholder has categories to choose from and a value where text can be entered.

New Requirement

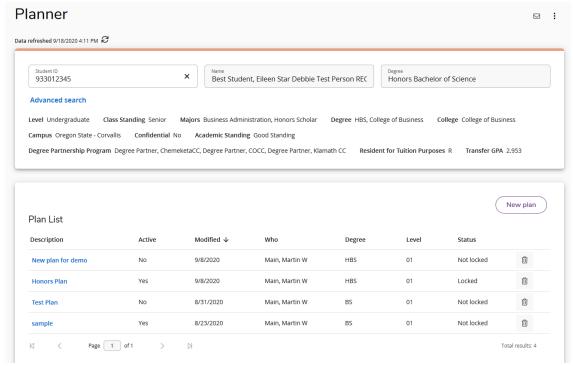


#### **Test Score Requirement**

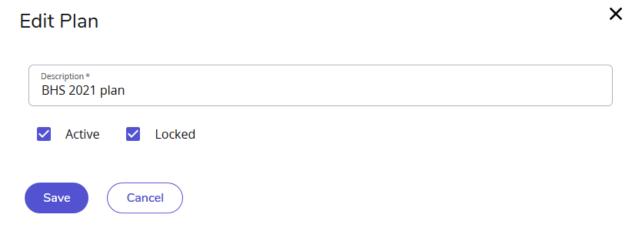
Here you can enter required test scores (e.g. ALEKS, Language Placement)



View Plan List –shows the list of all existing plans including active and locked. Select a plan from the list to edit, activate or lock.



**NOTE:** Only one Plan can be Active. Multiple Plans can be locked at the same time. If student has an active plan already, the active plan is displayed as a default plan in Plans tab.



#### **New Plan**

Creating a Plan

Click "New plan" to create plan for student. You will be prompted to choose a Blank Plan or Select Template.

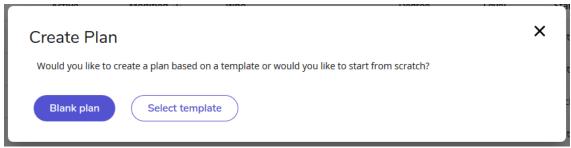
New plan

### Blank Plan

When Blank Plan is selected, the advisor will be given a clean canvas to fill out. For instructions on how to fill out the new plan please refer to the section covered earlier on Edit View in Plans. Edit View is where all of the Plan-related functions are located.

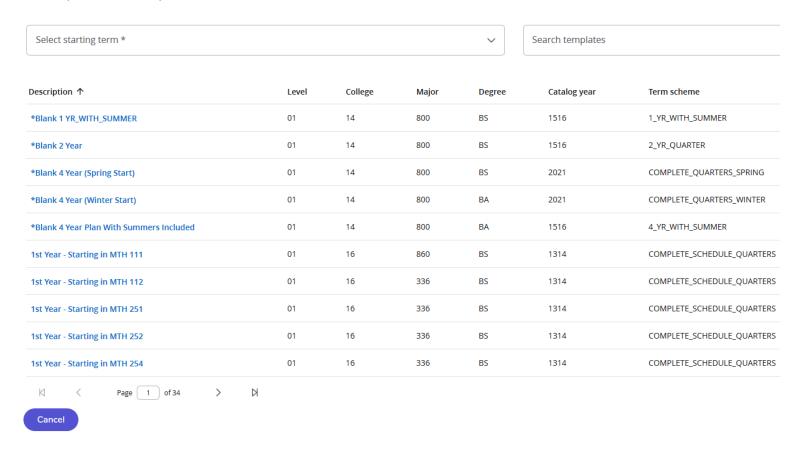
# **Template Plans**

SEPs can also be created using Templates. The message displayed below will appear when clicking "New plan."



When the Select Template option is chosen, a pop-up will display multiple template options. Templates can be searched by their description in the search box.

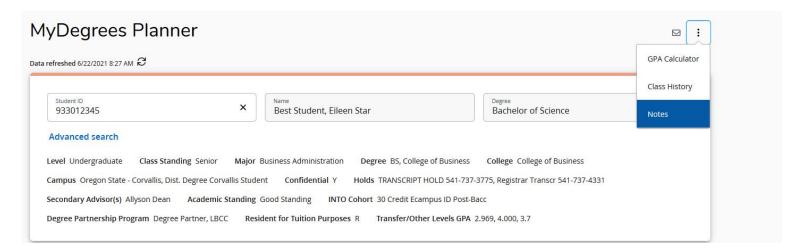
#### Create plan from template



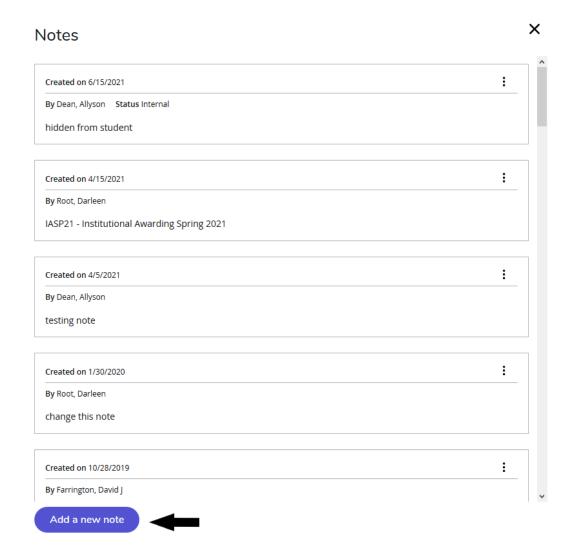
Once a template is selected, MyDegrees will prompt you to select a Start Term. The Template Plan then can be renamed and edited to fit the student's educational program better using the edit view in Planner.

# **Checklist Notes**

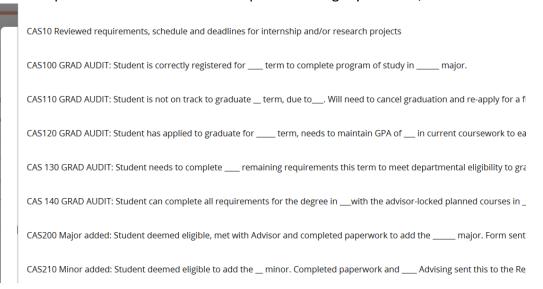
The Notes utility allows MyDegrees users to document academic advising on student records. These Notes are viewable by the student in checklist reports in the Notes section at the bottom of the report. Select Notes from the three vertical dots in the upper right corner of the screen and read any notes about students. Click Add Note to create a new note.



The Notes utility allows MyDegrees users to document academic advising on student records. These Notes are viewable by the student in checklist reports in the Notes section at the bottom of the report. Select "Notes" from the menu in the upper right hand corner to create and read any notes about students. You will see a list of previously created notes and an "Add a new note" button in the bottom left. Click "Add a new note" to create a new note.



You can use the optional Pre-Defined Notes dropdown to begin your note, then click Save Note.



Please be aware that notes entered in MyDegrees are part of the student's educational record and will be disclosed as part of that record when complying with any legal requests for the release of information in that educational record. Notes should be factual and of a nature that would bear up under public scrutiny.

# **Exceptions**



DEGREE CHECKLIST



PLANNER

ADMIN

LINKS

# MyDegrees Degree Checklis

Exceptions in MyDegrees are both student-specific and block-specific. In other words, an exception only applies to a specific block used in a student degree checklist.

If an exception is processed in a major block for a student and that student then changes their major, the previous exception will no longer apply to the student's new major.

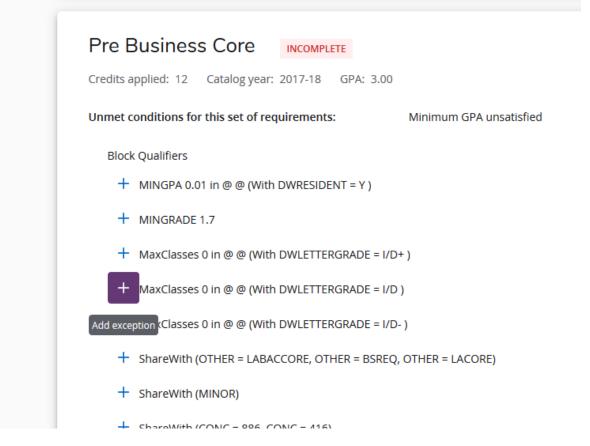
If the exception was generic to any major you will need to re-apply the exception in the new major block for the student.

Exceptions can only be used with the student's current checklist, not What-If audits. They will only appear on the Exception screen and on the Student View and Registrar's Reports.

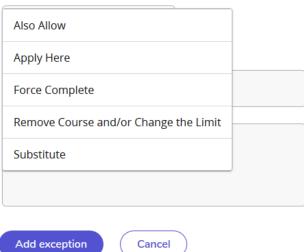
MyDegrees allows you to process the following types of exceptions:

- ✓ Also Allow
- ✓ Apply Here
- ✓ Remove Course/Change the Limit
- ✓ Force Complete
- ✓ Substitute

Selecting the Exceptions tab brings up the current checklist report for the student in the lower part of the screen, showing where each course has been applied and the outstanding requirements. To add a new exception, click the plus (+) next to the requirement for which you want to make an exception. Select the exception type you wish to add by selecting it from the exception type drop-down list and click Add exception.



Exception for: Marketing in Agriculture



Fill in the information required for each exception type. Each exception type will be discussed in greater detail in the following pages.

#### **Also Allow**

Use Also Allow to modify a student's course rule by adding a course to the rule. This exception can be used when you wish to expand the course options available on a specific rule. Using this exception does not require that the selected course be used on the modified rule. The allowed course may not be applied to the rule with the exception if there is a better fit for this course elsewhere in the degree checklist. Courses applied using Also Allow exceptions are still subject to header qualifiers in the blocks in which they are used and are still subject to the best-fit algorithm.

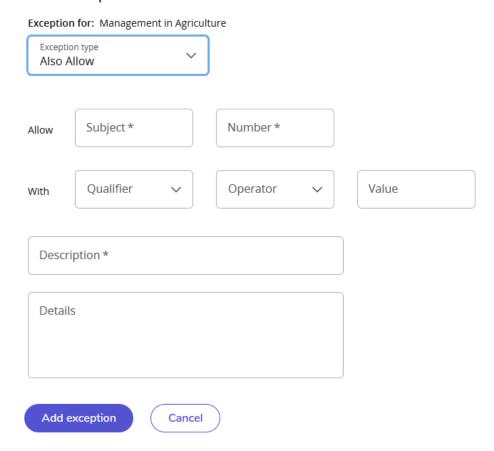
For example, if an advisor adds an Also Allow exception to allow COMM 314 to be used to satisfy a course rule and COMM 314 has been disallowed for that rule (through a block header or rule qualifier), the exception will be added but COMM 314 will not be applied to the rule.

Also Allow is *flexible* and MyDegrees may move the course to apply to a different rule on the checklist based on the best-fit algorithm.

Use Also Allow when you need to:

- Allow an additional OSU or transfer course to be available to be used to meet a requirement on a course list. (The audit engine may subsequently move the course to meet another requirement if it will be "better met" elsewhere.)
- Create a course list for "Advisor Approved Program" requirements, where courses need to be added by an advisor to create a list of courses to be taken by the student.

To process an Also Allow exception, select the Also Allow entry from the Exception Type drop-down list and click Add exception. Enter the course subject and number in the appropriate fields on the Also Allow exception. You can also add qualifiers, such as a minimum grade.



Enter the description of the exception (up to 50 characters) in the Description field and click the Add Exception button to complete the exception. (If you do not enter a description a default description will be entered in the Description field. You can modify the default description or click OK to save the exception with the default text.)

# Add Exception





The description field was left blank. You may use the default description that has been added, or create your own. Please review these changes before continuing.



vention for Drinciples of Ctatistics

### **Apply Here**

Use Apply Here to require that a course be applied to a rule. The Apply Here exception allows the user to apply a course to a rule even if the course is not listed as an option.

Apply Here is *inflexible*. MyDegrees will not move the course to apply to a different rule, even if the auditor may determine that there is a better fit elsewhere or the course causes a maximum to be exceeded.

The course selected must be a course already taken by the student which is found on the degree checklist or is one the student is planning to take. The *Apply Here* exception cannot be used for courses that do not appear on the audit, either in the Electives section, or applied to another requirement.

This exception is very useful in correcting checklists in cases where the user wishes to dictate specifically where courses are to be used within the degree checklist.

The Apply Here exception will apply a course to a rule regardless of any scribing, rule or block header qualifiers.

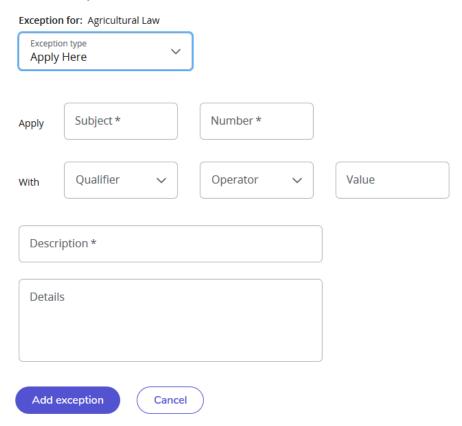
For example, even if a block contains a qualifier requiring all courses to have a minimum grade of "C," you can use the Apply Here exception to apply a class with a "D" grade to a rule in the block.

You *cannot* override sharing restrictions. If a course is not allowed to be used more than once between blocks, you will need to decide which block will have the course applied and which block will have the requirement waived through a Force Complete exception.

Use the Apply Here exception when you need to:

- ✓ Apply an OSU or transfer course that a student has previously taken to a course requirement.
- ✓ Ensure that the requirement remains met with the course indicated in the exception, and is not changed later by the MyDegrees auditengine.
- ✓ Apply a course to a requirement, ignoring any header or rule qualifiers (such as "S/U" grading and minimum grade or maximum classes limits).

To process an Also Allow exception, select the course rule where you want the exception to apply. Select the Apply Here entry from the exception type drop-down list.



Enter the subject and course number in the appropriate fields on the Also Allow exception. (The course cannot be selected from the Excluded Courses.)

Enter the description of the exception (up to 50 characters) in the Description field and click the Add exception button to complete the exception. (If you do not enter a description a default description will be entered in the Description field. You can modify the default description or click OK to save the exception with the default text.)

As with the Also Allow exception, you may further define the Apply Here exception using WITH qualifiers from the drop-down list.

When WITH qualifiers are included as a condition for this exception type, only those courses meeting the WITH qualifier criteria will be evaluated for the exception. (See the Also Allow exception for details.)

To view the checklist with the exception(s), click Run New Audit, then select the Format dropdown to view the Student View or Registrar's Report.

The exception will show up in brown text directly below the class or rule on which it was placed.

## When to Use "Also Allow" vs. "Apply Here" Exceptions

Also Allow and Apply Here are both exceptions that will allow an OSU or transfer course to be applied to a rule to meet a requirement. There are three critical differences, however:

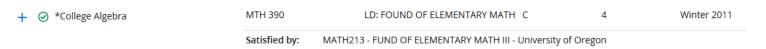
| Also Allow  | Apply Here  |
|---|---|
| Also Allow permits courses that have been taken or not yet taken to be applied to a rule. If taken, the course must be found on the audit, either applied to another rule or in the electives section. (Note: Excluded courses cannot be used.) | Only courses that have already been taken (or will be taken and are in "planned" status) can be applied to a rule with an Apply Here exception. The course must be found on the audit, either applied to another rule or in the electives section. (Note: Excluded courses cannot be used.) |
| Use Also Allow if you would like the additional course to be <i>optionally</i> applied to the rule. (For example, if the course can be applied to a course requirement OR electives list, and you don't have a preference.)                     | Use Apply Here if the course <i>must</i> be applied to the rule.  |
| The auditor will still apply any "header" block qualifiers with Also Allow, and so may not apply the exception. For example, if the block disallows S/U grades, courses with S/U grading cannot be used to meet the requirement.                | Apply Here permits you to supercede "header" rules that were built into the block, such as Minimum Grade or "No S/U grading" qualifiers.  |

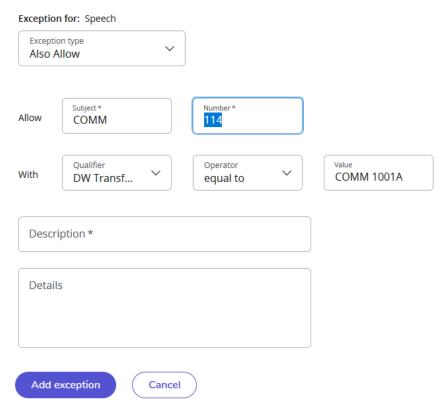
## **Using Transfer Courses with Apply Here and Also Allow**

You may further define the Apply Here and Also Allow exceptions using WITH qualifiers from the drop-down list.

When WITH qualifiers are included as a condition for this exception type, only those courses meeting the WITH qualifier criteria will be evaluated for the exception.

This is necessary, for example, if you are applying a transfer course to an exception to a requirement, and there are a number of transfer courses that have articulated to the same OSU LDT or UDT course, as in the example below.





The following WITH qualifiers are available in the dropdown field:

- ✓ DW Credits
- ✓ DW Credit Type
- ✓ DW Grade
- ✓ DW Grade Type
- ✓ DW Location
- ✓ DW Pass-Fail

- ✓ DW Resident
- ✓ DW Term
- ✓ DW title
- ✓ DW Transfer
- ✓ DW TransferCourse
- ✓ DW TransferSchool

- ✓ DW Section
- ✓ Banner attributes
- ✓ School Course is/ Rolled to
- ✓ Term

To view the checklist with the exception(s), click Run New Audit, then select the Format dropdown to view the Student View or Registrar's Report. The exception will show up in brown text directly below the rule on which it was placed.

## Remove Course and/or Change the Limit

Use Remove Course and/or Change the Limit to remove a course from a course rule or qualifier or to change the limit on a course rule or qualifier.

Do not use this to remove a rule with only one course. If you need to "remove" a one course requirement (such as "1 Class in BA 407"), you will need to do a Force Complete exception.

In situations where a course is applied to a rule or qualifier as a result of a wildcard statement, using the Remove Course exception will remove ALL courses that have been applied as a result of the wildcard statement.

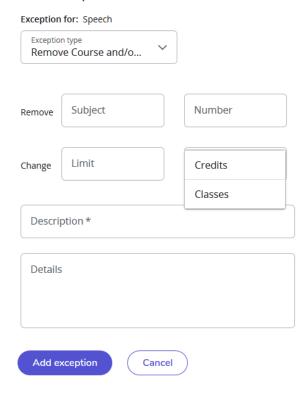
For example, if HST 202 and HST 203 were taken and are both applied to the scribe rule 3 Classes in HIST @, removing HIST @ using the Remove Course exception will remove both HST 202 and HST 203.

However, if you remove just HST 202 the rule will be changed to 3 Classes in HIST @ Except HST 202, ensuring HST 202 does not get applied to this requirement.

Use the Remove Course and/or Change the Limit exception when you need to:

- ✓ Remove a course from a required course list
- ✓ Change the number of credits required for electives or a major/minor/option block

To process a Remove Course and/or Change Limit exception, select the Remove Course and/or Change Limit entry from the Exception Type drop-down list and click Load. Select the rule or qualifier you want to remove or change.



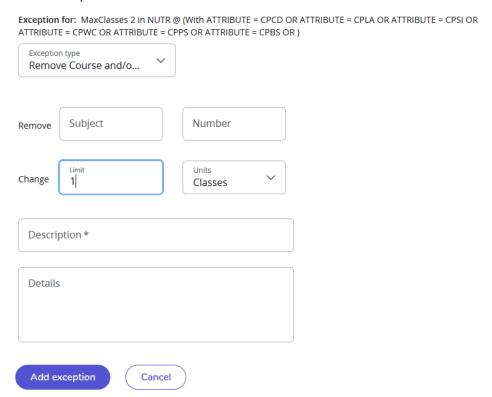
Enter the description of the exception (up to 50 characters) in the Description field and click the Add Exception button to complete the exception. (If you do not enter a description a default description will be entered in the Description field. You can modify the default description or click OK to save the exception with the default text.)

To view the checklist with the exception(s), click Run New Audit, then select the Format view dropdown to view the Student View or Registrar's Report. The exception will show up in blue text directly below the rule on which it was placed.

## To Change the Credits or Classes limit:

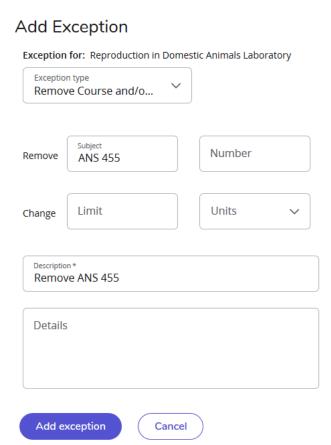
Select the credits block or rule qualifier you want to change. Enter the new limit.

# Add Exception



# **Removing a Course:**

Select the course you wish to remove. In the example below, BA 370 is being removed from the rule "1 Class in BA 370 or ACTG 378," removing the course as an option and requiring the student to take ACTG 378.



#### Substitute

Use Substitute if there is a course in a required course list that you would like to replace.

<u>Do not</u> use it to substitute transfer courses – use Also Allow or Apply Here instead.

The Substitute exception is used to substitute one course for another. This is distinct from the Also Allow exception type in that one course is exchanged for another.

The Substitute exception requires that one course be used in place of another.

If the rule contains only a single course then the substituted course is required for completion of the block.

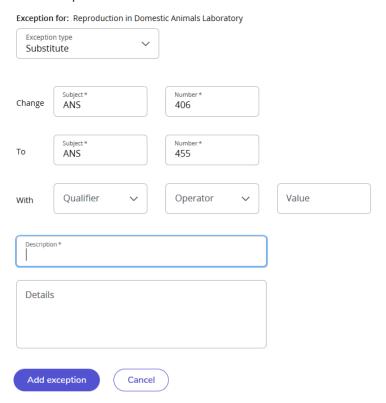
If a substitute exception is processed on a rule with more than one course option that can be used to complete the rule, then the substituted course is not required and is an option available to the student.

Use the Substitute exception when you need to:

Replace an OSU course with a different OSU course in a course rule

To process a Substitute exception, select the course rule where you want the exception to apply..

Select the rule or course where you would like the exception to apply. Enter the target course from the course rule in the Replace fields. The target course must be found on the rule where the exception is to be placed. Enter the substituted course in the To field.



Enter the description of the exception (up to 50 characters) in the Description field and click the Add exception button to complete the exception. (If you do not enter a description a default description will be entered in the Description field. You can modify the default description or click OK to save the exception with the default text.)

### **Force Complete**

Use Force Complete as a "last ditch" option, such as in block qualifiers, and college-level GPA or credit requirements. This exception type is completely independent of all student data. It will simply complete a rule on a student degree checklist regardless of any qualifiers that might apply.

The Force Complete exception can be used by advisors on any course rule and most qualifiers EXCEPT institutional requirements.

Use the Force Complete exception when you need to:

- ✓ "Remove" a course rule or block requirement
- ✓ Reflect the completion of non-course requirements on the checklist, such as internships or study-abroad requirements
- ✓ "Use" a course from the Excluded section of the checklist to meet a requirement. (Excluded courses cannot be pulled into other sections of the audit. Add a note to the exception to indicate the course being used.)

To process a Force Complete exception, select Force Complete from the Exception Types drop-down list.

Select the course rule or qualifier by clicking the plus button next to it in the Exceptions list.

Enter the description of the exception (up to 50 characters) in the Description field and click the Add Exception button to complete the exception. (If you do not enter a description a default description will be entered in the Description field. You can modify the default description or click OK to save the exception with the default text.)

Click the Add Exception button to complete the exception. A default description will be entered in the Description field. You can modify the description, or click OK to save the exception with the default text. To view the checklist with the exception(s), click Run New Audit, then select the Worksheets tab to view the Student View or Registrar's Report. The exception will show up in blue text directly below the rule on which it was placed.

#### **Remove Exception**

This should be used to remove an exception that has been applied in error. From the Exceptions screen, scroll to the bottom of the checklist section and select the exception to be deleted.



Force Complete

completed with Internship

Click the trash can symbol in the top right corner of the Exceptions section. This will remove all history of the exception.

### **Modifying Block Qualifiers**

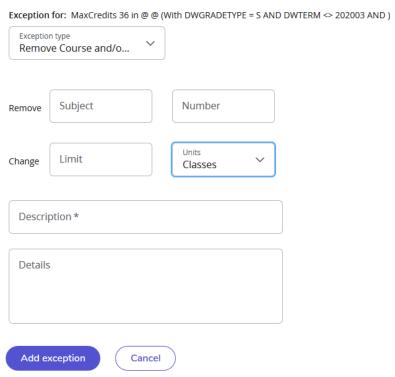
**Block Qualifiers** 

- + MaxClasses 0 in @ @ (With CRS\_SCHOOL = 06)
- + MaxClasses 0 in @ @ (With CRS\_SCHOOL = NC )
- + SPMAXCREDITS 36 in @ @ (With ATTRIBUTE = AR1B)
- + 180 Credits
- + LASTRES 1 of 300 Credits
- → MaxCredits 36 in @ @ (With DWGRADETYPE = S AND DWTERM <> 202003 AND )
- MaxCredits 48 in @ @ (With CRS\_SCHOOL = 05 )
- + MaxCredits 11 in PAC @

Each block has block qualifiers to which exceptions can be applied. When applying an exception to a block qualifier, the exception affects all the rules in the block.

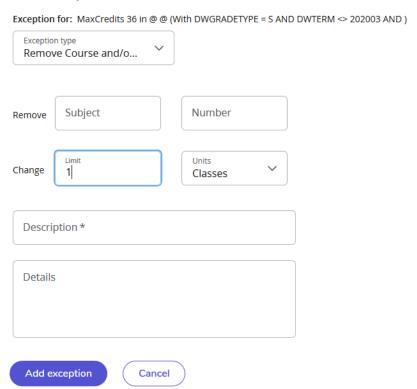
In the example above, "MaxClasses 0 in @ @ (With DWGradeType = S)" means that no classes will be accepted in the block with grade type "S" (S/U).

However, if you wanted to apply a class with an S/U grade, you can modify the block header with the "Remove Course and/or Change the Limit Exception."



Select Classes from the "Change Limit to" dropdown field.

# Add Exception

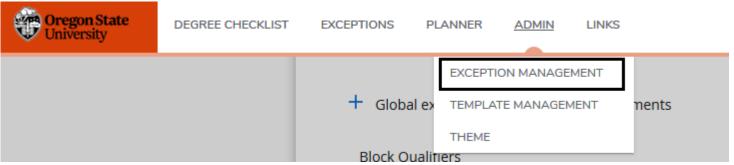


Enter the number of classes you wish to allow for the block. Click "Add Exception."

### **Exception Management**

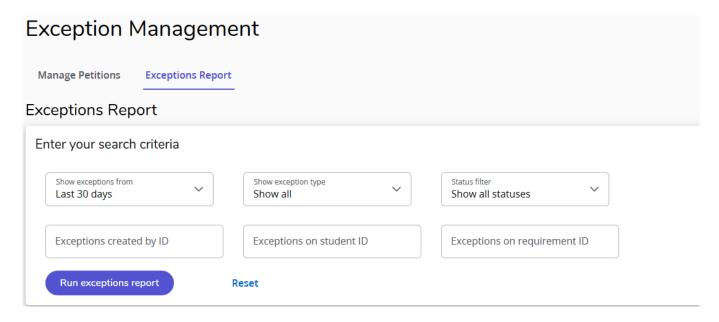
Use this to run the Exceptions Report. You can search for exceptions created by an individual, exceptions applied for a particular student or exceptions applied within a specific block. You can also use this function to identify unhooked exceptions as well.

Click the Exception Management link within the Admin section of the MyDegrees header. Select Exceptions Report from the dropdown field and click Load.



Select criteria for the report.

Selecting Show Exception Details provides the creator of each exception, the student ID, the block (requirement) ID to which the exception was applied, as well as the type and major/minor/conc code, and the description.



# **GPA Calculator**

There are three different GPA calculators available in MyDegrees: Graduation, Term, and Advice Calculators. The calculators, in conjunction with current MyDegrees functions, can help students in many ways, providing:

Realistic goal-setting at the beginning of the term or academic career

Precise calculation of their end-of-term GPA using students' actual academic information

Accurate mapping of students' paths for achieving honors, avoiding probation, or satisfying personal academic aspirations.

#### **Graduation Calculator**

This calculator takes the most "unknown" inputs.

Many students may not know how many credits are required for their degree, nor the number of credits remaining.

In some cases, this calculator will be useful to inform the student that their desired GPA is not possible to achieve (considering their number of credits remaining).

GPA Calculator

Graduation Calculator

Term Calculator

Advice Calculator

Current GPA\*
3.40

Credits remaining\*
112

Credits required\*
180

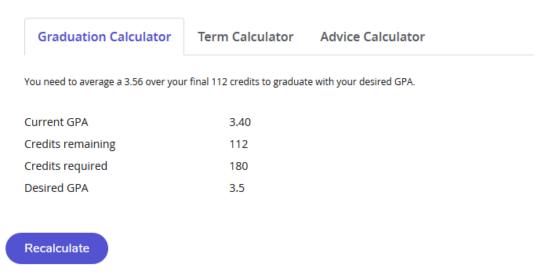
Desired GPA\*
3.5

In short, this calculator helps students to set long-term general goals.

Enter data into the empty fields and press Calculate.

Calculate

# **GPA Calculator**



If you wish to alter some of the entries, click Recalculate and the calculate screen will appear for you to make other entries.

When you click Calculate, the revised information will appear.

### **Term Calculator**

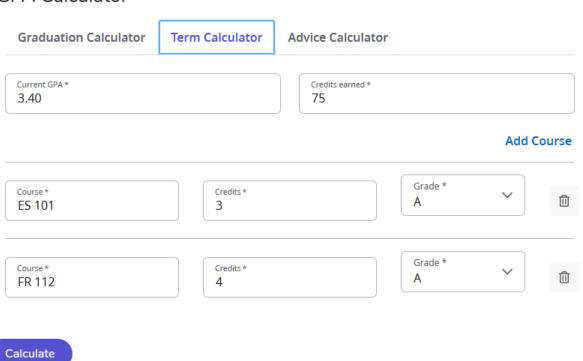
This is the most specific calculator. It can be used for goal-setting as well as mapping paths to avoid probation, achieve honors, etc.

The student's current classes and credits (if applicable) are preloaded into the form.

You can also add classes and credits to the class list.

X

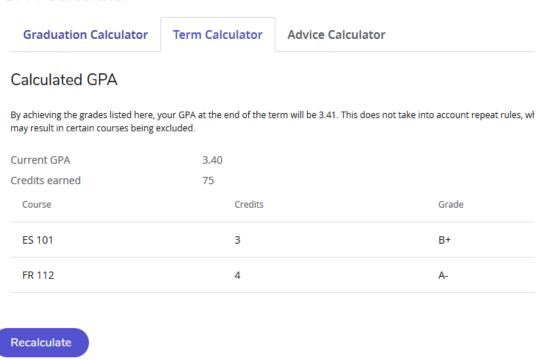
## **GPA Calculator**



When done entering class information with expected credits and grades, click Calculate.

The following screen will produce the new calculated GPA.

### **GPA Calculator**



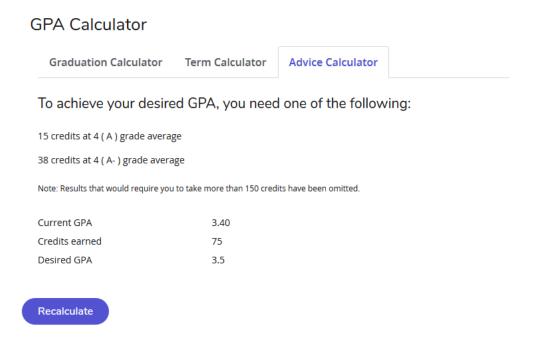
If you wish to change class or grade information, simply click Recalculate and the original screen will again be presented for you to make changes.

When you click Calculate, the revised information will appear.

#### **Advice Calculator**

This calculator is perhaps the easiest to use. The student need only provide their desired GPA.

It is used to figure out how a student can raise/lower their GPA using actual grades as advice. While it is fairly general, it is more specific than the graduation calculator.



To use, enter data into the empty field and press Calculate. If you wish to alter some of the entries, click Recalculate and the advice screen will appear for you to make other entries.

When you click Calculate, the revised information will appear.

# **Using MyDEGREES for Degree Clearance**

# **Terms and Concepts**

Scribe: Scribe is the application used to code MyDegrees. Coding the requirements is called "scribing"; coders in MyDegrees are called "scribers."

Best Fit: MyDegrees uses the "best fit" to determine where and how to apply courses to requirements. Reserved Word: Keywords used in Scribe to enter course requirements.

# **Reserved Words for Advising**

The Scribe language consists of Reserved Words that have a special meaning for the degree advisory process. These keywords were chosen to be descriptive of their tasks.

| AND or "+"     | Connector in list of courses or a link between Classes and Credits.  |
|----------------|--|
| BEGINSUB       | Begins a subset of rules that should be treated as one rule.   |
| BLOCK[S]       | Pulls another requirements block into the current block.   |
| BLOCKTYPE[S]   | Precedes a required block type.  |
| CLASS[ES]      | Indicates how many courses are required.   |
| CONC           | Indicates a concentration block type (CONC), which, in some cases, may precede a concentration code.   |
| CREDIT[S]      | Units toward a degree; formatted as nnn.nnn.   |
| DECIDE - ORDER | Indicates to the Auditor how to decide which classes should be removed and which should be kept when the maximum has been exceeded on a block qualifier or course rule.                        |
| DEGREE         | Indicates a degree block type (DEGREE), which, in some cases, may precede a degree code.   |
| DISPLAY        | DISPLAY can be used to specify the advice text to show in place of the normal advice MyDegrees would display for a the MinGPA block headers. The Text for DISPLAY will appear all of the time. |
| DONTSHARE      | Indicates that credits or courses cannot fulfill multiple requirements; equivalent of Exclusive.   |
| ELSE           | Branch of a conditional rule.  |
| END.           | End of a block of requirements; block terminator.  |
| ENDSUB         | Ends a subset of rules that should be treated as one rule.   |
| EXCEPT         | Indicates courses that should not fill a requirement.  |
| EXCLUSIVE      | Same as DontShare.   |
| FROM           | Precedes a list of courses, disciplines, or transfer codes.  |

| GROUP[S]     | Precedes a list of requirement choices, of which a specified number of rules must be satisfied.  |
|--------------|--|
| HIDE         | Allows certain courses to satisfy a requirement while hiding this fact from the checklist advice. Same as Hide-From-Advice.  |
| HIDE-RULE    | Hides a rule and the rule advice on checklist reports. Typically, this rule qualifier is used to hide one or more options within a Group rule or stand-alone Block and BlockType rules in the DEGREE or starting block, although the qualifier can be used on any rule type. |
| IF           | Begins a conditional rule.   |
| INCLUDING    | Indicates mandated courses from course list.   |
| LABEL        | A free-text comment used to identify the requirement. (Limited to 50 characters)   |
| LASTRES      | Credits or classes that must be taken in residence as the last credits/classes.  |
| MAJOR        | Indicates a major requirement block, which, in some cases, may precede a major code.   |
| MAXCLASS[ES] | Indicates the maximum number of courses that can be applied to a requirement.  |
| MAXCREDIT[S] | Indicates the maximum number of credits that can be applied to a requirement.  |
| MAXPERDISC   | Indicates the maximum number of credits/classes in each discipline listed that will be applied to a block or requirement.  |
| MAXSPREAD    | Indicates the maximum number of disciplines from course list in which courses can be taken.  |
| MAXTERM      | Indicates the maximum number of credits/classes that will be applied to a requirement each term.   |
| MAXTRANSFER  | Indicates the maximum number of transfer credits/classes that will be applied to a requirement.  |
| MINCLASS[ES] | Indicates the minimum number of courses that must be earned to satisfy the requirement.  |
| MINCREDIT[S] | Indicates the minimum number of credits that must be earned to satisfy a requirement.  |
| MINGPA       | Indicates the minimum Grade Point Average for the requirements block   |
| MINGRADE     | Indicates the minimum numeric grade that must be achieved for each course applied to the block   |
| MINOR        | Indicates a minor requirement block (MINOR), which, in some cases, may precede a minor code.   |
| MINRES       | Indicates the minimum number of credits/classes that must be earned in residence   |

| NOCOUNT  | Allows courses to satisfy specific requirements without affecting the total credit count or GPA calculation. (The type of requirements that were the catalyst for the NoCount option involved ROTC classes that can satisfy the PE requirement but do not count toward the degree.)  |
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| NONCOURSE[S]   | Indicates a required non-course activity, such as a thesis, recital, or exam.  |
| NONEXCLUSIVE   | Same as Share and ShareWith.   |
| NOTGPA   | Indicates courses that count in neither the block GPA nor the overall GPA.   |
| NUMBEROFCONCENTRATIONS<br>NUMBEROFMAJORS<br>NUMBEROFMINORS | Used in an if-statement to find out how many majors, minors or concentrations are included in the checklist.   |
| OR or ","  | Connector in list of courses, disciplines, transfer types, or If conditions.   |
| OTHER  | Identifies a block as a custom block.  |
| PROXY-ADVICE   | Specifies the advice text to show in place of the normal advice  |
| PSEUDO   | MyDegrees that would display for the rule. The proxy-advice text will appear as long as the rule is not complete; as soon as the rule has been completed the proxy-advice text will be suppressed. Proxy- Advice should be used on rules containing long lists of classes or complex group rules.  |
| PSEUDO   | Used as a placeholder for an undefined requirement, such as 12 Credits in {Hide PSEUDO @} Label MTH "12 Credits Approved MTH Electives";  The advisor can complete exceptions to add required courses to the requirement or force the rule to be complete if the requirement has been met (such as in the case of a required CPR certification or thesis). |
| REMARK   | Begins comments to be kept as part of requirements.  |
| RULE-COMPLETE  | A dummy rule that is always 100 percent complete and has no requirements. Although it can be used anywhere a course rule can be used, its main purpose is to be used within an If statement.   |
| RULE-INCOMPLETE  | A dummy rule that is always 0 percent complete and has no requirements. Although it can be used anywhere a course rule can be used, its main purpose is to be used within an If statement.   |
| SHAREWITH  | Indicates that credits/classes can fulfill multiple requirements.  |
| SPMAXCREDIT[S]   | Indicates a maximum number of credits after which the excess credits should be split across blocks.  |
| SPMAXTERM  | Indicates a maximum number of credits per term, after which the excess credits should be split across blocks.  |
| THEN   | Part of a conditional rule to be executed when If condition is met.  |

|      | Indicates the scope for the NonExclusive, Share, or ShareWith qualifier. This scope signifies that all rules within this block are to be considered for applying the specified number of credits or classes non-exclusively. |
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| WITH | Additional "custom" class specifiers in a course list.   |