

# UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

## Office of Academic Affairs

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[www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs](http://www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs)

**To: Deans, Department Heads, & Advisors**  
**From: Alyson Hagy, Associate Vice President**  
**Re: Advising for USP 2015**  
**Date: October 31, 2014**

USP 2015 will be fully implemented in the fall of 2015. The following information may be useful for UW students, transfer students, and their advisors. Sample syllabi, lists of approved UW courses, and FAQs may be found at [www.uwyo.edu/unst/usp2015/](http://www.uwyo.edu/unst/usp2015/).

### General Policies

1. UW students who have earned fewer than 60 credits by the fall of 2015 may opt into USP 2015 by petition. The petition, which will be available in the Office of the Registrar, will require students to meet with an advisor to ensure the transition to a new catalog year makes sense. Students and advisors will need to take into account USP requirements, college requirements, and requirements in the major as they discuss options. The petition will then be routed through the college dean's office for a confirmatory signature before it returns to the Office of the Registrar where the change to the catalog year will be put on record.
2. Community college students who earn an AA, AS, or AB degree during the spring of 2015 or after will receive a waiver for all USP 2015 requirements except the U.S./Wyoming Constitution course and Communication 3. Community college students who have *not* earned an AA, AS, or AB degree will have to fulfill all USP 2015 requirements, though exemptions from the First-Year Seminar requirement will be available to those who have earned more than 30 college credits after their graduation from high school. The First-Year Seminar will be required for all true first-year college students even if they have earned an AA, AS, or AB degree in high school.
3. Students must earn a grade of C or above in the First-Year Seminar and Communication 1, 2, and 3 courses. A D will suffice for courses in the other categories.

4. Some elements of USP 2003 are being phased out. Beginning in the fall of 2015, students who have not met the I requirement may use any WC or Communication 3 course for I credit. The L requirement will be waived for all students as the Libraries work with faculty to embed new information literacy modules into a number of USP courses. Requests for waiver of the I or L requirement prior to the fall of 2015 should be submitted via USP petition.

## Course Policies

1. First-Year Seminar/FYS (3 hours): The USP Committee approves courses in this category. First-Year Seminars are designed for *true* first-year college students, even those who have earned associate's degrees or considerable college credit while in high school. Students who have earned more than 30 *post-high school* credit hours are exempt from this requirement. Exemptions may also be granted by petition for students who have spent a successful year in residence at another college or university even if they have not quite earned 30 credits.
2. Quantitative Reasoning/Q (3 hours): The colleges approve UW courses in this category. For transfer students, any credit-bearing Math, Statistics, or Computational Science course that has been identified as a UW Quantitative Reasoning equivalent will fulfill this requirement. A student may also meet the requirement with an ACT score of 26, an AP score of 3 on Calculus A/B or B/C, an IB score of 4, or a Math Placement Exam score of 4.
3. Physical and Natural World/PN (6 hours, minimum): The colleges approve UW courses in this category. Physical & Natural World (PN) courses are designed to help students understand the fundamental concepts of scientific and quantitative inquiry and develop the ability to understand the relevance of scientific, technological, and quantitative skills to contemporary society. Any transfer course that meets the definition will be accepted for USP credit. PN credits must be earned outside the major department. Cross-listed courses are acceptable when the course prefix is not from the major department. For information regarding AP and IB scores please see [www.uwyo.edu/registrar/students/credit.html](http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/students/credit.html) .
4. Human Culture/H (6 hours, minimum): The colleges approve UW courses in this category. Human Culture (H) courses are designed to help students understand human behaviors, activities, ideas, and values in different situations and contexts. Any transfer course that meets the definition will be accepted for USP credit. H credits must be earned outside the major department. Cross-listed courses are acceptable when the course prefix is not from the major department. For information regarding AP and IB scores please see [www.uwyo.edu/registrar/students/credit.html](http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/students/credit.html) .

5. U.S./Wyoming Constitution/V (3 hours): The colleges approve UW courses in this category. The requirement is mandated by statute and cannot be waived. Transfer students may meet the requirement in one of three ways:
  - a. Completion of a UW V course;
  - b. Completion of a course that has been articulated with UW; or
  - c. Completion of a U.S. Constitution course **and** a passing grade on the WY Challenge exam administered by the Political Science department.
  
6. Communication 1/COM 1 (3 hours): English 1010, AS 1210, and HP 1020 have been approved as UW's Communication 1 courses. For transfer students, an introductory composition course will fulfill the requirement.
  
7. Communication 2/COM 2 (3 hours): The USP Committee approves UW courses in this category. Some of these courses are embedded in majors; some are not. Transfer students may meet the requirement in several ways:
  - a. Completion of a UW COM 2 course;
  - b. Completion of a COM 2 course that has been articulated with UW;
  - c. Completion of a COM 2-type course that has been nominated for USP inclusion by a community college (articulation paperwork will be necessary);
  - d. Completion of an intermediate composition course **and** a public speaking course;
  - e. Completion of either an intermediate composition course and a passing score on the public speaking exam administered by the Communication & Journalism Department **or** completion of a public speaking course and successful petition for advanced writing status from the English Department.