PHOENICIA UNIVERSITY

PU

PHOENICIA
UNIVERSITY

Innovation . Inspiration . Integrity

College of Arts and Sciences

Freshman Program

2024-2025

Freshman Program

In accordance with the Lebanese Ministry of Education, students who have a High School Diploma instead of a Lebanese Baccalaureate Certificate, or who are exempted from the Lebanese program should attend the freshman year. The number of credits and the types of subjects that they take during their freshman year are in compliance with the specifications of the Equivalence Committee of the Ministry of Education.

The Freshman Program at PU is for students who hold a secondary school certificate based on 12 years of schooling and who have not completed the Lebanese Baccalaureate Part II or the French Baccalaureate.

Students with an International Baccalaureate Diploma may apply to either the freshman class or the sophomore or equivalent classes, depending upon the subjects taken and the level of performance.

Freshman applicants may apply for admission to PU's four-year undergraduate program in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Candidates for the freshman year are judged primarily on the basis of the following:

- Their academic record (school grades)
- The results of their SAT I or ACT result
- PU Entrance Assessment (PUEA)
- Letter from the Lebanese Ministry of Higher Education permitting students to enroll in the freshman program.

Number of credits needed to complete the freshman year: 30 credits - one year

Program Description

In order to complete 30 credits for the freshman program, every freshman student should take courses in each of the following areas: Humanities, Social Sciences, Mathematics, and Natural Sciences, in addition to departmental requirements that will allow the student to qualify for a major in the sophomore year. Additionally, the student should obtain a minimum SAT/ACT as follows:

- Science Track: A minimum score of 950 on SAT or 17 on ACT
- Arts Track: A minimum score of 870 on SAT or 15 on ACT

Completion Requirements

To successfully complete the freshman program, freshman students need to obtain a minimum "Program GPA" of 2.0; no rounding (e.g., a GPA of 1.99)—whatsoever—will be applied.

Phoenicia University offers two tracks in the freshman program:

A. Freshman Arts (30 credits)
Students who successfully complete the freshman arts program can apply to the following undergraduate majors:

- College of Arts and Sciences
  - Communication and Social Media
- College of Business
  - Business Administration

B. Freshman Science (30 Credits)
Students who successfully complete the freshman science program can apply to the following undergraduate majors:

- College of Arts and Sciences
  - Computer Science
  - Communication and Social Media
- College of Architecture and Design
  - Architecture
- College of Business
  - Business Administration
- College of Engineering
  - All Engineering Majors: Civil and Environmental, Mechanical, Electrical and Communication, and Petroleum Engineering
- College of Public Health
  - Public Health
  - Speech Therapy

A. Freshman Arts Track (30 credits)

Humanities and Social Science Courses (9 credits)

- ENGL 101A (3 credits)
- ENGL 101B (3 credits)
- SOCL 101 (3 credits) or ECON 101 (3 credits)

A Mathematics Course (3 credits)

- MATH 101 (3 credits)

A Natural Science Course (3 credits)

- PHYS 101 (3 credits)
- CHEM 101 (3 credits)
- BIOL 101 (3 credits)

Elective Courses (15 credits)

- COMM 101 (3 credits)
- COMM 102 (3 credits)
- CIVL 101 (3 credits)
- PSYC 101 (3 credits)
- LAW 100 (3 credits)
- STAT 101 (3credits)
- A natural science elective (3 credits)

B. Freshman Science Track (30 Credits)

Humanities and Social Sciences (9 Credits)

- ENGL 101A (3 credits)
- ENGL 101B (3 credits)
- SOCL 101 (3 credits) or ECON 101 (3 credits)

Mathematics and Sciences (12 credits)

- MATH 101 (3 credits)
- MATH 102 (3 credits)
- Two natural science courses (6 credits)
    - PHYS 101. Introductory Physics I (3 credits)
    - CHEM 101. Introductory General Chemistry I (3 credits)
    - BIOL 101. Basic Concepts in Biology (3 credits)

General Elective (9 Credits)

- COMM 101 (3 credits)
- COMM 102 (3 credits)
- CIVL 101 (3 credits)
- PSYC 101 (3 credits)
- LAW 100 (3 credits)
- STAT 101 (3 credits)
- A natural science elective (3 credits)

Course Description

ENGL 101A. Freshman English (Reading & Listening) - 3 cr.

This course is for sophomore and freshman students to advance their English language skills, particularly reading and listening. In this course, students are exposed to various reading texts and listening tasks. Sophomore students receive no credits for this course. **Corequisite: ENGL 101B.**

ENGL 101B. Freshman English (Writing & Speaking) - 3 cr.

This course is for sophomore and freshman students to advance their English language skills, particularly writing and speaking. In this course, students are exposed to various writing and speaking tasks. Sophomore students receive no credits for this course. **Corequisite: ENGL 101A.**

MATH 101. Calculus and Analytic Geometry I - 3 cr.

The course covers basic concepts and methods in calculus and maps mathematics to real-life examples and situations. In this course, students go beyond mathematical procedural knowledge to acquire conceptual knowledge, procedural fluency and flexibility, and mathematical connections. Topics covered include: types and families of functions, limits, continuity, differentiation with application to curve plotting, and Rolle's theorem. This course also covers integration with application to area, distance, volume, and arc length.

MATH 102. Calculus and Analytic Geometry II - 3 cr.

The course covers concepts and methods in calculus and maps mathematics to real-life examples and situations. In addition to procedural knowledge, students develop their conceptual knowledge, procedural fluency and flexibility, and mathematical connections through covering the following topics: methods of integration, improper integrals, polar coordinates, conic sections, analytic geometry in space, parametric equations, and vector functions and their derivatives. **Prerequisite: MATH 101.**

BIOL 101. Basic Concepts in Biology - 3 cr.

This course aims to build a foundation in the knowledge of the principles of biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology. In this course, students employ these principles to understand the functions and evolution of living systems. Students also explore the structure and regulation of genes and proteins, how these important molecules interact and are integrated within the cells, and how these cells are integrated into multicellular systems and organisms. Toward the end of the course, students select topics of interest in biology to explore and discuss in the classroom.

PHYS 101. Introductory Physics I - 3 cr.

This course deals with measurements, motion in one dimension, vectors, motion in two dimensions, Newton's laws with applications, work and energy, circular motion, linear momentum and collisions, rotation and angular momentum, oscillations, gravity, and elements of fluid mechanics. **Prerequisite: MATH 101**

CHEM 101. General Principles of Chemistry I - 3 cr.

This course is an introductory one that prompts students' citizenship in scientific thinking (chemistry), covering the following topics: atomic structure, chemical reactions, solutions, gas laws, stoichiometry, periodic relationships among the elements, chemical bonding, and other basic concepts.

COMM 101. Communication & Society - 3 cr.

This freshman course surveys mass media, their functions, and their effects on society. It introduces the students to the development of various mass media systems and their role in society. It also examines through examples and case studies some of the social, economic, and psychological implications of the relationship between media and society.

COMM 102. Communication in Formal & Professional Settings - 3 cr.

This freshman course is designed to help students employ their fundamental knowledge of the English language in professional settings which require various communication skills: verbal, non-verbal, written, and visual. The course acquaints the students with the necessary tools to adapt to different environments as they utilize the various types of communication. Particular emphasis will be given to business etiquette and netiquette, the etiquette of online communication.

PSYC 101. Freshman Psychology - 3 cr.

This course introduces students to what psychology is as a field of study and practice, highlighting major milestones in the development of psychology as a profession. In this course, students explore sensation vs. perception, emotions vs. feelings, and subjective vs. objective experiences. The course also introduces psychopathology and the roots behind mental health issues.

SOCL 101. Introduction to Sociology I - 3 cr.

This freshman course introduces students to basic theories, concepts, empirical concerns, and analytical approaches of the discipline of sociology. The course covers basic classical and contemporary views of modern society, with a focus on the nature of community and inequality in modern societies (class, race and gender).

CIVL 101. Youth & Rebellion in Modern Literature - 3 cr.

This course focuses on literature produced between the 19th century and today. The course introduces the concepts of rebellion and conflict among the youth. In this course, students explore various representations of these two concepts in modern literary and philosophic works, as they read, discuss, and reflect on various selected texts.

LAW 100. Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms for Freshman- 3cr.

This course introduces students to the concept of human rights, its philosophical foundations and legal connotations. The course analyses the concept of rights, the role of the United Nations in the promotion of human rights, and the various bodies of the United Nations. **Prerequisite: ENGL 101 A&B.**

ECON 101. Survey of Economics - 3cr.

This course introduces the basic economics principles and some examples of their applications. It will broadly cover important ideas in microeconomics (individual and collective decisions under conditions of scarcity) and macroeconomics (the dynamics and measurements of the economy as a whole). Ideas like markets, supply and demand, opportunity costs, competition, and market failures will be explored within a wider understanding of the field and its relevance to the study of business.

STAT 101. Basic Statistics - 3cr.

This course is designed to enhance students' statistical literacy and reasoning by comprehensively covering essential probability and statistics concepts. It commences with a review of key algebraic principles, including methods for determining line slopes, graphing linear equations, solving common functions, and addressing percentages and interpolation. Subsequently, the course presents its core modules, encompassing a diverse range of topics. These include exploring one-variable and two-variable data through tables, graphs, and distributions, as well as delving into data collection techniques like sampling and surveys. Furthermore, it delves into the foundational aspects of classic probability, covering conditional probability, independence, discrete and continuous random variables, and binomial and geometric random variables. The course also incorporates detailed discussions on sampling distributions, involving proportions, means, and confidence intervals, and culminates with an extensive.

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