Q. Dear Advisor: I’m still not sure what classes I’m going to take this semester. I have a full schedule, but there are other classes I’d prefer to take if seats open up. How long do I have to finalize my schedule? – Hoping for Change

A. Dear Hoping for Change: You are able to add courses on Student Link until next Tuesday, January 16th, so feel free to register yourself for your desired courses if seats open up. If no seats are open, one way to try to register is by contacting the instructor directly. The easiest way to do this is by simply showing up to the first day of the class. Be sure to bring a university Change of Schedule form (available on the Office of the Registrar’s website) to the class so that the instructor can easily add you if room is available. Keep in mind that courses in some departments have waiting lists. If a course does have a waiting list that you can get on, this is your best option.

As of January 17th, all course adds will require instructor permission on a Change of Schedule form. Attaining instructor permission to add a course does become more difficult with each passing day. If the instructor feels that you have missed too many days of class and cannot easily catch up on material, he or she will deny your add. Please also note that adding units after January 30th results in a $250 tuition fee. Be sure to talk to instructors as soon as possible.

Remember that your ability to be added to a course depends entirely upon availability of seats and instructor permission. You need to protect your enrollment in the courses you currently have on your schedule in case you are unable to get into the courses you are hoping to add. If you need to be full-time, do not drop your current courses until you have been guaranteed enrollment in another class. Also, please note that many instructors may drop students who do not attend the first day of class. Keep attending your current classes until you know for certain that you will be dropping. You are responsible for dropping a class if you choose not to take it! You are able to drop courses on Student Link through February 6th.

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Welcome back, students! At the start of this new semester, please take a moment to review your schedule and ensure that you are taking appropriate courses. If you dropped or failed any required classes last semester, consider taking them again this semester if they are offered. Check to ensure that you have met all the prerequisites for your classes. And, as always, contact your advisor with any questions or concerns.

Best of luck in this new semester!