

UPAC Notes
March 12, 2025
8:45 AM -10:00 AM

Welcome: UPAC Co-Chairs

8:45 am to 8:50 am: Community Check-in

- Debra Armand-Cade led a community check-in focused on registration preparations and summer plans.

8:50 am to 9:05 am: **Updates and Announcements:** Sharon & Nicole

UPAC Elections

- Two new co-chairs are needed for a two-yea term, the call for nominations will be sent out by Nicole and end on March 28, 2025.
- Any advisor is eligible! Lead the community, events and support the ARC.

Project Graduation

- [View the slides here](#)
- Project focused on assisting students with potential graduation barriers.
- Sharon will share further data at the April UPAC meeting.

Policy Updates

- Repeat Policy (GRO) is under review. Would offer repeat of courses to 3x without limiting number of courses to be repeated.
- General Education foundation areas are being reviewed and could be packaged with fall 2026 changes.

AI Survey

- ARC will be launching an exploratory survey to understanding more about engagement with AI in the advising community
- Survey has been developed by a committee from the advising community.
- Focus is on being proactive about it's use in the community

Upcoming Events

- ARC Lunch and Learn
- Servingness in Advising: Understanding structures of Advising in HSIS (with Dr. Gabriel Bermea and UPAC Co-Chairs) [Register here](#).
- May 8 - Major Declaration Day ([Learn more](#))
- May 21 – ARC Celebration, save the date

9:05 am to 9:20 am: **Office of the Registrar:** Abbie Sorg and Sherrie Svedberg
Updates to Bachelor's Degree Requirements and Major Declaration Policies

Important note: old policies are in affect for students in catalog years fall 2024 or prior.

Changes to Double Majors and Double Degrees

Abbie Sorg outlined significant updates to the bachelor's degree requirements, particularly regarding multiple majors and degrees. The new policies eliminate the need for college-level signatures for major changes and streamline unit requirements, allowing students more flexibility in their academic progress. Additionally, the minimum required units for all degrees is now set at 120, regardless of whether they are concurrent or sequential.

Goals of Policy Updates

- Removed need for college approval of major changes
- Support graduation by streamlining requirements for double majors and degrees
- Help students better understand their options for different programs

Updated Requirements

- Completion of all major, minor and Gened requirements
- Students completing sequential degrees need to complete a minimum of 120 units and degrees will be awarded at the same time.
- For multiple majors, a minimum 18 unique units are needed for each major or degree.
- 2nd major may satisfy a required minor with department approval. Cannot use an expected future degree to satisfy a minor requirement in their first degree. Can do a minor in first degree, but not in second.
- Opt-In Process – sent to departments on March 3, can opt into allowing students to satisfy required minor with another major/degree.

9:20 am to 9:35 am: **Arizona Athletics:** Andy Salgado/Sarah Barber

Jennifer R. Mewes provided an overview of the transfer portal, which allows student-athletes to declare their intention to transfer to another NCAA school. This system adds transparency, manages and facilitates transitions, and offers students new opportunities. Students can compete immediately without sitting out a year, provided they meet academic requirements.

She outlined the system for monitoring student-athletes' academic status, including daily change reports. Andrew Salgado highlighted the challenges with the recent surge of incoming transfers, especially in football, and thanked the team for their efforts in managing admissions and transcript evaluations.

Issues Facing Transfer Student-Athletes

- Majoring in subjects not offered at the University of Arizona (UA)
- Meeting grade minimums to transfer courses

- Limited transferability of upper-division classes
- Physical Education units maxed out at UA
- Excessive electives that do not fit academic requirements
- Enrolled in 8 or more semesters at the previous school
- Transfer credit posting challenges, especially from fall to spring

9:35 am to 9:50 am: **BA in Molecular and Cellular Biology:** Kara Dyson, Justin Schneider

The new Bachelor of Arts in Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB) program, introduced by Justin Schneider and Cara Dyson, will be available online starting fall 2025. This program is designed for students interested in science-related careers such as education, communication, policy, and law. It is also suitable for those seeking a second degree or major.

- **Reduced Math and Chemistry Requirements:** Unlike the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree, the BA requires Math 112 instead of Calculus 1, no physics, and only one semester of organic chemistry.
- **Flexibility:** Students can complete their degree online, with core classes offered both on the main campus and Arizona Online (AZO).
- **Generous Double Dipping Policy:** Allows for more flexibility in course selection.
- **Same Elective Options as BS:** Ensures a comprehensive education with a variety of elective courses.
- **Website:** <https://mcb.arizona.edu/undergraduate-students/prospective-students/degree-options>
- [View Slides](#)

Adjourn

UPAC Co-Chairs for 2024-2025 school year

- Debra Armand-Cade – darmandcade@arizona.edu
- Juliana Lincoln – julianalincoln@arizona.edu
- Serena Valle – ssvalle@arizona.edu
- Emily Bonney – eburruel@arizona.edu

*To request to present at a future UPAC meeting, please email the UPAC Co-Chairs

**To get added to the UPAC listserv and receive UPAC emails, email the [Advising Resource Center](#) (ARC) at advising@arizona.edu

***UA Advisors can send relevant emails to the UPAC listserv by emailing: UPAC@list.arizona.edu