FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How often do classes meet?

Generally, classes meet in the fall semester either three times a week on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays (MWF) for 50 minutes a period or two times a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays (TR) for 75 minutes a period. There are some exceptions. For example, a four-credit math course will meet four days a week for 50 minutes a period. Laboratory classes normally meet once per week for three hours.

What does the letter "R" stand for on the class schedule?

It stands for Thursday. (The computer system allows for one character only, and T is designated for Tuesday.)

What is a CRN or Course Registration Number?

It is a four-digit number that is assigned to every section of a course each semester. It is the number used under the Registration Menu on MCSquare to add or drop a course.

What is meant by credit or semester hour?

Credit hours (also referred to as semester hours) are a unit measurement for courses. Courses vary in the number of semester/credit hours they bear. Most of the courses at Messiah are three or four credits. Many of the physical education courses are one credit.

How many credit hours do I need in order to graduate?

This varies by major; but generally, 123 hours is the minimum required.

Why do most science labs have zero credits?

The lab is a required part of the course. The credit hour value for the lab is incorporated into the credits of the lecture.

What does the term "full-time" mean?

This refers to students who are taking 12 or more credit hours in a semester. Full-time student enrollment is important for financial aid eligibility. Most of the companies that carry healthcare insurance require students to be enrolled full-time (This is something you should check with your parents.) Registration over 18 credits will result in additional tuition fees being applied to your account.
I plan to participate in athletics. Will I be restricted from any classes?

Students who plan to participate in athletics should ensure all day classes end no later than 4:00 p.m. Normally, evening classes begin at 6:15 p.m.

I'm really not sure what major I want to pursue. Will that cause me problems?

Not at all! Many students need a semester or two to help them gain their focus on the selection of a major. The General Education program at Messiah gives wide latitude for course selection when a student is undecided. In addition, the College has qualified advisors assigned to students who haven't made their decision regarding a major.

I want to double major or have a minor. How can I declare this and register for courses?

If you are interested in pursuing a second major or minor, you can discuss your interests with your academic advisor when you arrive on campus. There is plenty of time in your college career to pursue these opportunities. Students may officially declare a secondary major during their second semester of their first year, and a minor during their sophomore year.

What courses do I need to register for this semester if I want to take the secondary education teaching option available in some majors?

You should be in direct contact with your academic major department regarding this once you arrive on campus. The list of department chairpersons may be obtained by clicking here.

I took a college course through my high school. Will it count at Messiah?

Courses taken at other colleges and universities are accepted at Messiah College. There are some restrictions, however. To have your course evaluated for possible credit transfer, be sure that an official transcript from the college or university is sent to the Messiah College Registrar's Office.

I took AP exams. Will I get college credit for them?

You must have your official scores sent to the Registrar's Office. Typically, scores of 3 or higher on general or subject exams approved by our academic departments will allow you to receive credit. The Registrar's Office will notify you after we receive the test scores from the College Board.

I took an AP course, but didn’t take the exam. Can I get credit?

Sorry, credit may be awarded only when the exam is taken.
Important Tips to Remember

- Online registration for new first year students begins at **10:30 a.m. on June 10**. You should plan to register by July 22 or we will be contacting you to update your student status.

- Courses with full enrollment are noted with "C" (closed) under the **Class Schedule Listing** under the **Look Up Classes** option.

- You should confirm your schedule after any registration session by clicking on **Active Registration** from the **Registration Menu**. You are interacting with our live database. **What you view in Active Registration is the same information in our computer.**

- Always exit the Registration Menu on MCSquare properly by clicking the "Exit" button.

Do you have questions not listed here? E-mail us at registrar@messiah.edu.