Class availability

May 16, 2017

Five surveys of undergraduates (2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2017) reveal that overall availability of classes has improved over time, with 93% of respondents reporting in Spring 2017 that all their classes met a graduation requirement (or that they were able to enroll in all the classes in their plan). As shown in the graphic, class availability has trended upward.

For required major courses and for general education (GE) courses, respectively, 96% and 94% of students were successful in getting required courses in Spring 2017—although to do so, they may have needed to enroll in a non-first choice class.

There have been improvements in students' ability to enroll in their first-choice classes—particularly for GE courses, where first-choice availability improved from 40% to 81% between 2010 and 2017. Access to first-choice major courses fluctuated over this period, but overall increased from 64% to 77%.

Since 2010, access to courses in one's major steadily improved for lower division students. Generally, access to courses in one's major was better for upper-division students.

In Winter 2017, there were some notable differences in class availability depending upon a student's major (analyzed by division).

Juniors in the Arts and those who had 2 majors in different divisions had the highest class availability in Winter 2017. With the exception of PB Sci, 90% of seniors in all divisions reported that all classes met requirements even if they were not their first choice.

*An annual online survey of undergraduate students, CLASS has been a collaboration between students (SUA) and Institutional Research, Assessment and Policy Studies since 2010. Response rates were the following: 23% in 2011, 17% in 2012, 18% in 2014, and 10% in 2017.