REGISTRATION GUIDELINES - MA Program - FAQs

What do I need to graduate?
- Program Requirements
- Good Academic Standing.

When and How do I Register for Classes?
1. Review your course selections with your Faculty Adviser.
2. Your Faculty Adviser needs to approve your selections either in person or via email.
3. Register through Student Services Online (SSOL).
   - You will be assigned periods of time during which you can register.
   - These "registration appointments" will be listed in SSOL.
   - Your UNI and password will be required to access SSOL.
   - Click on "REG APPTS" from the menu on the left to see when you may enroll.
   - All MA Statistics students register at the same appointment times.

For more details, refer to the GSAS Registration page and the Registrar’s Registration and Enrollment page. The Student Service Center Website has helpful videos and other information on registration. Review KEY DATES.

What is a Residence Unit (RU) ?
1. RUs (and ERs) are registration categories that determine tuition.
2. In addition to registering for classes, all must register for RU (or ER).
3. GSAS requires completion of two Residence Units (RUs) to graduate.
4. After completing two RUs, all students are required to register for ER.

How do I register for RUs? To find the call number for the kind of residence unit you want, look up Richard Slusarczyk – (Assc. Dean-Academic Affairs, GSAS) who will be listed as the “instructor.” Choose the correct unit and semester.
5. Full-time students complete 2 RUs and then register for ER:
   - RU allows a maximum of 20 points of course credit (counts as full/time for F1 status)
   - ER (Extended Residence Unit) allows a maximum of 20 points (counts as full/time for F1 status)
6. Part-time students must complete two RUs and their coursework within four years:
   - QR (¼ RU) allows for registration of one or two courses (part/time students only)
   - HR (½ RU) allows for registration of up to three courses (part/time students only)

How does an International student in F-1 status register?
- Must complete the Master’s Degree in no more than three semesters (summer optional).
- Register RU for each of the first two semesters.
- Register ER in the third semester.
- The number of classes per semester vary as long as all the requirements are completed within three semesters.

What if a class is “restricted?”
This means that you cannot get into this class. It is closed to anyone in our school. Please do not email your Faculty Adviser or the MA Staff to get into that course. It is not available to MA Statistics Students.
What if a class is full?
- SSOL is the primary source for all registration including waitlists.
- Register as soon as possible and place yourself on the waitlist.
- There are two kinds of waitlists. You will either receive a number, or a “pending approval” message.

Here is a helpful Guide for waitlists. Email waitlist@columbia.edu for questions.
- Sign-up for an alternative course or a different section in the same course to provide back-up.

How do I CROSS REGISTER for a class at another school?
- Is the course an approved elective? Verify through our website at the Elective Course List. Always consult with your adviser and receive approval.
- Are there any prerequisites? Look them up in the Columbia Course Directory.
- Follow each school’s cross-registration procedure. We do not have influence over another school’s policies.
  - Computer Science
  - IEOR – Industrial Engineering & Organizational Research
  - Data Science Institute – Email: datascience@columbia.edu
  - Business School – For questions, contact Office of Student Affairs at crossreg@gsb.columbia.edu.
- Many courses in other Schools/Departments open up to more students by the first week of classes.

When do I pay?
- Charges appear in SSOL once registration is completed.
- Payment is due before the end of Change of Program period.
- For more details: Bills & Payments Basics.
- For current student account balance: Student Services Online (SSOL).
- Information: Student Financial Services: Paying your Student Account.
- Questions? Email: GSAS-finaid@columbia.edu

What else do I need to know about registration?
- Only classes with normal grading (not P/F or R Grade) are counted towards the 30 credits required for the MA Degree. Required courses MAY NOT be taken Pass/Fail.
- Courses may not be re-taken for an improved grade.
- GSAS deadlines to drop classes or change grading options are strictly enforced.
- All students must register each semester or take a Leave of Absence.

What do first semester students need to know?
- First semester students should register for no more than four classes.

What resources are available?
- Columbia Course Directory
- Reveals when a student is restricted from taking a course. Must be “open to” GSAS.
- Shows how many students have already signed up and how many slots are still open (time-delayed from the evening before).
- Reveals if there are any prerequisites or “Approvals Required.”
- Vergil – Search for classes with a key word or instructor name.
- List of currently approved (and not approved) electives
- Cross Registration Procedures
How and when do I add or drop a class?

The first two weeks of the semester is called the “Change of Program Period” because students may add and drop classes in SSOL without penalty. **Your schedule should be set at the end of this period.**

Refer to the [Academic Calendar](#) for add/drop deadlines.

- MA Statistics students must drop by the **GSAS DEADLINES**. There are no exceptions.
- No classes may be dropped after the **LAST DAY TO DROP**. There are no exceptions.
- **LAST DAY TO CHANGE TO R or Pass/Fail**. There are no exceptions.

**Your Faculty Adviser must approve your final schedule,** even if via email.

**HERE** is information about the Post-Change of Program period.

**VIEWS FROM THE COLUMBIA COURSE DIRECTORY**

(1) **Ma Statistics students can register for the course below. It is only open to MA Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2017 Statistics</th>
<th>GR5203 section 005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROBABILITY</strong></td>
<td>GR52XX courses are for MA Statistics Students Only.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Call Number**: 67151
- **Day & Time Location**: TR 8:40am-11:25am, 903 School of Social Work
- **Points**: 3
- **Approvals Required**: None
- **Instructor**: Regina Dolgoarshinykh
- **Type**: LECTURE
- **Course Description**: Prerequisites: At least one semester of calculus. A calculus-based introduction to probability theory. Topics covered include random variables, conditional probability, expectation, independence, Bayes' rule, important distributions, joint distributions, moment generating functions, central limit theorem, laws of large numbers and Markov's inequality.
- **Web Site**: CourseWorks
- **Department**: Statistics
- **Enrollment**: 0 students (46 max) as of 11:37PM Thursday, August 3, 2017
- **Subject**: Statistics
- **Number**: GR5203
- **Section**: 005
- **Division**: Interfaculty
- **Open To**: Graduate School of Arts and Science
- **Campus**: Morningside
- **Note**: MA Stat Students Only, Meets 9/5-10/21
- **Section key**: 20173STATS203W005

Check to see if the class is open to your school/department.
(2) MA Statistics students should not register for the course below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2017 Statistics GU4203 section 002 PROBABILITY THEORY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Call Number</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Day &amp; Time Location</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Type</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Course Description</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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(3) Check the “Notes” section for special details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2017 Mathematics GR5280 section 001 CAPITAL MARKETS &amp; INVESTMENTS</th>
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Check the "Notes" section. Sometimes classes are restricted until a certain date.