Registration for Spring 2012 is under way!

Registration began on October 23rd. Check RAMweb for your official registration date and time and remember that it is staggered by the number of credits students have. For first-year students: you will not have an advising code again. Advising codes are reserved only for new students or students on Academic Probation. To aid in helping you get registered, below is a chart with common registration errors and fixes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Error message</th>
<th>What it means</th>
<th>When you might get it</th>
<th>What to do</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Class level</strong></td>
<td>Only students in a certain class level (fr/so or jr/sr) can register for a given course.</td>
<td>Few (if any) Biology courses have this restriction but other departments’ courses (e.g., Psychology) may have it.</td>
<td>If you NEED the course, contact the home department for access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Multiple Components Required</strong></td>
<td>In addition to the lecture, you have to register for another component (lab or recitation) at the same time.</td>
<td>Many biology, chemistry, and physics courses are commonly associated with this error.</td>
<td>Check boxes for each component PRIOR to hitting “register.” Click the CRN for the lecture to see specifically which sections of lab/recitation that must be selected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major</strong></td>
<td>You do not have the right major for a class.</td>
<td>Some classes are restricted just to students in that major (Business/Art are examples); other classes allow non-majors to register after a certain date.</td>
<td>Click on the CRN for details about major restriction—if the class opens to non-majors at a certain date, it will tell you that info here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite</strong></td>
<td>You fail to meet at least one prerequisite for the class.</td>
<td>BZ310 is an example (though most biology courses have prerequisites). It requires a semester of organic chemistry as a prerequisite.</td>
<td>You’ll need to take the prerequisite courses prior to registering for the course in question. If you think this is an error, contact your advisor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dept./Instructor approval</strong></td>
<td>Registration for a certain class is limited and only approved on a case-by-case basis.</td>
<td>An example is BZ505 Cognitive Ecology - it requires permission from the instructor for undergrads to enroll.</td>
<td>If you seek access to a class requiring dept./instructor approval, contact the instructor listed or the department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stop enrollment</strong></td>
<td>A department has stopped enrollment so that no one can register for the class until a problem is resolved.</td>
<td>Hard to say—stop enrollments can happen in any department due to unforeseen changes.</td>
<td>Try registering for a different section of the same class, or contact the department to find out more information.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Are you registered for at least 12 credits? Registration is open for ALL students!

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**Fall 2012 Important Dates**

**December**

- 7 - last day to process a University Withdrawal.
- 10 - 14 - Final Exams.
- 14 - 15 - Commencement Ceremonies.
- 19 - Grades available on RAMweb
- 24-26 - Winter holiday; University Closed.

To learn more about what faculty, staff, and students in the Department of Biology are up to, check out our website: [http://www.biology.colostate.edu/](http://www.biology.colostate.edu/).
**WALK IN ADVISING FOR GRADUATING SENIORS!**

Are you graduating in Spring 2013? Have you heard a rumor that there’s a “contract” that you need to sign? The rumors are true! The registrar’s office prints a contract for every graduating senior. The Academic Support Coordinators in the Biology Department will review each contract to ensure that all requirements have been completed. We then make those contacts available for seniors to review and sign.

In January, the Biology Department will hold walk in advising hours for all students graduating in Spring 2013. **You do not need to make an appointment to sign your contract.** Please come to A/Z E106 during one of the following times:

- Tuesday, January 22, 2013 – 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
- Thursday, January 24, 2013 – 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
- Friday, January 25, 2013 – 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
- Monday, January 28, 2013 – Friday, February 1, 2013 – 9:00 AM-11:00 AM each day

**Seniors may walk in at ANY TIME during the first two weeks for the semester to sign their contract but advisors will be available during the above hours for questions, etc.**

**TILT Workshop: Test-Taking Strategies: FINAL EXAM PREP!**

Tips for different exam formats
How to make the most of your study time

**Date:** December 3rd, 4th, and 6th
**Time:** Monday at 4pm, Tuesday at 6pm, and Thursday at 5pm - 50 minutes
**Location:** TILT 221
**Extra:** Be on time!!!

No pre-registration required; however, you may want to arrive early to ensure seating as we will close the door after the designated start time of the workshop.

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**Tilt is Seeking Tutors for BC 351 and BZ 350!**

Are you looking for an on-campus job? Did you do well in Genetics or Biochemistry? If so, TiLT wants you! Applicants must be CSU students with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. You must have received an A or a B in the course you’d like to tutor. Candidates also need to have a recommendation for a professor and have completed 30 total credits and 12 credits at CSU. To learn more and to access application materials, visit: [http://tilt.colostate.edu/learning/tutoring/tutorOps.cfm](http://tilt.colostate.edu/learning/tutoring/tutorOps.cfm)
REGISTRATION FOR CSU’S MCAT PREP COURSE IS NOW OPEN!

Are you planning to take the MCAT exam for medical school admission? If so, this course is for you! Registration for the MCAT prep course will be through CSU Online Plus. The course number is HSCT 3080 and is a noncredit course. The link to the registration is a hidden link so you will not find it by searching the online registration site. To register for the course copy and paste the link below and follow the instructions.

http://www.online.colostate.edu/courses/HSCT/HSCT3080.dot

The cost of the course is $500 which includes the cost of instruction, a set of MCAT study guides and 5 MCAT Practice tests from the AAMC and can be paid by credit card. The course is a content review of general and organic chemistry, biology, physics and verbal reasoning skills covered on the MCAT and includes access to five (5) practice MCAT tests through the AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges). It is not a course for academic credit and is not graded. The course is only available to current or former CSU students.

ATTENTION PRE-MED STUDENTS! Premedica will be hosting a panel of UD-Denver Medical Students! December 5th, 6:30 in Yates 104

Advising Tip of the Month: Prepare for Finals!

Go to study sessions, meet with professors and TAs, and go to tutoring sessions. Use this time to prepare for your final exams! You will have an entire month of sleeping in, eating, and hanging out with friends once winter break is here. So prioritize your time wisely these final few weeks of the semester.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS HAPPENINGS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Pets Forever is looking for motivated, mature students to help those less fortunate and their companion animals in our community. Pets Forever student expectations: Enroll in VS495 section 2 for one credit; Complete background check (no charge); Attend weekly group meetings/class (Tuesdays 9:45-10 OR Wednesdays 12:45-1:45); Provide a minimum of 5 hours/week service (including group meeting); Come open minded, ready to learn. For more information, contact Dr. Lori Kogan (970) 491-7984

Lori.Kogan@colostate.edu  http://petsforever.colostate.edu

Have you registered for spring classes? Be sure to meet with your Health Professions advisor to prepare for spring semester classes and to begin to discuss your summer schedule. Call the CASA office at 970-491-7095 and the front staff will set an appointment for you to meet.

To schedule an appointment with a Health Professions Advisor call the Center for Advising and Student Achievement (CASA) at 970-491-7095. For more information on Health Professions Advising visit http://hp.casa.colostate.edu/.

If you are interested in health professions, we encourage you to sign up for the health professions electronic mailing list (at http://hp.casa.colostate.edu/hpmailinglist.aspx). Subscribing to this list enables you to receive email messages about Health Professions advising, workshops related to Health Professions and special events sponsored by the various Health Profession student organizations.
The Value of Undergraduate Lab Experience—An Interview With Sophomore Biology Major, Rachel Riley

Last month, the Biology Undergraduate Newsletter featured Janea Campbell and her wildlife rehabilitation internship. This month, we sat down with Rachel Riley, an undergraduate lab assistant.

What lab are you currently working in and what research is taking place there? I am currently working in Dr. Graham Peers’ Lab. We study photosynthesis and the ecophysiology of algae.

What’s your role in the lab? What do you do on a day to day basis? One of the perks of working in a lab is that there are no two days on which I am doing the same tasks. I make media for the algae to grow in and perform maintenance tasks which include cleaning dishes and sterilizing equipment using the autoclave. I have also been responsible for research projects throughout my time working in the lab.

How did you find your current job in this lab? The February 2012 Biology Department Newsletter featured Graham Peers as a new faculty member. In the article, it was mentioned that he was looking for undergraduate lab assistants. I immediately became interested and emailed Dr. Peers telling him of my interest.

How does this experience fit into your future plans? When I chose to attend CSU, I had the intention of attending Medical School after college. I began to second guess this choice. The February 2012 newsletter came at the perfect time. It gave me the opportunity to explore an alternate possibility. I have since come to highly enjoy working in a lab and hope to pursue a career doing research.

What are you learning as a member of the lab team? In addition to discovering that research will definitely be in my future, I have learned many important laboratory skills and techniques that will help me in my future career and also in courses with lab components at CSU. I have acquired vital time management skills which help me on a day-to-day basis to balance working and my academics.

What would you suggest to other students who want to find a position working with a faculty member? I would highly suggest keeping an open mind when exploring the different opportunities. In addition, I think it is important to speak up when you find something that does interest you. This could mean talking to a professor about thought-provoking lectures or to faculty members about how they became involved in their specific field.
**Career Connections**

*Need help planning your future? Judy Brobst*, the Career Center Liaison for the College of Natural Sciences, can assist you with all aspects of your career development! Services offered: Internships & volunteer experiences, resume development, choosing/changing majors, graduate school, on-line assessments, job search skills, etc. To set up an appointment contact Judy at judy.brobst@colostate.edu or 970-491-5707.

**JOB SEEKER TIP**

*Let your card do the work to get you work!*

Develop your own professional business card or networking card and have some on hand wherever you go! (Microsoft Word has business card templates that you can use) You never know who you might run into unexpectedly. A business card provides the chance to follow up after your encounter. Follow these tips to create a professional and effective card:

- Your name should be the most prominent piece of information.
- Include your e-mail address, the best phone number for you to be reached on and your website address or links to any blogs or sites where you have an established on line presence such as LinkedIn.
- List your job function or title, job objective or primary skills.
- Keep the layout as simple, clean and readable as possible. Use standard 11 or 12 point font size.
- You can develop several different formats or designs to see which ones people respond to the best or to represent your different career pursuits.
- If you print them on your own printer, use a high quality business card paper stock that you can find at office supply stores.
- Print shops and online printing services offer cards at reasonable rates, as well.
- Once they are printed, keep a small supply of cards in your car, your briefcase or laptop case and your jacket pockets! You never know whom you might meet!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

Colorado State University JOB FAIR
Wednesday, February 6, 2013 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Lory Student Center, Main Ballroom!!
Jobs and Internships

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**THE ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER NOW HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE!**

Like us on Facebook and get updates about advising, policy changes, registration, and more! [https://www.facebook.com/pages/Colorado-State-Biology-Academic-Support-Center/291242517619899](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Colorado-State-Biology-Academic-Support-Center/291242517619899)