

Welcome! We're happy you've chosen Wabash, and we can't wait to see what you'll bring to campus this fall. Your Wabash education begins with an invitation to explore widely, question deeply, and discover new ways of understanding the world — and that journey starts with one practical first step: building your Fall schedule. This guide is here to help.

Inside, you'll find guidance on first-year course loads, the required Freshman Tutorial (FRT-101), MAT-100 math placement, science lab and language pairings, and how to navigate waitlists with confidence. Think of it as a starting point for the conversations you'll soon have with your academic advisor. Note anything that surprises or puzzles you, and discuss with your advisor so you are ready to shape a schedule that launches your Wabash journey on solid ground.

Transfer Students

Transfer students arrive with credits already completed and should work closely with **Associate Dean of Students Marc Welch** on scheduling remaining requirements.

Key Scheduling Points

- **Course load:** All first-year students register for **four credits** in their first semester. Plan for 5–6 credits in case preferred choices are unavailable.
- **Freshman Tutorial (FRT-101):** Required for all first-year, non-transfer students. Meets **Tuesday and Thursday, 9:45–11:00 AM**. Counts as one of the four credits.
- **Composition or Public Speaking:** Some first-year students will take **ENG-101** or **RHE-101**. If required, this course will already appear on your Fall schedule. For these students, two of the four credits are pre-scheduled (FRT-101 plus ENG-101 or RHE-101).
- **Lab sciences and world languages:** When selecting one of these courses, you must also enroll in its corresponding lab section (e.g., BIO-111L with BIO-111, or FRE-201L with FRE-201).
- **Waitlisted courses:** Don't be discouraged by waitlist status. Seats are added for new students in many courses. If a course appears on the *Recommended Fall 2026 Courses for Beginning Students* list, it is available for new students to select.

Special Note: MAT-100 Placement

MAT-100 Math Modeling & Precalculus is a course exclusively for students who:

- have a MAT-100 placement, **AND**
- intend to major in **Biochemistry, Chemistry, Physics, Economics, Financial Economics, Computer Science, or Mathematics**, OR a **pre-health** or **3/2 engineering** course sequence.

Enrollment is by instructor permission. Students requesting enrollment in MAT-100 should use the **QR code** on the right to make this request **no later than Friday, July 17**. These students' advisors should also MAT-100, and the students should place MAT-100 on their "Plan & Schedule" calendars in Student Planning. Students who do **not** intend to major in one of the areas above, or who are undecided, should **not** take MAT-100, **even if MAT-100 was their placement**.

REQUEST MAT-100 HERE





FALL 2026 SCHEDULING TIPS AND SAMPLE SCHEDULES

EXAMPLE #1: New student undecided on a major

Placement Assumptions: MAT-100; SPA-201; ENG-101 EXEMPT

FIRST CHOICES (put these on the Student Planning Calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Freshman Tutorial	Already added to schedule
2.	Literature/Fine Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. ART-126 Studio Art Fundamentals w. MUS-104 Sound & Scary Movies w. THE-101 Introduction to Theater
3.	World Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. SPA-201 and 201L, Intermediate Spanish with lab w. Any new language and lab at the 101 level
4.	Exploration course (i.e., something you've never taken before)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. ASI-112-02 Martial Arts Film w. PSY-101-02 Introduction to Psychology w. GHL-177 Medical Humanities

BACKUPS (get advisor approval for these in Student Planning, but don't put them on the calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Behavioral Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. PSC-111 Intro to American Government w. EDU-101 Intro to Child & Adolescent Development
2.	Exploration course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. PHI-110 Philosophical Ethics w. REL-103 Islam & Religions of India

RATIONALE:

- w.** Beginning students have yet to meet any curricular requirements, so essentially anything this student chooses for his first semester will count toward some requirement. Lit/Fine Arts courses and Behavioral Science courses are good distribution areas to start with because it takes three credits to fulfill them.
- w.** ENG-101 is not scheduled because the English department decided that this student would not be required to take it, based on his placement survey. With an ENG-101 EXEMPT placement, the English Composition requirement for graduation is satisfied.
- w.** MAT-100 is not scheduled because the student has not expressed an interest in one of the majors that requires completion of Calculus I (Biochemistry, Chemistry, Physics, Economics, Financial Economics, Computer Science, or Mathematics), or in a pre-health or 3/2 pre-engineering sequence.
- w.** Remember that these are just **examples**. A student with an interest in History could substitute a history course for any of these. Same for a student with interest in Chemistry, Economics, or Math. Follow your interests and explore the curriculum!



FALL 2026 SCHEDULING TIPS AND SAMPLE SCHEDULES

EXAMPLE #2: New student with pre-health interest (e.g., medical, nursing, dental, or other health professional school)

Placement Assumptions: MAT-111; FRE-101; ENG-101 EXEMPT

FIRST CHOICES (put these on the Student Planning Calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Freshman Tutorial	Already added to schedule
2.	Lab Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. BIO-111 and 111L General Biology I with lab w. CHE-111 and 111L General Chemistry I with lab
3.	World Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. FRE-101 and 101L Elementary French I with lab w. Any new language and lab at the 101 level
4.	Math course	w. MAT-111 Calculus I

BACKUPS (get advisor approval for these in Student Planning, but don't put them on the calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Behavioral Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. PSC-121 Intro to Comparative Politics w. SOC-208 Healing: Religion & Sociology
2.	Literature/Fine Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. GEN-101 Intro to Gender Studies w. CLA-101 Classical Mythology

RATIONALE:

- w.** Students pursuing pre-health should begin in BIO-111 or CHE-111. They should **not take the 101 courses** in these Biology or Chemistry. They should also meet with [Pre-Health Advisor Jill Rogers](#) soon after their arrival at Wabash.
- w.** Ideally, a pre-health student should have a math placement of at least MAT-111, as this sample student has. A placement in MAT-100 will present a more difficult path for meeting pre-health requirements at Wabash.
 - o An aspiring pre-health student with a MAT-100 placement must take MAT-100 in the first fall semester, and MAT-111 in the spring. **Fall enrollment in MAT-100 requires permission of the department chair (Prof. Colin McKinney). Students must complete a web survey (see QR code on Page 1) no later than Friday, July 17 to seek permission from Prof. McKinney to enroll in this course.**
- w.** As a pre-health student progresses, there will be future semesters in which multiple lab science courses must be scheduled. If the student's World Language placement requires that a two-credit sequence is necessary to complete the requirement, he is well-advised to begin that sequence as soon as possible.
- w.** Behavioral Science and Literature/Fine Arts distribution requirements each require three credits to fulfill, so it is a good idea to get an early start on them.
- w.** The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) has several prerequisite requirements, including one semester of sociology. SOC-208 Healing: Religion & Sociology is a good choice for aspiring medical students to meet this prerequisite.
- w.** Keep in mind that a student can major in anything at Wabash and still go to medical, dental, or nursing school, or be in other health professions.



FALL 2026 SCHEDULING TIPS AND SAMPLE SCHEDULES

EXAMPLE #3: New student with interest in Art major and Glee Club

Placement Assumptions: MAT-100; SPA-201 (Intermediate Spanish); ENG-101 FALL

FIRST CHOICES (put these on the Student Planning Calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Freshman Tutorial	Already added to schedule
2.	Composition	ENG-101 already added to schedule
3.	Art course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. ART-126 Studio Art Fundamentals w. ART-225 Experimental Animation
4.	Behavioral Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. PSY-101 Intro to Psychology (section 02 is freshmen only) w. PSC-141 Intro to International Relations
5.	Glee Club	w. MUS-143 Glee Club (0.25 credit)

BACKUPS (get advisor approval for these in Student Planning, but don't put them on the calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	World Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. SPA-201 and 201L, Intermediate Spanish with lab w. Any new language and lab at the 101 level
2.	History/Philosophy/Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. HIS-101 World History to 1500 w. PHI-109 Introduction to Philosophy

RATIONALE:

- w.** Students placing into ENG-101 FALL will have that course already added to their schedules.
- w.** MAT-100 does not need to be scheduled because this student does not have an interest in majoring in Biochemistry, Chemistry, Physics, Economics, Financial Economics, Computer Science, or Mathematics, or intend to apply to medical or dental school, or want to do a 3-2 engineering program.
- w.** With a schedule of mandatory and major-interest courses heavy in the humanities, it is wise to consider for the fourth credit something from one of the other academic divisions, such as Intro to Psychology, or a Political Science intro course.
- w.** Glee Club is a 0.25 credit course and can apply toward the Performance Sequence requirement of the Music major or minor. One full credit of Glee Club (four semesters of participation) can also apply toward the Literature/Fine Arts distribution requirement. Unlike other courses, music ensembles such as Glee Club, Jazz Ensemble, etc. can be added to a new student's four-credit schedule without special permission.



FALL 2026 SCHEDULING TIPS AND SAMPLE SCHEDULES

EXAMPLE #4: New student with Pre-Engineering interest

Students interested in pre-engineering should also seek advice from pre-engineering faculty:

Prof. Qixin Deng – Goodrich 108, x6457, dengq@wabash.edu

Prof. Nathan Tompkins – Goodrich 312, x6305, tompkinn@wabash.edu

Prof. Colin McKinney – Goodrich 109, x6314, mckinnec@wabash.edu

Placement Assumptions: MAT-112; GER-201 (Intermediate Spanish); ENG-101 FALL

FIRST CHOICES (put these on the Student Planning Calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Freshman Tutorial	Already added to schedule
2.	Composition	ENG-101 already added to schedule
3.	Lab Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. PHY-111 and 111L, Physics I - Calculus with lab w. CHE-111 and 111L, General Chemistry I with lab
4.	Math/Quantitative Literacy	w. MAT-112 Calculus II

BACKUPS (get advisor approval for these in Student Planning, but don't put them on the calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Computer Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. CSC-101 Intro to Computer Science, or w. CSC-111 Intro to Programming (with instructor permission)
2.	World Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. GER-201 and 201L, Intermediate German with lab w. Any new language and lab at the 101 level
3.	Exploration course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. BLS-270-02 Color TV: Black Folk on TV w. REL-181 Religion in America

RATIONALE:

- w.** Students placing into ENG-101 FALL will have that course automatically added to their schedules.
- w.** Any student interested in the dual-degree engineering program will need two semesters of Physics, so PHY-111 + lab is the best place to start. Those interested in chemical engineering may consider CHE-111 + lab.
- w.** Students with strong interest in computer engineering or having Computer Science as a major or minor are encouraged to take the appropriate first CSC course, either CSC-101 or CSC-111. To keep a four-credit schedule, the CSC course could be taken in place of Calculus.
- w.** Placement in MAT-111 or higher is essential for entry into a 3-2 engineering program to be a realistic option. Placement in MAT-100 closes off the 3-2 dual degree option, but with guidance from a pre-engineering advisor, a degree path at Wabash leading to an engineering career is still a possibility.



FALL 2026 SCHEDULING TIPS AND SAMPLE SCHEDULES

EXAMPLE #5: New student with interest in Economics or business

Placement Assumptions: MAT-100; FRE-201; ENG-101 STANDBY

FIRST CHOICES (put these on the Student Planning Calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Freshman Tutorial	Already selected
2.	Math/Quantitative Literacy	w. MAT-100 Math Modeling and Precalculus (must complete a web survey by July 17 for instructor permission. See the QR code on Page 1.)
3.	World Language	w. FRE-201 and 201L, Intermediate French with lab w. Any new language and lab at the 101 level
4.	Language Studies	w. RHE-101 Public Speaking w. ENG-110 Intro to Creative Writing

BACKUPS (get advisor approval for these in Student Planning, but don't put them on the calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Exploration course	w. EDU-101-01 Intro to Child & Adolescent Development w. GHL-219-02 Drugs and Society in Modern History
2.	Literature/Fine Arts	w. MUS-220 Approaches to Music & Culture w. THE-103-03 Building the Visual World

RATIONALE:

- w.** Economics is a highly quantitative major that requires completion of MAT-111 Calculus I. A student interested in Economics, but who placed into MAT-100, must take MAT-100 in the first semester, and MAT-111 in Spring.
 - o **Fall enrollment in MAT-100 requires permission of the department chair (Prof. Colin McKinney). Students must complete a web survey (see QR code on Page 1) no later than Friday, July 17 to seek permission from Prof. McKinney to enroll in this course.**
- w.** Students who place into and take MAT-100, as in this example, **will benefit from waiting until Spring to take ECO-101**, concurrently with MAT-111. Students placing into MAT-111 or higher could take ECO-101 instead of another first-choice course listed above, along with their placed Math course.
- w.** Economics can be either a major or a minor, but Business is **only** a minor at Wabash, **not** a major. Business is not a minor that can later be converted to a major if a student wants to change his original major. The department has started advising students not to combine the Economics major with the Business minor.
- w.** ENG-101 STANDBY means that the student could be placed into ENG-101 in the Fall (or in Spring) if a seat becomes available. To the extent possible, this student is encouraged to choose courses that don't conflict with the times when ENG-101 is scheduled in case it needs to be added later. It is VERY IMPORTANT that every new first-time freshman completes the ENG-101 placement survey on the New Student Road Map.



FALL 2026 SCHEDULING TIPS AND SAMPLE SCHEDULES

EXAMPLE #6: New student with interest in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) major

Placement Assumptions: MAT-111; GER-201; ENG-101 FALL

FIRST CHOICES (put these on the Student Planning Calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Freshman Tutorial	Already added to schedule
2.	Composition	ENG-101 already added to schedule
3.	Prerequisite for PPE major	w. PHI-110 Philosophical Ethics w. PSC-131 Intro to Political Theory
4.	World Language	w. GER-201 and 201L, Intermediate German with lab w. Any new language and lab at the 101 level

BACKUPS (get advisor approval for these in Student Planning, but don't put them on the calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Other prerequisite for PPE major	w. ECO-101 Principles of Economics w. PSC-111 Intro to American Government
2.	Exploration course	w. BLS-270-01 Toni Morrison & The Novel w. PHI-219-01 W.E.B. DuBois

RATIONALE:

- w.** PPE majors should complete PHI-110, ECO-101, and a 100-level PSC course prior to Spring semester of their 2nd year. PPE program chairs recommend taking ECO-101 in Spring semester of the first year.
- w.** An additional course credit will be awarded at the end of Fall semester for a student placed in GER-201 if a grade of B- or higher is earned in GER-201.
- w.** MAT-111 Calculus I will meet a Quantitative Literacy distribution requirement but is not required for the PPE major. For an Economics major, MAT-111 is required.
- w.** The PPE major includes a diversity requirement, which provides a good opportunity to learn a new topic in an exploration course such as those in the example above.



FALL 2026 SCHEDULING TIPS AND SAMPLE SCHEDULES

EXAMPLE #7: New student with interest in Computer Science major

Placement Assumptions: MAT-111; LAT-101; ENG-101 FALL

FIRST CHOICES (put these on the Student Planning Calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Freshman Tutorial	Already added to schedule
2.	Composition	ENG-101 already added to schedule
3.	Computer Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. CSC-101 Intro to Computer Science, or w. CSC-111 Intro to Programming (with instructor permission)
4.	World Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. LAT-101 and 101L, Beginning Latin with lab w. Any new language and lab at the 101 level

BACKUPS (get advisor approval for these in Student Planning, but don't put them on the calendar)

	Course (or course type)	Possibilities (choose one in each row)
1.	Math/Quantitative Literacy	w. MAT-111 Calculus I
2.	Computer Science collateral requirement	w. MAT-108 Intro to Discrete Math
2.	Exploration course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> w. THE-105 Introduction to Acting w. ART-228 Painting: Mixed Media

RATIONALE:

- w.** Students with significant high school experience in Computer Science may be ready to take CSC-111 Intro to Programming but should speak with Prof. Colin McKinney (department chair) to discuss prior to selecting this course.
- w.** MAT-111 is a prerequisite for some intermediate/advanced courses in the Computer Science major, and is thus required, but does not necessarily have to be completed in the first year. A student who is placed into MAT-100, however, will benefit from requesting MAT-100 enrollment in the first semester and completing MAT-100 and MAT-111 in the first year.
- w.** The Computer Science major has collateral requirements of either MAT-108 Intro to Discrete Math or MAT-219 Combinatorics.
 - o MAT-108 is offered in all 2026; however, students who are considering majoring or minoring in Mathematics would be better served by taking a course in the Calculus sequence (MAT-100 as needed, MAT-111, or MAT-112) or Linear Algebra (MAT-223) depending on placement, and then planning to take MAT-219 Combinatorics in an even-year Spring semester, e.g. Spring 2028.
 - o MAT-219 counts toward the Math major or minor, but MAT-108 does not.