

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

# LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT E-NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1 - OCTOBER 2008

[[Liberal Arts News](#)] [[Dates and Deadlines](#)] [[Important Information](#)]

## Liberal Arts News

Greetings from the College of Liberal Arts

Each semester the electronic newsletter for students in the College of Liberal Arts contains important and timely information. [Read more.](#)

Greetings from Your ASB Senators on the Senate Academic Affairs Committee

Feel free to contact your ASB senators with ideas, comments, or concerns. [Read more.](#)

Need to Choose a Major?

The College of Liberal Arts wants current and prospective students to make informed decisions about their academic careers. To this end, we have developed a web site called *Choosing My Major*. [Read more.](#)

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The University of Mississippi will soon devote more attention and energy to improving student writing. [Read more.](#)

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Several revisions to the Bachelor of Science degree requirements have been implemented for Fall 2008. [Read more.](#)

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The Department of Philosophy and Religion will begin offering a B.A. in Religious Studies in Spring 2009. [Read more.](#)

College of Liberal Arts 2008 Teaching Award Recipients

In May 2008, Dean Hopkins announced the recipients for the two teaching awards in the College of Liberal Arts. [Read more.](#)

## Dates and Deadlines

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2008** : May and August 2009 Degree Application Deadline

**Students whose last name begins with A-D** should submit degree applications for May 2009 and August 2009 in the Dean's Office by Friday, September 19, 2008. [Read more.](#)

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2008** : December 2008 Diploma Application Deadline

Seniors who have filed a degree application for December 2008 in the Dean's Office will be notified by e-mail that the Diploma Application form is available online. Students should check their Ole Miss e-mail accounts on a regular basis. The deadline for processing the diploma application is **Monday, September 29, 2008**.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2008** : May and August 2009 Degree Application Deadline

**Students whose last name begins with E-K** should submit degree applications for May 2009 and August 2009 in the Dean's Office by Friday, October 3, 2008. [Read more.](#)

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2008** : Course Withdrawal Deadline

The last day to drop a class for the Fall 2008 Semester is Monday, October 6, 2008. [Read more about the official University policy regarding the course withdrawal deadline.](#)

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2008** : Incomplete Grade Deadline

The College provides an update for students who received the temporary mark of I. [Read more.](#)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2008** : May and August 2009 Degree Application Deadline

**Students whose last name begins with L-R** should submit degree applications for May 2009 and August 2009 in the Dean's Office by Friday, October 17, 2008. [Read more.](#)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2008** : Academic Advising Begins for Priority Registration

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2008** : Priority Registration for Wintersession and Spring 2009

Priority registration is scheduled to open on Friday, October 31, 2008, for the Winter Intersession 2009 and for the Spring Semester 2009. [Read more](#) and also [view a step-by-step guide for academic advising.](#)

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2008** : May and August 2009 Degree Application Deadline

**Students whose last name begins with S-Z** should submit degree applications for May 2009 and August 2009 in the Dean's Office by Friday, November 7, 2007. [Read more.](#)

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Letter to Seniors Planning To Graduate in December 2008

In mid-September 2008, a letter was sent to all senior Liberal Arts students concerning important deadlines for degree applications and diploma applications. [Read entire letter.](#)

## Steps for Academic Advising

Priority registration is a busy period for students, faculty, and staff. Please schedule an appointment with your advisor as early as possible so that you can register as soon as your time window opens. [View the steps for academic advising.](#)

## Prerequisite Checking and Priority Registration

Prerequisite checking went live December 2005 and will be active during the upcoming Priority Registration period. [Read more.](#)

## Online Course Wait List System

Since priority registration in October 2007, students have been able to use a new online wait list system for closed course sections. [Read more.](#)

## Academic Calendars

- [Fall Semester 2008-2009](#)
- [Winter Intersession 2008-2009](#)
- [Spring Semester 2008-2009](#)
- [Summer 2008-2009](#) (Includes May and August Intersessions)

## Exam Schedule

- [Fall 2008 Exam Schedule](#)--The College of Liberal Arts strictly adheres to the official University policy concerning final examinations. [Read more.](#)

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# LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT E-NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1 - OCTOBER 2008

## Greetings from the College of Liberal Arts

Each semester the electronic newsletter for students in the College of Liberal Arts contains important and timely information. This issue of the newsletter has information about the new degree program offered by the Department of Philosophy and Religion, the revisions in the degree requirements for the bachelor of science degree, the College of Liberal Arts 2008 teaching awards, the Quality Enhancement Plan to improve student writing, and the new Choosing My Major web site.

We hope that you find this newsletter helpful. Let us know if there is information you would like to see in future newsletters; send your comments to [libarts@olemiss.edu](mailto:libarts@olemiss.edu).

If you ever have questions about academic matters in the College of Liberal Arts, please call 915-7177 or send an e-mail message to [ventress@olemiss.edu](mailto:ventress@olemiss.edu). Our capable and cordial staff stands ready to answer any questions that you might have.

Glenn Hopkins, Dean  
College of Liberal Arts

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# LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT E-NEWSLETTER



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## Hello College of Liberal Arts Students!

We just wanted to let you know that we are your ASB senators on the Senate Academic Affairs Committee. We want to hear from you so please feel free to contact us with any ideas, comments, or concerns. We are here to serve you and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Aubrey Beckham    [afbeckha@olemiss.edu](mailto:afbeckha@olemiss.edu)  
Virginia Burke    [kvburke@olemiss.edu](mailto:kvburke@olemiss.edu)  
Matthew Henry    [mthentry@olemiss.edu](mailto:mthentry@olemiss.edu)

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## Need to Choose a Major?

The College of Liberal Arts wants current and prospective students to make informed decisions about their academic careers. To this end, we have developed a web site called [Choosing My Major](#). Students can access this web-based resource to find introductory information about each of the majors offered within the College. For each major, information is presented to answer the following questions:

- What does it mean to major in \_\_\_\_?
- Why is the University of Mississippi a good place to major in \_\_\_\_?
- What can UM \_\_\_\_ majors do after graduation?
- Whom should I contact to learn more about majoring in \_\_\_\_?

*Choosing My Major* was designed to be interesting, informative, and browsable, so please visit today at <http://www.olemiss.edu/libarts/majors/>.

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# LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT E-NEWSLETTER



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## UM Plans to Improve Student Writing

The University of Mississippi will soon devote more attention and energy to improving student writing. After a two-year discussion among students, teachers, alumni, and others, the university has created a detailed plan (called the Quality Enhancement Plan, or QEP) to improve writing instruction and support. In the next five years, the university will 1) update the first-year writing curriculum; 2) offer more writing assistance to students outside of class; and 3) give greater support to faculty who teach writing. Details of the ambitious plan include an expansion of the existing writing center and the adoption of electronic portfolios, which make it easier for students to write, save, and share their work.



*QEP logo created by Zach Wilson, B.A. in Journalism*

The QEP Steering Committee invites and welcomes comments from Liberal Arts students. If you have thoughts on this initiative, please send them by e-mail to [qep@olemiss.edu](mailto:qep@olemiss.edu).

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## Revision of Bachelor of Science Degree Requirements

Several revisions to the Bachelor of Science degree requirements have been implemented for Fall 2008. The first revision is to delete the Nonrelated Subjects category of courses. The second revision changes the title of the Social Science category to Social Science and Humanities in order to more accurately reflect the disciplines represented in that category. Finally, the Social Science and Humanities requirement is revised to provide more flexibility in completing the requirement. The previous requirement was for students to complete 6 hours each in two different subjects of social science. The new requirement still requires students to complete 12 hours in this category, but students complete 6 hours in one subject and the "remaining six hours in a different subject *or subjects*." Thus, students can take courses in a total of three different subjects (if desired) instead of two to satisfy this requirement.

Although this requirement has been made effective for Fall 2008 and will be published in the Fall 2008 catalog, students may still graduate using the older catalogs that did not include this revision. However, if students decide to use the Fall 2008 catalog for the revised requirements for the B.S. degree, then they must also satisfy any other curriculum or course changes incorporated in the Fall 2008 catalog. For questions or further information, contact the Student Services office in the College of Liberal Arts at 915-7177 or [ventress@olemiss.edu](mailto:ventress@olemiss.edu).

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# LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT E-NEWSLETTER



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## New Degree Program Offered in the Department of Philosophy and Religion

The Department of Philosophy and Religion will begin offering a B.A. in Religious Studies in Spring 2009. The major consists of 12 hours of core courses plus at least 3 additional hours in Western religions, at least 3 additional hours in Eastern religions, and 12 hours of approved electives. The list of approved electives includes other religion courses as well as a maximum of 6 hours of religion-related interdisciplinary courses in art history, anthropology, English, and history.

The degree program's objectives are to expose students to the methodology used in the academic study of religion, to familiarize students with the vast array of religious traditions throughout the world, and to challenge students to think both critically and creatively. The degree program will provide students with the training they need to pursue graduate work in religious studies and other related academic and professional fields such as anthropology, English, history, philosophy, sociology, theology, or law.

For more information about the degree program, contact Dr. Laurie Cozad ([lcozad@olemiss.edu](mailto:lcozad@olemiss.edu)) or Dr. William Lawhead ([wlawhead@olemiss.edu](mailto:wlawhead@olemiss.edu)). The Department of Philosophy and Religion is located in Bryant Hall.

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# LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT E-NEWSLETTER



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## College of Liberal Arts 2008 Teaching Award Recipients

In May 2008, Dean Hopkins announced the recipients for the two teaching awards in the College of Liberal Arts. The 2008 Cora Lee Graham Award for Outstanding Teacher of Freshmen is Dr. Tamar Goulet, Associate Professor of Biology. The 2008 College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Teacher of the Year is Dr. Daniel O'Sullivan, Associate Professor of Modern Languages. Dr. O'Sullivan is also the recipient of the 2008 UM Humanities Teacher of the Year co-sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and the Mississippi Humanities Council. He will give a public lecture titled "Medieval Studies: The Humanities' Middle Child" at 6:30pm on Thursday, October 23, 2008 in the Tupelo Room in Barnard Observatory.

We congratulate these outstanding faculty members in the College of Liberal Arts!

For more about these two teaching award recipients, see:

- <http://news.olemiss.edu/index.php/2008-News-Releases/May-2008/topteacher08.html>
- <http://www.olemiss.edu/cgi-bin/news2000/display.pl?id=7040&mode=full>

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**LIBERAL ARTS  
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## Degree Applications for May and August 2009 Due in Dean's Office

Degree applications for May and August 2009 are due in the Dean's Office this semester. The deadline is based on the student's last name, as follows.

First Letter of Last Name	Due Date
A-D	September 19, 2008
E-K	October 3, 2008
L-R	October 17, 2008
S-Z	November 7, 2008

The degree application should be on file in the Dean's Office at least one full semester before the actual date of graduation. Forms are available in Ventress Hall at any time.

The degree application must be filled out by the student, then signed by the advisor and department chair before it can be accepted by our office. You will need a copy of your transcript (including transfer work) to fill out this form.

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## Course Withdrawal Deadline

The last day to drop a class for the Fall 2008 Semester is Monday, October 6, 2008. The following is the official policy regarding late withdrawal from a course as stated on page 134 of the Spring 2007-Fall 2008 Undergraduate Catalog.

Late Withdrawal from a Course • After the course withdrawal deadline, a student may drop a course only in cases of extreme and unavoidable emergency as determined the student's academic dean. Unacceptable reasons for late withdrawal include dissatisfaction over an expected grade or a change in a student's degree program or major. In no case may a class be dropped after the last regular class day semester, session, or term.

Courses dropped after the course withdrawal deadline will still appear on the student's official transcript. The W mark will be recorded if the student is passing the course at the time of withdrawal; the F grade will be recorded if the student is failing.

Students who wish to petition for a late withdrawal from a course should contact the Office of Student Services in Ventress Hall 103.

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## Incomplete Grade Deadline

The College provides an update for students who received the temporary mark of I.

The temporary mark of I (incomplete) is given to a student when, for unusual reasons acceptable to the instructor, course requirements cannot be completed before the end of the semester. The I Mark Assignment Form is submitted by the instructor and details the work to be completed by the student and the deadline for completion. A copy of this form is emailed by the Registrar's office to the student.

If the I mark has not been changed to a regular grade before the course withdrawal deadline (the 30th day of classes) of the next regular semester, the I automatically changes to an F and is computed in the GPA. The Spring 2007 - Fall 2008 Undergraduate Catalog mistakenly states that the course withdrawal deadline is the 25th day of classes; the course withdrawal deadline is now the 30th day of classes – **Monday, October 6, 2008**.

If you received an I for a course from the Spring 2008 semester, the summer 2008 sessions, or the May 2008 or August 2008 intersession, then check your I Mark Assignment Form to understand the conditions for completing the coursework.

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## Priority Registration for Wintersession and Spring Semester 2009

### Student Time Windows

Priority registration is scheduled to open on Friday, October 31, 2008, for the Wintersession 2009 and for the Spring Semester 2009. As has been the case in previous semesters, each student is assigned a time window which indicates the time of day and the date on which he or she may begin registering for classes. The time windows of students are assigned based on classification with seniors being allowed to register before juniors, juniors before sophomores, and sophomores before freshmen.

Prerequisite checking "went live" in December 2005. [Read more about this change in the registration process.](#)

### Academic Advising and Advisor Holds

Each student having a program in the College of Liberal Arts is assigned an advisor based upon the student's program of study. Immediately before the priority registration period, an advisor hold will automatically be placed on each student's account. This advisor hold will prevent the student from registering for classes.

In order for the advisor hold to be lifted, a student must be advised by his or her academic advisor. Each department within the College of Liberal Arts determines how academic advising is handled. To have the advising hold lifted, each student must meet with an advisor. The name and contact information of the advisor is available through myOleMiss (formerly UM Online Services).

Visit [Steps for Academic Advising in the College of Liberal Arts](#) for a step-by-step guide to academic advising for students in the College.

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***Priority registration is a busy period for students, faculty, and staff. Please schedule an appointment with your advisor as early as possible so that you can register as soon as your time window opens.***

1. SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR ADVISOR.
2. OBTAIN A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT COURSE SCHEDULE, YOUR MOST RECENT UM TRANSCRIPT, YOUR TRANSFER EQUIVALENCY REPORT, AND ANY EXTERNAL TRANSCRIPTS FROM ALL EXTERNAL ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS FOR WHICH TRANSFER WORK DOES NOT APPEAR ON YOUR TRANSFER EQUIVALENCY REPORT.
3. PREPARE A TENTATIVE SCHEDULE USING A [LIBERAL ARTS ADVISING WORKSHEET](#) BEFORE VISITING YOUR ADVISOR.
4. MEET WITH YOUR ADVISOR.
5. KEEP A COPY OF YOUR SIGNED ADVISING WORKSHEET.

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LIBERAL ARTS  
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VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1 - OCTOBER 2008

September 5, 2008

Dear Graduating Senior:

1. DECEMBER 2008 GRADUATES - DIPLOMA APPLICATIONS

Diploma applications are required for all graduates. The Diploma Application form is used to order diplomas and to compile the information included in the Commencement program. In order to complete the graduation process, you must file a diploma application online. You will be notified by e-mail through your Ole Miss e-mail account when your diploma application is available online. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!** You cannot graduate without filing a diploma application. THE DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 29. As you may already know, the University of Mississippi has only one graduation ceremony each year. Students graduating in December will be invited to participate in the May 2009 ceremony. You should have already filed your degree application in the Dean's Office.

2. MAY & AUGUST 2009 GRADUATES - DEGREE APPLICATIONS

According to the University catalog, degree applications are due in the Dean's Office two full semesters before the date of graduation. It is, therefore, your responsibility to come by the Dean's Office and pick up the degree application, fill it out, have your adviser and chair of your major department sign the form, and return it to the Dean's Office. IF YOU ARE GRADUATING IN MAY OR AUGUST 2009, YOU MUST FILE YOUR DEGREE APPLICATION IN THE DEAN'S OFFICE ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE! Failure to do so will result in a delay of your graduation for spring semester.

First Letter of Last Name	Due Date
A-D	September 19, 2008
E-K	October 3, 2008
L-R	October 17, 2008
S-Z	November 7, 2008

3. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATES

Please be aware of the catalog requirements for specific grade point averages in your major and minor, your University of Mississippi credits, and your overall grade point average. Failure to meet these requirements prevents many seniors from graduating each year.

If you have questions concerning any of these deadlines, or degree requirements, please contact me immediately. My email address is [bleeton@olemiss.edu](mailto:bleeton@olemiss.edu).

Sincerely,

Barbara Leeton  
Director of Academic Support

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

# LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT E-NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1 - OCTOBER 2008

## Prerequisite Checking and Priority Registration

Prerequisite checking went live December 2005 and will be active during the upcoming Priority Registration period.

In previous semesters if a student's academic coursework did not satisfy a course's prerequisites, the registration system gave a student a warning that the prerequisite was not met. However, the system would allow the student to book the class.

Now that prerequisite checking has been turned on, the registration system will allow a student to book a course if one of the two following conditions has been met:

1. if the prerequisite has been completed successfully in a previous semester
2. if the student is currently enrolled in the prerequisite course or courses.

A "CONDITIONALLY BOOKED" flag will be applied to a course if the student is currently enrolled in the prerequisite. After final grades have been submitted for the current term,

- If the prerequisite course **IS** completed successfully, the conditionally booked flag will be removed.
- If the prerequisite course is **NOT** completed successfully, the course will be dropped from the student's schedule.

If you receive an error message that you believe is a mistake (i.e. you have met or are currently enrolled in a prerequisite for a course), then contact the department office. If you wish to request an exception to the prerequisite, contact the department office.

Work is in progress to have external coursework entered into Campus Management so that transfer work will be taken into account in prerequisite checking.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

# LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT E-NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1 - OCTOBER 2008

## Online Course Wait List System

Since priority registration in October 2007, students have been able to use a new online wait list system for closed course sections.

When students try to register for closed course sections, a new online function will allow some students to add themselves to a wait list for a closed section of many 100-500 level courses. Ten percent of the maximum number of seats for a section will be the number of spaces on the wait list. For example if there are 50 seats in a section, then 5 seats will be available on a wait list. Students must meet all prerequisites for a course in order to add themselves to the wait list.

For additional information about the wait list system, contact the [Office of the Registrar](#).

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VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1 - OCTOBER 2008

## Final Examination Instructions

Any student having three or more examinations scheduled for the same day will arrange with the instructor to take the noon examination or the 7:30 p.m. examination on some other mutually satisfactory date. Please note that only the noon and 7:30 p.m. examination may be rescheduled for this reason.

Students should be allowed 3 hours to complete the final examination unless the instructor has previously informed the class otherwise.

No other examinations are to be given at other than scheduled hours, either for an individual or for a class, unless the instructor concerned has specific approval from the academic dean. The [Fall Semester 2008 Final Exam Schedule](#) is posted on the [Registrar's web site](#).

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