

# OCTOBER 2025 COMPASS NEWSLETTER

## EXPLORATORY STUDIES

### Don't Miss Winter Session Registration

Registration is available for [Winter Session](#), running from Monday, Dec. 22, 2025, to Friday, Jan. 9, 2026. All courses will be offered online asynchronously, with no on-campus classes.

Winter Session is a great opportunity to earn three credits in just three weeks, lighten your spring course load, and work toward completing a second major, minor, or certificate. Students may take one 3-credit course during this term.

Students are encouraged to discuss winter course options with their academic advisor during their spring registration advising appointment. The Winter 2025 schedule of classes is in your [myPurdue portal](#).

For more information on course offerings, tuition, and financial aid, visit the [Office of Summer and Winter Sessions](#).



### Purdue Basic Needs Program

The Purdue Basic Needs Program is available to Purdue students to provide support for basic needs by connecting students with campus and community resources. These resources include food and housing assistance, transportation support, physical, mental and behavioral services, childcare resources, and technology resources. Check out the [Purdue Basic Needs Program website](#) to learn more.

### Major of the Month: Digital Criminology

If you have an interest in forensics, criminal justice, and a passion for technology, consider majoring in Digital Criminology! This multidisciplinary major in the College of Liberal Arts emphasizes a broad understanding of criminology, law, and human behavior, coupled with technical hands-on courses in cyber forensics, information technology architecture, and systems administration. Examples of careers in digital criminology include forensic examiners, digital forensic investigators, and crime analysts. This major is also eligible for the Degree in 3 Program, providing a cost-effective path for students to accelerate their career.

### Registration Reminders

Course Request Forms (CRFs) must be submitted by Thursday, November 20 at 5:00 pm. After you meet with your Academic Advisor to discuss classes, submit your CRF using the steps below:

1. Log into myPurdue
2. Locate the box labeled "Register for Classes"
3. Click "Course Request Form"
4. Click "Submit Requests" once you have reviewed the list of courses

For extra support, here is a [tutorial video](#) from the Registrar.

# EXPLORERS

## Fun Electives

Looking for interesting content you've probably never studied? Check out the list below for some courses we bet you never knew Purdue offered!

AAS 271 – Intro to African American Studies  
AD 117 – Black and White Photography  
ANSC 106 – Biology of Companion Animals  
ANTH 100 – Being Human: Intro to Anthropology  
ANTH 201 – Intro to Archaeology  
\*ASTR 263 – Astronomy I  
ASTR 264 – Astronomy I II  
CHNS 285 – Chinese Calligraphy  
COM 332 – Studio Television Production  
CS 101 – Digital Literacy  
DANC – 101 Modern I, 102 Ballet I, 103 Jazz I, 104 Hip Hop I  
DANC 261 – Contact Improvisation  
EAPS 106 – Geosciences in the Cinema  
\*EAPS 116 – Earthquakes and Volcanoes  
EAPS 138 – Thunderstorms and Tornadoes  
EDPS 106 – Mapping Your Career  
ENGL 205 – Creative Writing  
\*ENGL 276 – Shakespeare on Film  
ENGL 286 – The Movies  
ENGL 373 – Science Fiction and Fantasy  
ENTM 105 – Insects: Friend and Foe  
\*ENTM 111 – Insects in Prose and Poetry  
\*FNR 101 – Intro to Environmental Conservation  
\*GER 280 – Beer & Brewing in German Culture  
\*HIST 371 – History of Rock n' Roll  
HIST 387 – History of the Space Age  
\*HK 376 – History of Sport  
\*HORT 360 – Flower Arranging  
ME 199 – How Stuff Works  
MUS 378 – Jazz History  
PES 116 – Golf  
PES 116 – Beginning Tennis & Pickleball  
\*PSY 123 – The Science of Well-Being  
REL 200 = Intro to the Study of Religion \*  
SOC 328 – Criminal Justice  
THTR 133 – Survey of Acting

\* Indicates not offered in Spring 2026, but you can consider it for a future semester.



### Thanksgiving Break Airport Transportation

If you plan on heading home for Thanksgiving and need transportation to the airport or to Indy, you may want to book a shuttle in advance. Spots will start filling up quickly, so don't want until the last minute! Options include:

- [Lafayette Limo:](#)
  - \$50 to Indy Airport (round trip)
  - \$110 to O'Hare Airport (round trip)
- [Reindeer Shuttle:](#)
  - \$54 to Indy Airport (round trip)
  - \$110 to O'Hare Airport (round trip)
- [Indianapolis Commuter Shuttle](#)
  - Free! This is a good option if your home is near Indy and someone else can pick you up after you arrive.

### Engineering Success Center

The [Engineering Success Center](#) (ESC) is not just for engineering students! If you enrolled in engineering-level math and science courses, check out the ESC for free tutoring. The ESC offers individual and group tutoring sessions that promote enhanced critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students may walk in or book a [tutoring session](#) for any of the following courses:  
·MA 161/165, MA 162/166, MA 261, MA 265, and MA 266  
·PHYS 172, PHYS 241, and PHYS 272  
·CHM 115, CHM 116, CHM 255, and CHM 257  
·CS 159  
·ENGR 131 and ENGR 132

### Ready to Change Your Major

Ready to declare your major? Take a minute to review [the Change of Degree Objective \(CODO\) requirements](#) for your desired major. Your Exploratory Studies Advisor is here to support you, so feel free to contact them with your questions and let them know when you are ready to begin the CODO process.

### Name: Gavin Ringwald

### Hometown: Fort Wayne, Indiana

Favorite Place on Campus: The Purdue Memorial Union is always a good place to be. I've always enjoyed nice buildings, and the Memorial Union is probably the most detailed on campus. There's also a room with a fireplace in it, which is a perfect place to be on days when it's bitterly cold.

Biggest Takeaway: My biggest takeaway was that if you don't know what to do, one of the best things you can do is ask a lot of questions. As part of the course, you have to interview a couple of people, and in each interview, I learned loads of information about careers, majors, and even life advice, and I learned all that because I asked.

Experiences: BGR was the top moment of my first semester. It was so cool to explore the campus for the first time, meet new people, and participate in all the events. It was a great way to be introduced to the school, and its many programs and resources.

For Students Currently in Exploratory, I would suggest actually trying anything you feel might be a good fit for you, and understand that it's ok if you change your mind. For a while during my time in exploratory, there was one career I was looking at, and after trying it I found that it was not for me. It was disappointing at the moment, but I now feel like I'm closer to the right track. I would advise not only asking questions about what you're interested in but trying it as well.



### Campus Safety Tips

#### [Safe Walk Program](#)

Students, faculty, and staff who need an escort to or from campus buildings in West Lafayette can call the Safe Walk Program anytime—24 hours a day, 7 days a week—at 765-494-SAFE (7233). When you request a safe walk, a member of the [Purdue Student Security Patrol \(PSSP\)](#) or a Purdue University police officer will accompany you to your destination to ensure your safety.

#### Emergency Telephone System

As you walk around campus, you'll notice yellow or black boxes topped with bright blue lights—these are part of Purdue's Emergency Telephone System. With nearly 300 emergency boxes placed at intersections and other key locations, they're easy to spot thanks to their distinctive blue lights and markings like "Emergency" or "911."

To use one:

- Press the button to activate the box.
- The blue light will begin flashing.
- You'll be connected to a Purdue Police Officer within seconds, and help will be dispatched.

Helpful Tip:If you're in need of emergency assistance but must keep moving, you can press the button on each emergency box you pass. This alerts Purdue Police to your real-time location and activates the flashing blue lights, helping responders track your path and reach you quickly.

