**Advising Information about GS 10000 and 10100, Fall/Spring 2016-17:**

**An English Language and American Culture Program for Incoming International Students**

PLaCE (Purdue Language and Culture Exchange) is a program designed to improve first-year international students’ English language skills and their communicative and intercultural competence in order to help them take full advantage of the range of educational, social, and cultural opportunities available at Purdue University. The PLaCE program has been fully funded for all eligible incoming international students for AY 2016-17

PLaCE courses are a foundational first-year sequence (GS10000 American Language and Culture for International Students I and 10100 American Language and Culture for International Students II) for incoming international students with qualifying TOEFL or IELTS scores (TOEFL IBT Total scores ≤100; IELTS Overall ≤ 7.5). These students have been divided into three tiers based on their language proficiency test scores and should be placed into the following courses their first semester:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **GS 10000 1st semester****GS 10100 2nd semester** | **ENGL 106i** | **ENGL 106** |
|  |
| TOEFL iBT total ≤100  | TOEFL iBT total > 100 and TOEFL iBT writing < 27  | TOEFL iBT total > 100 and TOEFL iBT writing ≥ 27 |
|  |
| IELTS overall ≤ 7.5  | IELTS overall > 7.5 and IELTS writing < 7.0  | IELTS overall > 7.5 and IELTS writing ≥ 7.0  |
|  |
|  | GS 10000 and GS 10100 |  |

The recommended Course Sequence for incoming students who meet the requirements for inclusion in the PLaCE program:

1st semester: GS 10000

2nd semester: GS 10100

3rd semester: ENGL 106i or ENGL 10600 and/or the university’s oral communication requirement

4th semester: the university’s oral communication requirement and/or ENGL 106i or ENGL 10600

Because the development of second language proficiency is incremental and requires continued support, the recommended Course Sequence for incoming students who are GS eligible delays enrollment in ENGL 106i/10600 or the university’s oral communication requirement until after successful completion of the GS sequence (both GS 10000 AND 10100).

However, advisors will immediately notice some difficulties with the recommended sequence addressed in the following anticipated questions/concerns:

1. **Are the PLaCE GS courses required?**

Admitted international students have been notified by Dean Brzezinski of the Office of International Students and Scholars of the following criteria:

***First-year international students with qualifying entry-level English language proficiency scores will be automatically enrolled in the first course of the two course sequence of the PLaCE program. Enrollment is required in order to proceed to ENGL106i. PLaCE enrollment is determined as follows:***

***1) Incoming international students with TOEFL IBT Total scores ≤100.***

***2) Incoming international students with IELTS Overall scores of ≤ 7.5.***

***3) Please note that students from non-English speaking countries who have only SAT or ACT may also be required to enroll in PLaCE courses (see below).***

***Students who accept their admission offer (pay their deposit) will be notified by e-mail during the month of May if they are required to enroll in PLaCE.***

However, given the enrollment and registration systems *currently in place* at Purdue, there is *actually* no means for incoming international students to be separated from the larger body of first-year incoming students and be required to enroll in these additional courses.

A provisional fix for this problem: ***GS 10000 and 10100 will be listed as prerequisites for English 106i.***

That is, eligible incoming students will need to successfully complete GS 10000 AND 10100 before they can enroll in ENGL 106i.

1. **What type of credit will students receive for PLaCE GS courses?**

GS 10000 was approved in 2015 as a foundational learning outcome for humanities (Human Cultures: Humanities). They are 3 credit-hour courses.

1. **Will the University auto-enroll eligible students prior to STAR?**

Yes—PLaCE eligible students will be auto-enrolled around May 6. Students will be able to change sections/times to accommodate their academic schedule.

1. **How will PLaCE eligible students** **be handled if they drop GS 10000?**

PLaCE staff will monitor GS 10000 enrollment regularly. PLaCE eligible students and their advisors will be notified by PLaCE if they drop the course.

* Step 1 – PLaCE staff will send an email to the student notifying them that they need to re-register for the GS10000 course. Their advisor will be copied on this email.
* Step 2 – In cases where PLaCE eligible students do not re-enroll, after **1 week,** PLaCE staff will send a second email to the student notifying them that they need to re- register for the GS10000 course, with a copy to their advisor.
* Step 3 – In cases where PLaCE eligible students do not re-enroll, after **2 weeks,** PLaCE staff will notify the advisor so that they can contact the student directly to re-register for GS 10000. PLaCE eligible incoming students will need to successfully complete GS 10000 AND 10100 before they can enroll in ENGL 106i.
* Step 4 – In cases where PLaCE eligible students do not re-enroll, after **3 weeks,** if they student still has not changed their registration and they have enrolled in ENGL10600, they will be dropped from ENGL10600 and re-enrolled in GS10000.

These steps only apply to PLaCE eligible students and their enrollment in GS 10000 and ENGL 10600. PLaCE eligible students **will not** be dropped from any other course besides ENGL 10600.

1. **Will prerequisites be added to ENGL 10600 to ensure the tier system is maintained?**

No, it is not possible to add a prerequisite to 10600 because then domestic students would not be able to register.

1. **Can PLaCE eligible students test out of the PLaCE course sequence?**

PLaCE will offer a test out option to qualifying PLaCE eligible student. In order to qualify for the test out option, students must have either (a) a total TOEFL score of 100 with writing and speaking subsections of 25 or above, or (b) IELTS 7.5 overall score with 7.5 or above on speaking and listening.

Students who meet the criteria will be notified and will be provided instructions on how to sign up for testing. Results will be made available within 5 business days after taking the test. For tests taken during BGR, every effort will be made to have the results before the start of classes. Advisors will be copied on the notification of test results.

Students should stay enrolled in GS10000 until they receive notification from PLaCE that they have successfully tested out.

1. **What about international students with only SAT or ACT scores (no TOEFL or IELTS)?**

This year there are approximately 197 international student who did not have a language proficiency score. Most were previously schooled in English speaking countries and others have been evaluated on a case by case basis. Only 3 are being placed in GS10000 and those 3 all qualify to take the test out.

1. **Will PLaCE eligible students be allowed to enroll in GS10000 and ENGL 106i concurrently?**

No. Concurrent enrollment in GS 10000 and ENGL 106i is not possible for fall 2016. This option was possible during the pilot phase (FA 14 to SP 16), but due to circumstances beyond our control within CLA, there are insufficient sections of 106i necessary to allow concurrent enrollment. There is a limited number of 106i sections available this fall and they will be reserved for those incoming students who meet the two-condition specifications presented above: ***TOEFL iBT total > 100 and TOEFL iBT writing < 27 or IELTS overall > 7.5 and IELTS writing < 7.0***

1. **Will advisors and students be able to bypass GS10000 by enrolling directly in English 10600?**

While this path cannot currently be prevented (i.e., there is no prereq for ENGL 10600), the same problem exists with respect to the number of 10600 sections that will be available for both international and domestic students. Consequently, only incoming international students who have the requisite levels of language proficiency should be placed into 10600:

*TOEFL iBT total > 100 & TOEFL iBT writing ≥ 27, or IELTS overall > 7.5 & IELTS writing ≥ 7.0*

Students who are misplaced according to these guidelines will be flagged and their advisors will be asked to re-enroll them in the appropriate classes (see FAQ # 4).

1. **What about students who must complete English 10600 and COM 11400 or 21700 in their first year in order to CODO?**

Colleges will be asked to accept successful completion of the GS sequence in lieu of the ENGL and COM requirements for students to CODO. These substitutions/exemptions have been or will be negotiated.

1. **Can other international students, besides incoming PLaCE eligible students, enroll in GS 10000?**

GS 10000 is also suitable for international students at any level who speak English as a second language and want to improve their core language skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening) and cultural knowledge. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors who would like to improve their English Language skills will also be allowed to take GS 10000 and 10100 if space is available after all international freshmen who are PLaCE eligible are registered.

1. **How many sections of GS10000 are scheduled?**

PLaCE has scheduled 34 sections of GS 10000 for the fall 2016 semester. MWF and TTH times are available. GS 10000 and GS10100 will both be offered in the spring, summer, and fall going forward.

1. **What are the course objectives?**

GS 10000 and 10100 provide appropriate English language support in reading, writing, listening, and speaking for admitted Purdue students. They also help students to develop a process for cross-cultural comparison and reflection. In the courses, students build their skills and confidence so that they can participate more fully in university life. Specific objectives include:

* Speak and read English more fluently
* Communicate in English more clearly in writing, conversations, and presentations
* Increase understanding of American culture, especially in comparison to students’ own cultural experiences
* Understand reasons and practices for using sources in academic writing
1. ***What do students say about the course?***

The table below shows results from an end-of-semester questionnaire from the most recent PLaCE class. The results indicate that PLaCE classes help students to feel much more confident in their language, social, and academic abilities.

**How PLaCE Courses Contribute to Students’ Success and Improved Confidence in their Language and Academic Abilities**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **“I now feel more comfortable using English to…”**  | Agreement Rate |
| Effectively communicate with others in English | 97% |
| Express my opinions | 96% |
| Talk to my classmates about course assignments | 97% |
| Participate in class discussions | 95% |
| Work collaboratively | 93% |
| Give presentations in front of a class | 94% |
| Talk with native-English speakers outside of class | 93% |
| Talk to professors or advisers during office hours | 98% |
| Write emails to professors or advisers | 97% |
| Write text responses to exam questions | 96% |
| Summarize academic articles | 94% |
| Read academic texts | 95% |
| Speak up in my other classes | 95% |
| Study more efficiently | 92% |
| Succeed in my other classes | 93% |

***Many thanks for your help. Please contact PLaCE if we can help you. Front desk: 765-496-2743***