

# Master's Degree Course Scheduling Tips

TRIED-AND-TRUE TIPS FOR PLANNING AND SCHEDULING YOUR COURSES

## FIRST REQUIRED COURSE

Set yourself up for success by registering for this class before any others. Your Department Chair specifically designated this as the first course to prime you for the rest of the program. Your Graduate Student Orientation can be found within MyClassroom, using the following pathway: Content Tool > Course Overview & Introduction > Graduate Student Orientation.

01

## CORE REQUIREMENTS

Since core requirements are essentially the same across all concentration options within the same program, we recommend completing these first.

Unsure of your concentration choice? Not to worry! By starting with your core requirements, you'll be less likely to lose credit if you decide to change concentrations, while still making progress toward degree completion.

02

## ELECTIVES

Simply put, electives have scheduling flexibility. Many students save them for their last course, just before the final program requirement.

Exploring your interests? Electives are a great way to do that! Just make sure you take electives after your core courses to help solidify your concentration selection.

03

## CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Ideally, these are taken after all core requirements and before your final program requirement. Concentration courses allow you to narrow the topic for your capstone thesis or project.

04

## FINAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENT

The final program requirement is your culminating master's course and may be the most intense you've taken in your academic career. That's why this requirement stands alone in most programs ... we've saved the best for last.

05

## PRO TIP

Reach out to your academic advising team. They are ready and eager to make recommendations based on your academic plan and goals. Use the contact information on your academic plan to get in touch with your team or email [advising@apus.edu](mailto:advising@apus.edu)