

COURSE SELECTION PERIOD

Course selection period is the time at the beginning of every term during which students choose courses for that term. Prior to the first day of classes, students are expected to create a preliminary schedule containing three or more course credits. During the course selection period, students are encouraged to edit their schedules by removing courses in which they are no longer interested and adding courses they are actively considering. Course Demand Statistics will reflect how many students have placed a course on their schedule, and shows daily enrollment trends. Course selection period for fall 2020 extends five class days from the first day of classes. At the conclusion of this time, students' course schedules are due in the office of their residential college dean. The submission schedules are indicated in the Yale College Calendar with Pertinent Deadlines. Once a student's course schedule has been submitted, no additions may be made to his or her election of courses except by special permission of the Committee on Honors and Academic Standing. Students submitting schedules after the published deadlines are fined.

THE CONDUCT OF CLASSES DURING COURSE SELECTION PERIOD

The Yale College Committee on Teaching and Learning examined the course selection period, and the excerpts that follow, drawn from the text of the committee's report to the Yale College Faculty, contain suggestions for the conduct of classes during course selection period.

The course selection period ... enables [students] to think carefully about their education and to fashion a program through deliberation and consultation rather than simple conformity to a set of curricular guidelines. Further, the course selection period provides faculty with a class of enthusiastic students who have chosen a particular course with a good sense of its character and requirements.

Although the present course selection period offers these advantages, it has produced difficulties as well. Students and faculty lose time while material from earlier meetings is repeated for the benefit of late arrivals to a course. In seminars, instructors find class discussion lags because students, still choosing courses, have not prepared assigned readings.

Instructors should not delay their presentation of material in class, repeat that material, or postpone the assignment of readings and papers. Even the first day of class should have as much real content as is possible after organizational matters have been arranged.

Students, for their part, should recognize that they are responsible for the prompt completion of all work assigned during the course selection period and that it is unfair to the class as a whole to expect instructors to repeat material for the benefit of late arrivals.