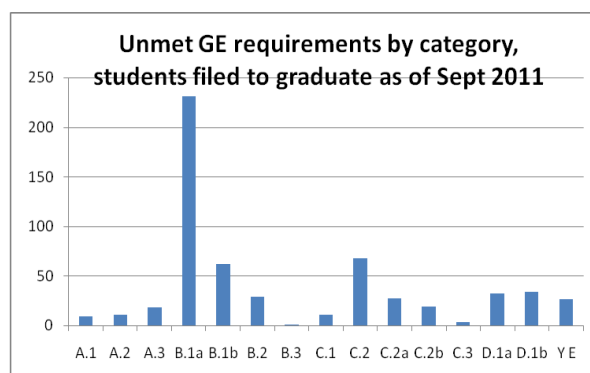
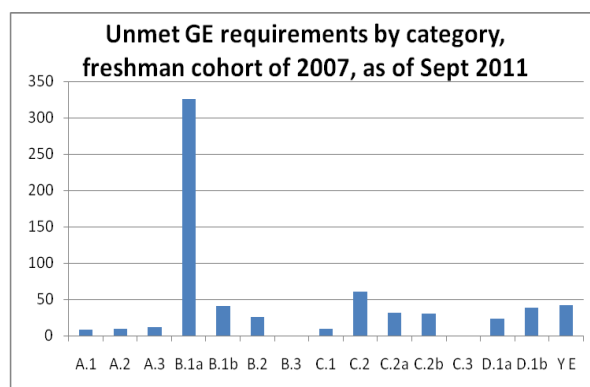


Access Problems for Life Science Labs

1. Advisors have long been concerned about shortages of Life Science lab classes (B1a).
2. Example 1: 325 students who **entered as freshmen in 2007 four years ago** have been unable to meet the Life Science B1a requirement as of Sept 2011. **50% of all the unmet GE requirements** for this group are due to Life Science, B1a, far more than any other category.¹
3. Example 2: 231 students **currently filed to graduate** have been unable to meet the Life Science B1a requirement. **40% all the unmet GE requirements for this group** are due to Life Science, B1a, far more than any other category.²
4. Physical (B1b) and Life (B1b) Sciences are parallel requirements in GE policy and have parallel service course roles (e.g. Life Sciences for nursing majors and Physical Science for engineering majors). Aggregate student needs for seats meeting Life and Physical Science requirements are very similar.
5. However, Physical Sciences is scheduled at nearly twice the rate of Life Sciences (e.g., 3,100 v. 1,600 seats in Fall 2010), apparently due mainly to lab space availability.³
6. Physical Science lab needs were met with reasonable fill rates around 90% in all recent AY terms.
7. Life Sciences lab needs were not met in at least 3 of 4 AY terms; classes filled to 100% with unknown numbers unable to get seats.
8. Summer offerings are useful but limited.
9. Financial resources are not a reason for shortages. Academic Affairs committed to the college for the past several years to fund all needs and encouraged the college to resolve problems.
10. In recent terms almost no new transfers have been able to enroll in Life Science courses due to lack of seats; e.g., in Fall 10 only 11 new transfers were able to enroll in Bio 200, 205, 207, and Micro 200 combined.⁴
11. According to academic advisors, (a) students often have to go to back to community colleges to get the Life Science lab, and (b) advisors have been concerned about this shortage since at least 1999.



Category	Term	Lab		Lab students enrolled	Fill rate
		sections active	Lab seats offered		
Life	F09	65	1,688	1,690	100%
Life	S10	63	1,624	1,536	95%
Life	Su10	11	308	276	90%
Life	F10	65	1,657	1,667	101%
Life	S11	71	1,811	1,828	101%
Life	Su11	12	338	283	84%
Physical	F09	121	3,243	3,050	94%
Physical	S10	129	3,341	3,076	92%
Physical	Su10	20	546	463	85%
Physical	F10	116	3,106	2,903	93%
Physical	S11	139	3,504	3,123	89%
Physical	Su11	20	555	439	79%

Notes

1. Extremely high fill rates are not desirable because unmet student needs are obscured. Fill rates in the 85% to 95% range are optimal.
2. In every term there are some student withdrawals from most classes so a few seats remain after term start; this is not an indicator that needs have been adequately met. Seats need to be available when students are registering.

Prepared by Dave Dowell 9/21/2011 1:32:52 PM

¹ Source: CS Link Report, Cohort With Outstanding Requirements, Sep 19 2011

² Source: CS Link Report, Candidates With Outstanding Requirements in Detail, Sep 16 2011

³ Source: CS Link Reports, Class Schedule Data 419, for respective terms, run after respective census dates

⁴ Source: Interactive Enrollment Planning Report, http://daf.csulb.edu/offices/univ_svcs/institutionalresearch/ep_reports/index.html