

Foundations – 11-Credit Track

Contact

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Admission Requirements

(In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I & II
- 1 Geometry
- 2 Lab Science (including biology)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- 2 Foreign Language (same language or two years of American Sign Language)
- Academic electives (to equal at least 17 credits)

To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.

How do I apply?

Visit go.umaine.edu for an application as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

Did you know?

Starting at UMaine in the Foundations program provides students a change to meet the eligibility requirements and GPA to move into a major of their choice.

University Programs

Program Description

The Foundations program is a one-year contractual program that provides students who do not meet the admission standards for their chosen major an opportunity to matriculate at the University of Maine on an academic contract. There are two tracks within Foundations, each offering an appropriate reduced course schedule based on the academic profile presented in the student's admission application. The Foundations 11 Credit track contract specifies that the first semester class schedule be restricted to 11 credits generally including the Foundations 101 seminar, English, mathematics, and one general education course and outlines other requirements that the student must meet to be allowed to continue at the University. The 11 credit course load is less than full-time. The combination of a reduced course schedule in the first semester along with focused advising and support through the Foundations 101 course creates an opportunity for these students to strengthen their academic preparation and ensure their academic success as they move into a regular, full-time class schedule in their second semester at UMaine. The goal of the program is to prepare the student to move into a regular academic major at the end of the second semester by meeting the necessary eligibility standards and cumulative grade point average (GPA) required by that major.

The Foundations program is a referral program. Students are not able to apply for admission directly into Foundations. However, if during the application review process it is determined that a student would be a good candidate for Foundations; the student may be offered admission to one of the Foundation tracks rather than being denied admission to the University.

Coursework, Advising and Contract Requirements

This one-year program is designed to allow students to adjust to the college environment and the academic rigors required at the University of Maine. To be eligible to enroll in this program, students must sign an admission contract agreeing to the terms of the program. A copy of the contract is included on the reverse side of this fact sheet. Students enroll in Foundations 101, a 2-credit first-year seminar course taught by their academic advisor as well as select a specified set of regular college-level courses (generally English, mathematics and a general education course) that fulfill general education requirements. These courses, if successfully completed, will transfer to any UMaine college or program when the student moves into their selected academic major after the second semester of the program.

To ensure a successful transition to college, students in the Foundations program will be required to attend 5 one-on-one meetings with their academic advisor during the first semester, attend every class in all courses in the program and successfully complete the Foundations 101 class with a passing grade.

To remain in the program, students must earn specific cumulative grade point averages (GPAs) at the end of each semester. At the end of the first semester, a successful student must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0. If their cumulative GPA is below a 2.0, they will be placed on academic probation with a specific academic contract that includes the requirement to participate in the academic recovery program. If their cumulative GPA is below 1.0 they will be suspended.

At the end of the second semester, a successful student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0. If the cumulative GPA is below 2.0 and above 1.5, they will be allowed to remain in the Foundations program for a third semester on probation with a specific academic contract. If their cumulative GPA is below a 1.5, they will be suspended.

By completing their second semester with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher, the student will be eligible to request a transfer to a major within the University of Maine. Students should realize that they are not guaranteed the ability to transfer to a specific UMaine program, as some programs may require a cumulative 2.5 GPA or better in order to transfer and some programs may have specific course or grade eligibility standards or strict space limitations.

Program Contract

A signed copy of the Foundations 13-Credit contract is required to participate in the program.

Foundations 11-Credit track

I have read the enclosed Foundations 11-Credit track Fact Sheet and understand that, as stated in the fact sheet, to participate in the Foundations Program I will be required to:

- Register for the prescribed courses in the Foundations 11-credit academic program.
- Attend 5 one-on-one meetings with my academic advisor during the first semester.
- Attend every class in all courses in the program.
- Successfully complete my Foundations FND 101 2-credit class with a passing grade.
- Live on campus in the First-Year Residential Community and adhere to the Guide to Campus Living.
- Adhere to the Student Conduct Code.
- At the end of my first semester, to be successful I must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0. If my cumulative GPA is below that, I will be placed on probation with a specific academic contract that includes the requirement to participate in the academic recovery program. If my cumulative GPA is below 1.0, I will be suspended.
- At the end of my second semester, to be successful I must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0. If my cumulative GPA is below 2.0 and above a 1.5, I will be allowed to remain in the Foundations Program for a third semester on probation with a specific academic contract. If my cumulative GPA is below a 1.5, I will be suspended.

By successfully completing two semesters in the Foundations 11-credit track with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher, I will be eligible to request to transfer to a major within the University of Maine. I realize that I am not guaranteed the ability to transfer to a specific UMaine program, as some programs may require the completion of specific courses or a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher in order to transfer and some programs may have a space limit.

Specialized Information

Why was I referred to the Foundations Program?

Students referred to Foundations during the admission process did not meet the admission standards for admission to the University. However, based on the student's academic profile, the Admission Committee believed the student could be successful in general education courses at UMaine, and thus, the student is given the opportunity to meet the admission standard of their chosen program after a two semesters of successful college-level work in the Foundations program.

Who serves as advisers to Foundations students?

Foundations advisors are selected because they have demonstrated a strong commitment to first-year students and are knowledgeable about all of UMaine's academic programs.

When do I select a major? Can I select a major in any of the colleges?

As a Foundations 11 Credit track student, you may request to transfer to an academic major if you have a cumulative 2.0 GPA after your second semester. All programs at UMaine have eligibility standards (e.g. minimum GPA, specific course work) you must meet before you declare your major. Some programs have space limitations. Provided you meet the eligibility standards of the program and there is space available, you may choose to major in any of the undergraduate programs at UMaine. However, because of specific course and grade requirements and severe space limitations, Nursing is not generally available as a major for those students not accepted into the Nursing or pre-nursing programs.

What courses will I take as a Foundations student?

Foundations students select from the same college courses taken by other degree students at the university. These courses will be used to complete general education requirements that are required for all UMaine students and are intended to provide a strong foundation when students select their major. Courses are selected to help students explore their interests and to prepare them for further collegiate level academic work.

Will the courses I take in Foundations count when I declare my major and transfer to a college?

Provided you pass them with an acceptable grade, the courses you take while in Foundations will transfer to any UMaine program in fulfillment of general education requirements, as electives or in fulfillment of major requirements.



Academic Programs 2011–12

The latest versions of the UMaine fact sheets are online (factsheets.umaine.edu).
This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.

