

Tar Heel Tracker Newsletter

Repeat Code Cleanup

Our team actively reviews and updates repeat codes placed on student BE (by-examination) and PL (placement) credit for the same course (happens most frequently with foreign language courses). Since PL credits carry no academic units, it is important to fix this to ensure that students receive credit for all of their BE credit.

If you find PL credit counting instead of BE credit for the same course on a student's record, please email our team at tarheeltracker@unc.edu so that we can fix this issue.

Training Update

We offer Tar Heel Tracker Basic training once a month and the Tar Heel Tracker Requirement Adjustment Module (RAM) training twice a month via Zoom. If you are new to advising students and want to learn more about the degree audit or need a refresher, we invite you to attend. You can sign-up by navigating to the training [calendar](#).

Graduation Clearance

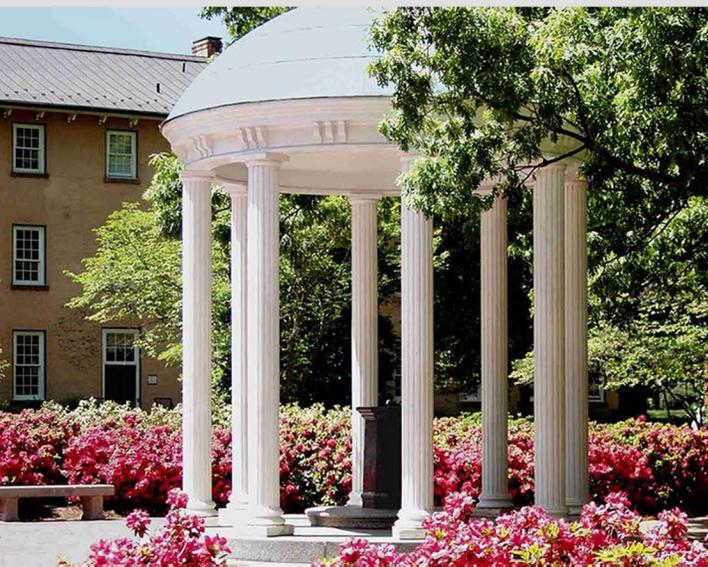
This last graduation cycle (fall 2021), undergraduates were cleared for graduation based on the student's Tar Heel Tracker. This is a clear victory for students and the University. By fully utilizing the THT for graduation clearance, we offer students transparency in degree progression, ensure that all University and accreditation standards are met and have digital documentation for approved exceptions. In addition, the THT is now a robust database with valuable accurate information on undergraduate degree completion. The THT now displays the following graduation message at the top of the report:

Effective Spring term 2022, the Tar Heel Tracker is the student's official record of graduation requirements. In order to be approved for graduation, your THT report must be fully "closed" indicating that you have completed all courses and all University graduation requirements. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic advisor to confirm their graduation status.

*For students who entered UNC in Fall 2009 or later. Students who entered UNC before Fall 2009 must meet with an academic advisor to discuss their graduation requirements.

In addition, a list of advising contacts is available in the Tracker.

Thank you goes out to all of the academic advisors who continue to utilize the THT when working with students; thank you to all of the department and school staff who engage with the tool to clear their students for graduation. A special thanks to Kristin Richards in the Academic Advising Program who worked tirelessly to help us improve the THT and shepherded academic advisors to graduate students in the fall via the Tracker.



Tar Heel Tracker Newsletter

Plan Overlap Line for Majors/Minors

The THT team completed a significant update: A plan overlap line has been added to all majors and minors under the new University Requirements for Majors/Minors section of the Tracker. This line shows students how many courses are being double-counted between their major and minor plans.

It informs students if they have exceeded the number of allowable double-counted courses or hours between their plans. The University requires that “more than half (not merely half) of the courses and course credit hours taken in each major/minor must be exclusive to that major/minor.” For more on this policy, see [Combining Majors and Minors](#) under the [University’s General Education Curriculum and Degree Requirements](#).

Note: the plan overlap lines only compare majors/minors that have been processed above that major/minor. For example, a second major will show what is being shared with the primary major but not with any minor (below). The minor will then show what is being shared with both majors (above).

Pre-Matriculation What-if Report

Since academic worksheets for the IDEAs curriculum will not be produced, newly admitted transfer students need a new way to see how their accepted credits will apply to UNC’s curriculum. Beginning this spring, once a newly admitted student’s transfer credit has been reviewed by Admissions, the student will be able to run a What-If report for any major and/or minor. This What-If report will include the general education requirements and will be an important tool for students to see how their credits will fulfill UNC’s requirements, thus helping them make an informed decision about whether to attend UNC in the fall or not. (Note: pre-matriculated students cannot run a regular THT report—only the What-If report.)



And the winner is...

A recent poll about displaying in-progress courses for majors/minors in the THT saw a great response with overwhelming support for displaying these courses. We know for many advisors knowing which courses students have in-progress in their major/minor is useful, especially for graduation clearance.

Previously, the THT displayed those in-progress major/minor course in an “unsatisfied” line which resulted in displaying the major/minor as “unsatisfied” even when it was. So, we changed the configuration as follows:

- If the student has major/minor in-progress courses, the line with this information will be displayed under University Requirements for Majors/Minors.
- The line will always be closed (“satisfied”) so that the status of the major/minor is not affected.
- If the line appears, you can open it to see which course(s) are in-progress.
- This information will be printed on the PDF summary report.





IDEAs in THT

After thorough testing, the THT is ready for students following the new [IDEAs in Action](#) undergraduate general education curriculum effective fall 2022. Incoming first-years and transfer students, once matriculated, will be able to run their THT reports and view the new requirements. When you run the THT for these new students, you may see some new things. Please explore to see some of our updated features:

1. Links to Academic Advising contacts (A&S and all professional schools) in the Graduation Message section.
2. Links to archived editions of the Catalog—so you easily view the Catalog that coincides with the student's requirement term—in the requirement term line at the top of every major/minor.
3. Majors with requirement terms of fall 2022 and later will display a line with listing required major courses that fulfill IDEAs general education requirements (just like on the old worksheets).
4. Major/minor in-progress courses are viewable under the "University Requirements" section for each major/minor (see related article).
5. Major/minor course overlaps are displayed for second majors and minors (a student's first-major will not include this line) (see related article).
6. For some students, a new "Requirement Tally" will appear after their first-major; this is for internal use only and has no effect on the student's degree completion requirements. No adjustments should be made to the data in this section.

RAM—pro tips and reminders:

1. Every time you run the Tar Heel Tracker it generates a new updated report.
2. You can only adjust courses that are on the student's record.
3. Don't make adjustments to courses that should be fulfilling a requirement. Email tarheeltracker@unc.edu so we can look into it.
4. If the course being used for the adjustment has been graded you do not need to add minimum grade points/units in the adjustment box.
5. We recommend waiting until after the Class Drop Period ends each term before making adjustments for courses in that term. Why make an adjustment if the student may drop it later? Of course, for graduating students these adjustments can be submitted at any time.

Weekly Update of THT Reports

Whenever you run a student's THT report, the data is updated in real-time, including all information on a student's record. If a student (or advisor) does not run their tracker, the data is not updated. Now, through the work of the Campus Solutions Team in ITS, these reports will be automatically updated every weekend. Advisors and staff will not notice any difference; however this automated process ensures that all data is up-to-date and provides more accurate data reporting.

Tar Heel Tracker Team:

Roger Kaplan - Assistant Director

George Heath - THT Support

Whitney Marlatt - THT Support

Kelly Miller - Associate Registrar

Contact: tarheeltracker@unc.edu

Newsletter Designed By:

James Howard-Smith - Documentation Lead



Tar Heel Tracker Newsletter

