

## INFO ON HAAS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AT UC BERKELEY

October 9, 2007

Dear Articulation Officers and Other Colleagues,

I hope the Fall term is off to a great start for you this year. As always for students, faculty, and staff of the Haas School of Business Undergraduate Program at UC Berkeley, the Academic Year began in early July. The summer component of our program continues to be a wonderful opportunity for students to get a head start on our required core business courses and to get off to a cohesive start together at Haas.

Below is a listing of recent program updates and other helpful information about the admission process:

### **Elimination of Accounting Waiver Exams**

The Haas Undergraduate Program will no longer offer accounting waiver exams to admitted transfer students. Over the years, very few students have passed the financial accounting exam and only 1 student has ever passed the managerial exam. Please inform your students that all admitted community college transfers will be required to take financial and managerial accounting courses at UC Berkeley.

### **Course Planning**

How should I organize my schedule? When should I take certain admission requirements? We've created a course planning summary that we hope will help students answer these questions and assist with schedule planning. The summary can be found on the 2<sup>nd</sup> page of our Self-reported Academic Record (SAR) (<http://www.haas.berkeley.edu/Undergrad/applying.html>). The summary should only be viewed as a guide and admission will not be affected if students follow a different plan.

**Common mistakes made on the SARs.** Unfortunately, we continue to see an increasing number of ineligible applicants. For the 2007–2008 Admission Cycle we received over 1,300 applications and only 443 students were eligible for admission. Below are common errors we found on the SARs.

- **Literature/writing:** The Literature/writing requirement is not optional and must be completed by all applicants. Many students are ineligible for admission because the Literature/writing requirement is left blank on the SAR. **Please advise your students to add the course used to fulfill the literature/writing requirement in the correct box on the SAR.**
- **Using the wrong course for the Principles of Business Requirement:** Students must take the articulated course for the principles of business prerequisite.
- **Double-counting prerequisites & breadth:** Students cannot use one course to satisfy both a prerequisite and a breadth requirement.
- **Reporting less than 7 breadth courses:** Our breadth guidelines are very broad because we want students to have the flexibility to take courses that interest them. Students must complete 7 of the 9 breadth courses in order to be eligible for admission. **Prerequisites, business courses and micro or macro economics cannot be used to fulfill breadth.** Additional information about Haas breadth can be found on our website: [http://www.haas.berkeley.edu/Undergrad/breadth\\_list.html](http://www.haas.berkeley.edu/Undergrad/breadth_list.html)
- **Incorrect course combination for English/Reading & Composition (R&C).** Students must take the articulated combination of courses to fulfill R&C. Students should not assume that the

course sequence can be divided. Unless the R1A and R1B equivalents are separately specified on [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org), the entire sequence should be completed at one school.

- **Indicating plans to take admission requirements during the Summer after they submit the UC Application.** All admission requirements must be completed by the end of the Spring term prior to starting at the Haas School of Business.
- **Using prerequisites that are more than 5 years old.** All prerequisite courses must be completed for letter grades no more than 5 years before starting the business major.

**Statistics for 2007 -2008 Admission Cycle:** Admission statistics for the 2007 – 2008 admission cycle are now available on our website: <http://www.haas.berkeley.edu/Undergrad/statstransfer.html>

**Myths about Haas:** We are always amazed to hear what applicants tell us they hear about Haas. Below are a few of the most common myths we've heard from students:

**Myth:** **It's easier to get into Haas if you transfer to another major at UC Berkeley and apply to Haas as a continuing UC Berkeley student.**

**Truth:** **It's close to impossible to gain admission to Haas after transferring to another major at UC Berkeley. Transfer students who do this are not competitive applicants because they have taken the majority of their admission requirements at community college but are applying to Haas as a continuing Berkeley student. Please do not advise students who are interested in Haas to apply to another major at UC Berkeley and then apply to Haas.**

**Myth:** **Haas only reviews applications from students who've earned a 4.0.**

**Truth:** **Haas reviews applications from all eligible students regardless of GPA. Eligible students are those who show planned completion of all of our admission requirements by the end of the Spring term prior to starting at the Haas School.**

**Myth:** **In order to be a strong candidate, students must take both semesters of calculus.**

**Truth:** **We only require one semester or 2 quarters of calculus for admission. Students may take additional calculus courses to better prepare for upper division business courses but the additional courses are not required for admission.**

**Myth:** **Students must get an internship or join a business club prior to applying to Haas.**

**Truth:** **The admission committee is looking for leadership potential in extra-curricular activities and does not give internships or business clubs more weight in the review process. Students can demonstrate leadership potential by participating in a number of activities, including but not limited to on-campus clubs, volunteer experience, work experience, sports, church activities, etc.**

**Myth:** **Haas gives preference to Northern California Community College students.**

**Truth:** **Haas does not give any school special preference in the review process.**

**Join us on Cal Day!** Every year on a sunny Saturday in April, UC Berkeley hosts Cal Day. This is a community celebration and an opportunity for perspective students to visit the campus and the Haas School. Counselors are available to answer questions, current students give tours and talk about life as a business student. We also give presentations about the program. Our Director of Admissions will be conducting a presentation specifically designed for transfer students. So please mark your calendars for Cal Day 2008, **Saturday, April 12th.**

I encourage all of you to contact me if you have any questions or comments and I ask you to assist us by forwarding this e-mail to your colleagues at community colleges who may be interested in our program.

Thank you,

Sojourner Blair  
Admissions Officer  
UC Berkeley  
Haas Undergraduate Program  
[blair@haas.berkeley.edu](mailto:blair@haas.berkeley.edu)  
510-642-1421