

Todd Andrich (tmandrich@berkeley.edu)

Interview#1

Observations by Margaret

Todd Andrich

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Extension student, will be in College of Engineering Spr 06.

Prospective Mechanical Engineering major.

Pledge at [Andrew's frat] – meetings on Monday

Tennis@Cal team (IMA-like team) – time commitment: 10 matches by Nov

Lives at Unit 2, Erhman Hall

Owens a Windows laptop

From Whittier, CA (LA area)

Kenny Wu: interviewer

Margaret Lin: observer, handling recording equipment, note taker

Berkeley.edu -> academics -> catalog -> department: mechanical engineering -> related course descriptions

Related course descriptions: had list of all lower/upper div classes

Looked at seminars with friend who's an EE major also in extension -- plan together.

Looked at required classes for degree.

"don't want to deal with chemistry yet"

"get out of the way cuz I'm not an English person at all"

Keeping track of units: take the recommended 14-16 units.

Natural progression of classes.

Like physics, think he should start now, and see how it is. Fun class, interesting.

"which teacher I'm going to try to get into".

Difficulty of tests

Keeping track of fulfilling electives.

Want to get all of lower division classes so he can move into upper div classes.

A guy in the house is also a Mech E – asked for advice; reinforced "good process".

How to choose sections?

Talk to ppl, pos/neg of professors.

Want "interesting" prof

Read about prof on berkeley website

Time conflicts

Take an alternative class if really hate the prof for class that can be taken

Higher priority with seniority.

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Not all on the same days.

No blocks. 4 hours in a row is okay, but not so many classes on a day (ie. 8am – 6pm)

Burnt out.

No capacity to think by the end of the day.

Fine with classes on Friday if broken up.

Would take mwf and tuth rather than both on mwf/tuth

What makes ‘have to have’

Upper div – absolutely need to progress to another class.

If can switch with a lower div/elective course, then fine.

Don’t want to be behind, so no take out of order.

Don’t really learn in lecture, it all “depends on the GSI”

Know what courses he wants to take

If negative feedback, try to get another prof. but will take it if must.

Friends positive, better outlook on class.

GETTING INTO THE CLASS

Extension on paper.

List of classes.

Searched for FPF (fall program for freshmen)

list of classes to take.

Qualify for class, don’t get to choose.

Course selection form.

Has directions.

Excel sheet –

Days/time

10, 10:30, 11, 11:30, etc.

Math and English on separate days.

Time for lunch

MWF: Math lec 10-11 am, 2 hour break, disc 1:10-2

MWF: History lec 2-330, disc F 1-2

History: right across the hall. Convenient. Don’t have to go back to the dorms.

Extension campus is right next to his dorm.

Long break, would have to walk back, so putting class back to back isn’t so bad.

3 hours of class on Tuesday.

Well-balanced schedule for the week.

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Don't want 8 o'clock class.

More sleep.

Talk to ppl at FPF, Bourgoin was a better prof.

Non-relevant classes: a no-no

Interest in history, also cuz it satisfies AC req. Don't need to take another class for AC

Alternate courses (backup): geography, philosophy, polisci.

Phil and polisci: "make you think classes"

Adding extracurriculars

Print out class schedule.

Go back to dorm for 2 hours, go to frat

Mondays: pledge meetings.

Study session

Have planner. Write events for next week in schedule. Tell them if conflicts.

Schedule matches for tennis around frat/schedule.

Looking up in planner

Stuff planned for week, homework

Reference when making plans, help not forget things.

Really liked new BearFacts

CARS bill

Easier to navigate

Before, things were hidden

Sharing of class schedule

Planning for lunches

Try to get same physics class cuz friend in Bowles is in 7a right now. Work together, beneficial to have same problem sets. Can work together.

How important are graduation requirements?

VIP, 5

Want to get to requirements so you can get towards degree.

Will take "interesting" classes even if not degree related if able to "fit in"
not top priority

How important are distances between classes

Not a big factor, 2

You can get from class to class

Get around campus

Walk to class, RSF

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Shuttles? Yeah, if going down to Shattuck, BART, SF
Easier than waiting for the bus.
Coming in, thought bike would be good
but now that he's here, but doesn't know if he needs it.
"another thing to worry about"

How much weight?

Backpack
Notebooks, textbooks.
Usually don't need textbook for lectures
Not that big a deal
Will carry, if needed.

Finals

Didn't check out beforehand.
"Nothing you can do about it"
It would be nice to have it spread out.

Features

Choose classes checklist.
Show a map of the campus, map out the fastest way to get there.
Show classes geographically

Use colors for classes
Ie. Math class was red. Disc in a lighter shade of red.

Print out copy of schedule.

Memorize: will know by the end of the first week.

VIP: Description of professor: ie. Ratemyprofessor

Observations with Kenny:

Word of mouth

Opens new window for every different site.

He uses the mouse a lot

Doesn't use autocomplete

Plan a semester ahead

Dependent on review of prof/classes

Goes through Berkeley.edu site as well as other KB provided by university

Degree requirements highest priority

Walking is sufficient; don't need bike

Backpack

Planner is everyday tool scheduler; class schedule only for first week/so

Finals – no control over, so not a high priority

Don't change after semester begins – not considered

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Other schedulers: n/a

Online course catalog – look up department for degree requirements/classes