

## **Degree Works Directions for LCC Advisors**

# Welcome to Degree Works!

Produced by Ellucian, the same company that makes Banner, Degree Works (DW) compares a student's LCC academic history against the program declared in Banner to greatly automate and streamline the degree/certificate auditing process. Degree Works also can run "What-Ifs" on programs that the student has not yet declared. Keeping the student's program and catalog year updated in Banner is infinitely preferable, however, as then the correct information always comes up, and the Plan function operates significantly better as well.

Degree Works is a tool that any authorized LCC user can access: advisors in working with students, Registrar's Office in processing graduation applications, and students checking their progress on their own.

Degree Works thus will eliminate much, though not all, of the manual labor from checking student progress on a program, and it will be kept current. It is not foolproof, however, and advisors and Registrar's Office staff must understand its uses, limits, and idiosyncrasies.

### In this training you will learn...

- I. Selecting a Student
- II. Confirming that Degree Works is Up to Date
- III. Audit vs. What-If, including Error Messages
- IV. My Academic Plan
- V. Notes to Students

## Throughout, please keep these provisos in mind:

- 1) Curricula prior to Fall 2011 and AA/AS prior to Fall 2012 are <u>not</u> in DW, so they still must be checked manually;
- 2) Only students with active history from Summer 2011 onward are in DW;
- 3) DW may not display classes in the same order as the printed curriculum guide;
- 4) Exceptions for graduation show on an audit but *not* on a What-If;
- 5) Old term/quarter credit courses correctly do *not* satisfy requirements in Degree Works, per College policy effective Fall 2013;
- 6) Course descriptions will not display when a course has been cancelled/discontinued.

## In addition, notice the three things which Degree Works *cannot* evaluate:

- 1) Transfer credit *when a curriculum needs a grade <u>higher</u> than 2.0* (For transcripts received after 19Mar12, check SHATRNS BDMS to see if student should be referred to Department for waiver);
- 2) The policy requiring each additional associate degree to have an additional 10 cr *in the division/program*.
- 3) The policy that if the student's declared academic year predates the first semester of actual attendance, that year of curriculum *cannot* be used.

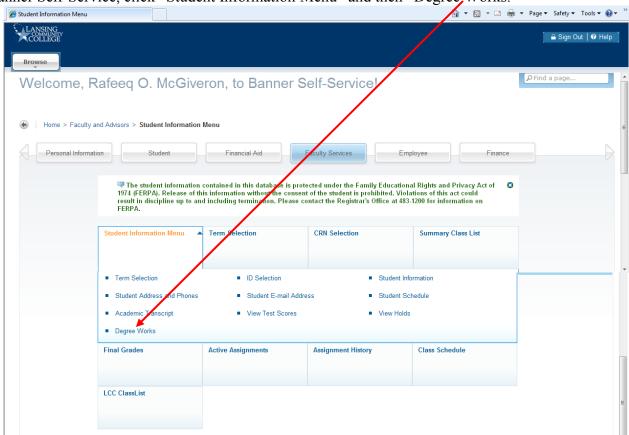
Finally, remember that screenshots in this document may differ from the updated DW we use.

And now...let's train!

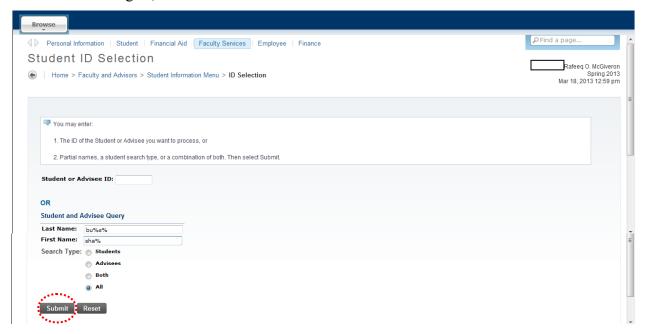
Degree Works Scribe Team: Diane Wymer, Ann French, Lori Myers, Rafeeq O. McGiveron

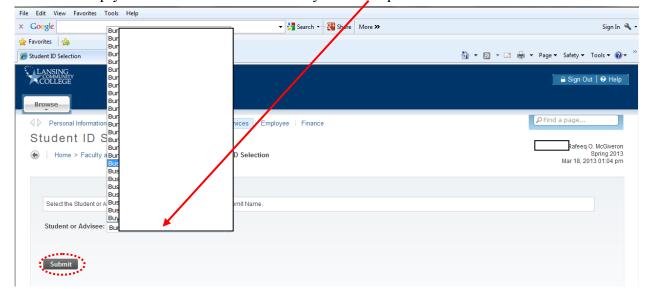
#### I. SELECTING A STUDENT

Using *Chrome or Firefox for best view*, <u>not Internet Explorer</u>, in "Faculty Services" area in Banner Self-Service, click "Student Information Menu" and then "Degree Works."

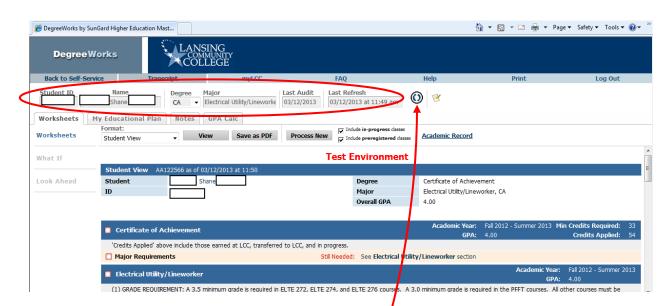


Select a term on first log-in, and then search or enter student number.





**TIP:** Never simply select the first student! Always click dropdown to confirm the correct one.



(Note: Only students taking classes Summer 2011 or later are loaded into Degree Works. Returning students are brought in by the nightly refresh after at a change of program is processed, b) a change of grade is processed, or c) attempt registration for classes.)

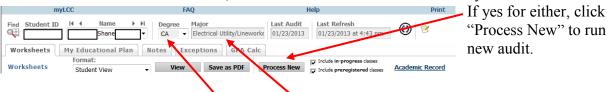
# II. CONFIRMING THAT DEGREE WORKS IS UP TO DATE

Has student had any changes to the Banner academic record—add/drop, grade change, change of program—since the previous night's refresh?

If yes, click "Refresh" button to bring updated Banner data into Degree Works; if no, continue to Step III.

#### III. AUDIT VS. WHAT-IF

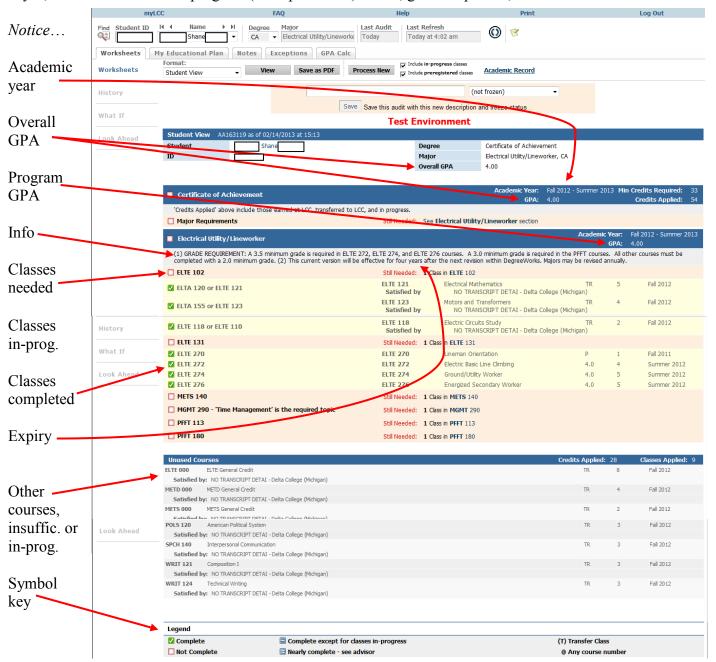
## **III.A.** Was "Refresh" button clicked, *or* is "Last Audit" different from today's date?



#### III.B. Audit

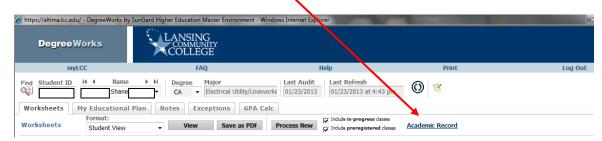
In top line of Degree Works, do "Degree" and "Major" fields *both* show the intended ones? (Note, "Degree" means AAA, AAS, AB, GA, AA, AS, CA, or CC.)

If yes, see audit on declared program (example below). If no, go to Step III.D, What-If.

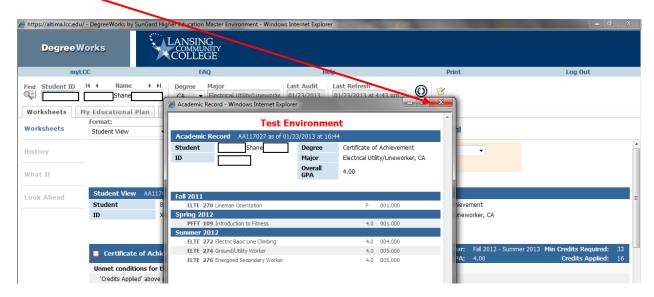


(Note: "Other" is any course not listed in the above audit—student still may need certain inprogress courses! "Insufficient" is any course with grade of 0.0, W, Z, I, or X; any repeats tagged "Excluded" in Banner; and original courses not yet Excluded because the repeat is still inprogress.)

If manual double-check is desired, click "Academic Record" below Refresh button near top...



...and close when done.

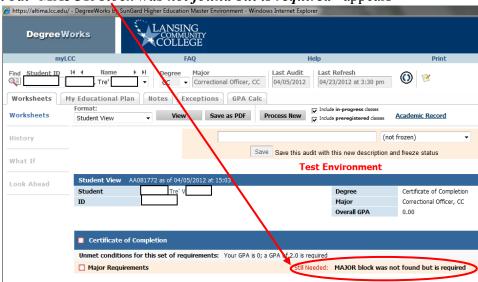


Degree Works has drawn this record directly from Banner as of the most recent DW refresh, whether via the automatic refresh during the previous night or a manual refresh by any advisor.

### III.C. Error Messages

1. If program and degree are correct but "MAJOR block was not found but is required" appears

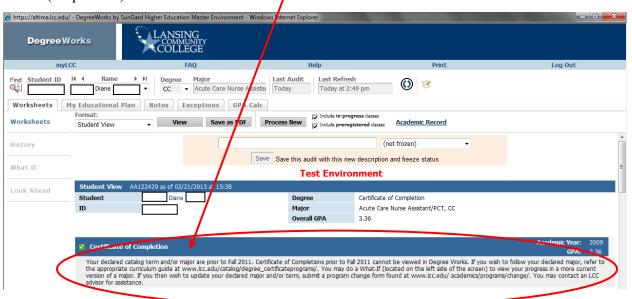
in the "Still Needed" line,
Degree Works does not have a
curriculum matching the
student's declared catalog year.
Either student's catalog year
predates the 2011-2012 guides
programmed in Degree Works or
the desired current guide has not
been programmed, so "What-If"
must be used (Step III.D).



In the example above, we were checking this student against the Fall 2011 curriculum, but his catalog year is 2012, which had not yet been programmed, so we could not run an audit.

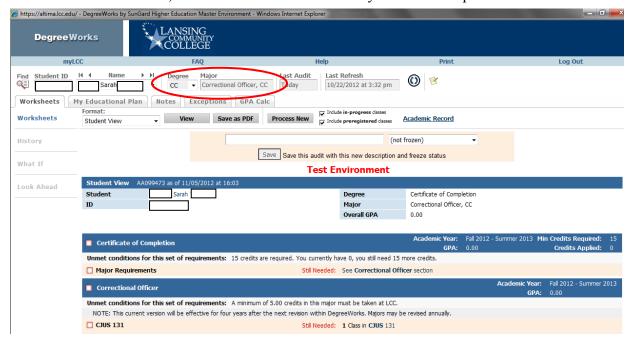
However, if the declared curriculum is pre-Fall 2011 but the more current guide is preferable, for updating the year the student should be directed to contact the Academic Advising Center in the StarZone of Gannon.

2. "Your declared catalog term and/or major are prior to Fall 2011" also means that "What-If" must be used (Step III.D.).

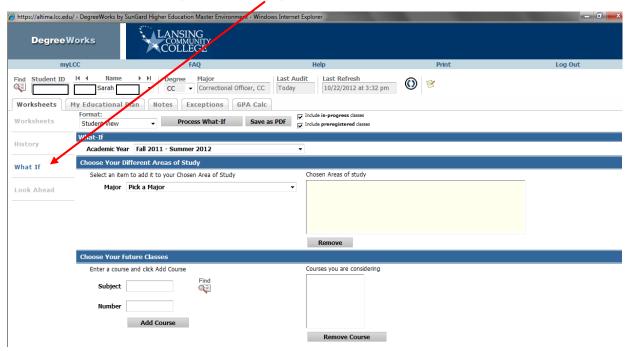


#### III.D. What-If

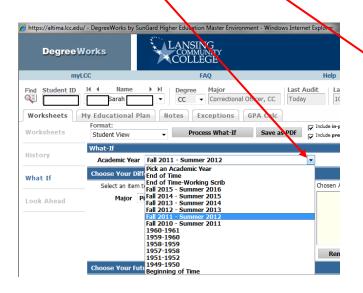
If "Degree" and "Major" fields do not both show the intended ones, if the "MAJOR block was not found but is required" error occurs, or if "Your declared catalog term and/or major are prior to Fall 2011" error occurs, an audit *cannot* be done—only "What-If" is possible.

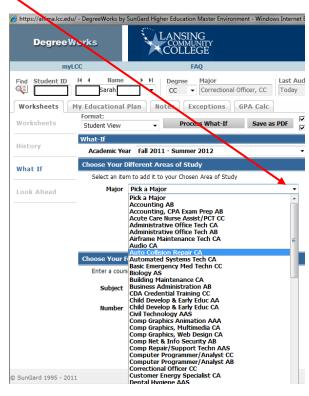


In "Worksheet" tab on the left, click "What If," and...

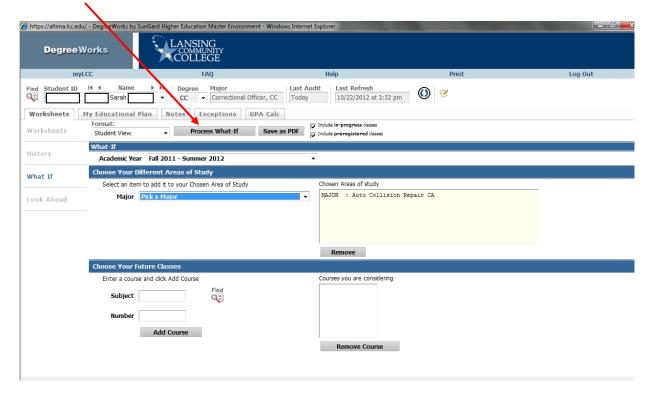


...select desired academic year and desired program, and then...

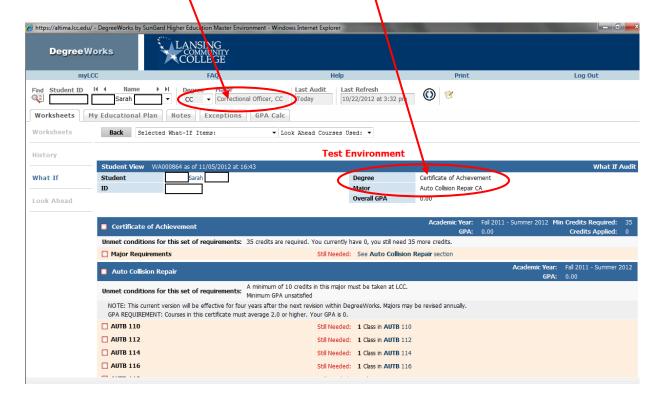




...click "Process What-If" button.



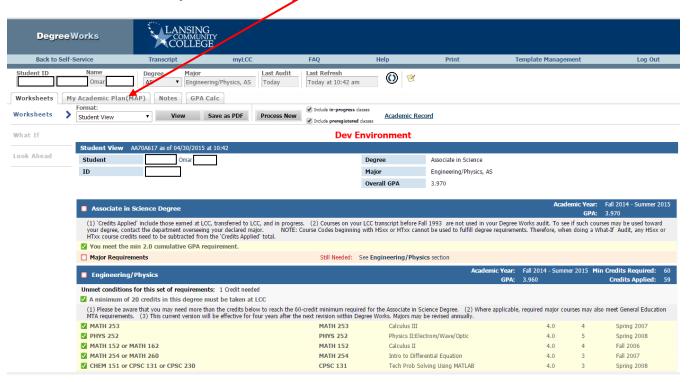
Note difference between actual program at top and hypothetical program being checked.

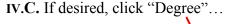


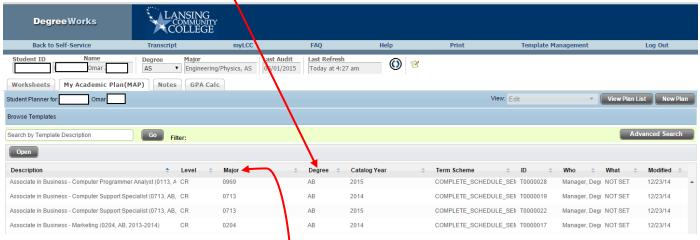
Again, if the catalog year or program currently declared in Banner and shown in the blue degree/certificate bar is different from what is actually desired, for updating the student should be directed to contact the Academic Advising Center in the StarZone of Gannon.

### IV. MY ACADEMIC PLAN

IV.A. In *Chrome or Firefox*, click the "My Academic Plan" tab beneath the student's name.

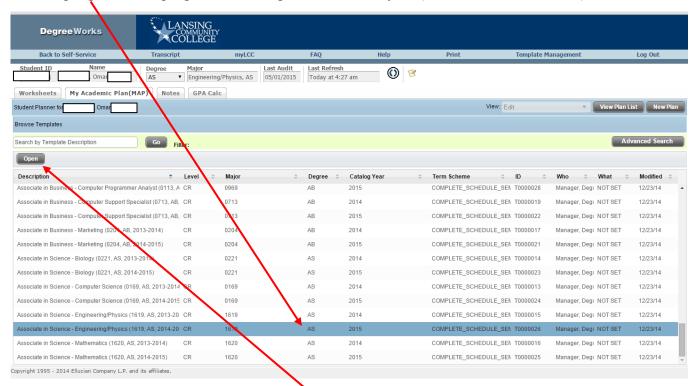




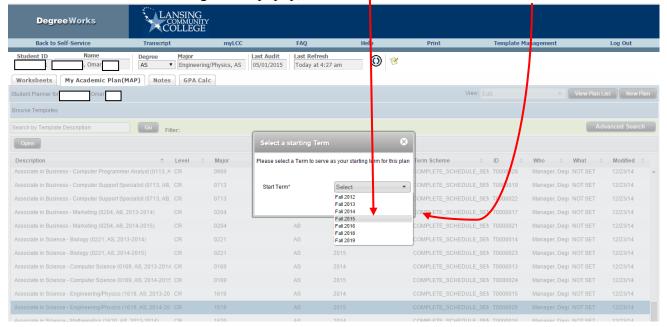


...to sort by degree type (AA, AAA, AAS, AB, AS, CA, CC, GA) rather than Description ("Associate in Applied Arts..." etc.). Remember that if you know the curriculum code for a certain program, you could click "Major" to sort numerically instead.

**IV.D.** Remembering that within each degree type the listing still might not be 100% alphabetical, highlight desired program, including chosen Banner year (2015 is F14-Sum15, etc.)...



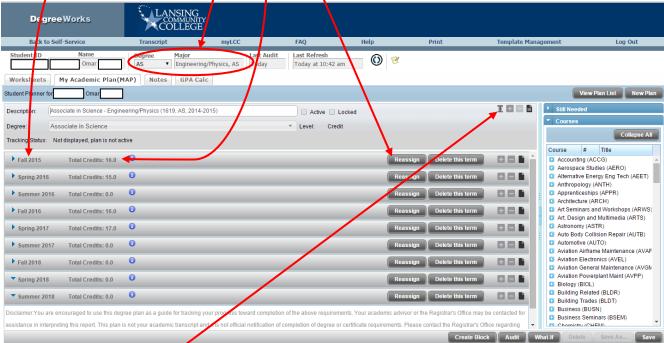
...and either double-click it or click the "Open" button.



IV.E. In "Select a Starting Term" popup, select a semester and then click "OK"...

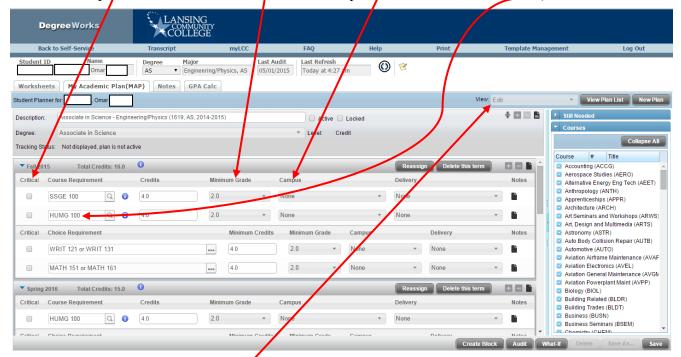
...to open template for that program. **TIP:** If student needs developmental or other prep classes, consider starting the plan a year or more later—the prep semesters then can be added in. If student already is partially through the program, start the plan now—completed classes or even semesters can be deleted. The "Reassign" function also can switch a Fall semester to Spring, etc.

Notice planned semesters and credit load derived from the Suggested Course Sequence on the carriculum guide.



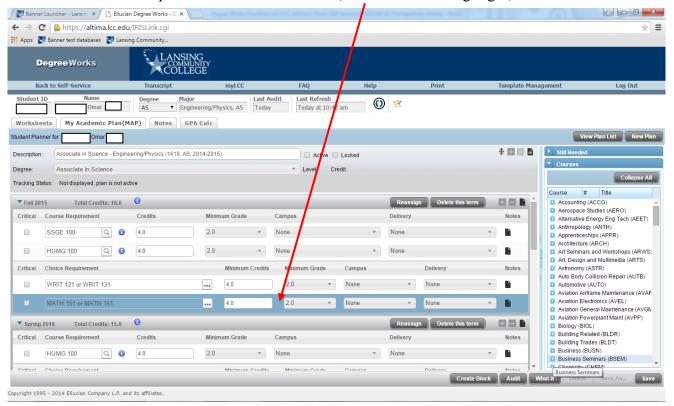
IV.F. Click "Expand All Terms" icon...

...to see classes on each semester of the template, including the ability to mark any as particularly critical, to list minimum grade, to note *desired* (not necessarily *offered*) campus, etc. Some options already may be specified, but the advisor can change them as appropriate. (Note that Core placeholders are "C--- 100," and MTA placeholders are "MTA- 100").

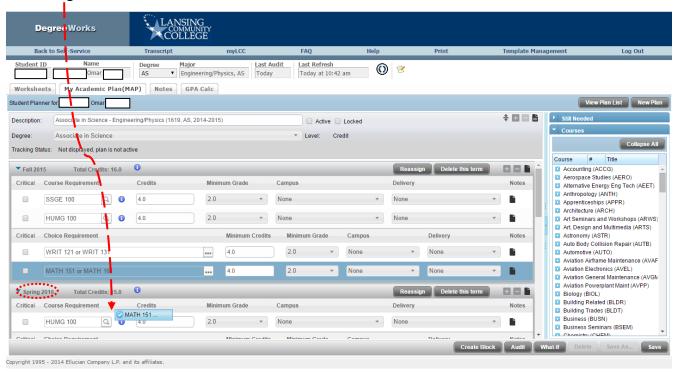


Notice that view defaults to "Edit." However, in a future upgrade the "Audit" view can show audit—if major is correctly declared—and plan side by side after the plan first is saved.

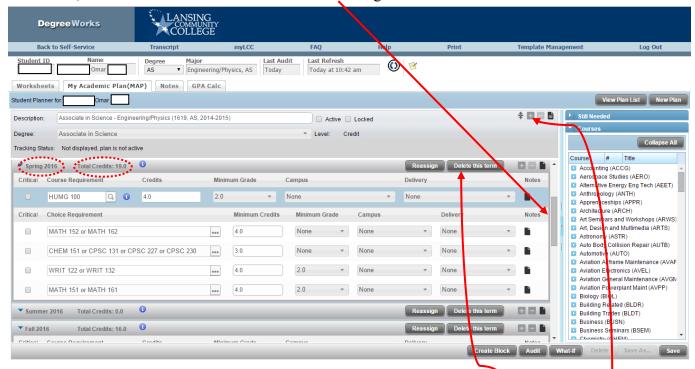
**IV.G.** To move a requirement to a later semester, click the line to highlight, and then...



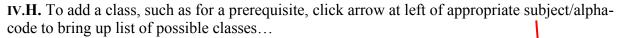
...drag to the desired semester...

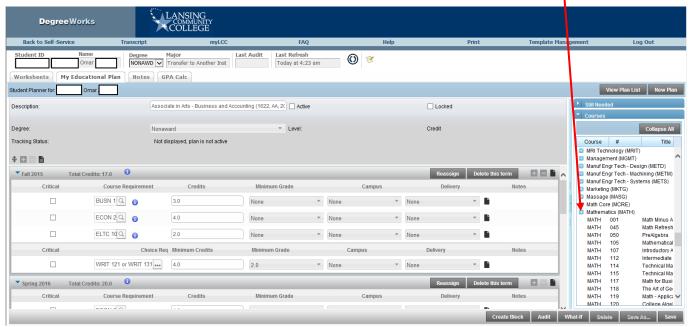


...and release left-click to drop it into that semester. Continue this cascade class-by-class as desired. (DW currently does not read prerequisites in plans, though in future it may.) In any event, remember that the view can be scrolled through with the scrollbar.

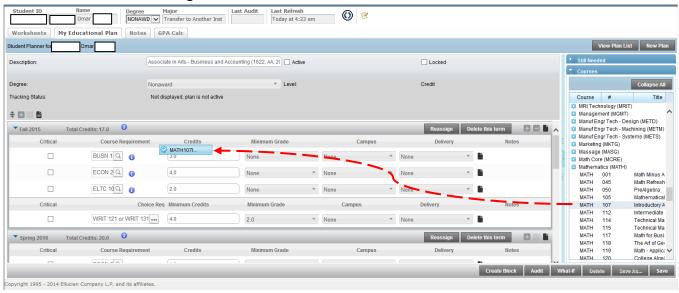


**TIP:** Depending on where the student is in the program, you can delete semesters or add more.





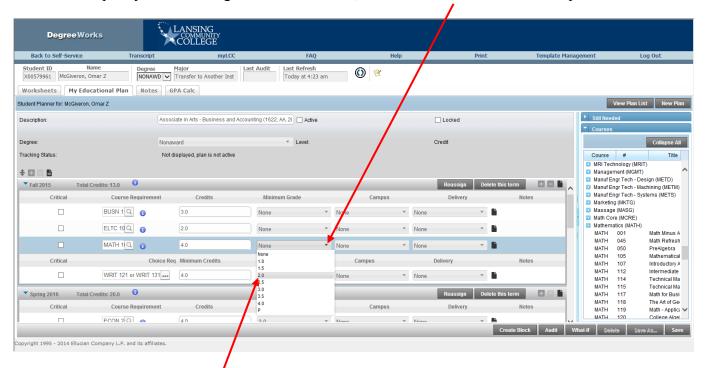
...and then click and drag class to desired semester.



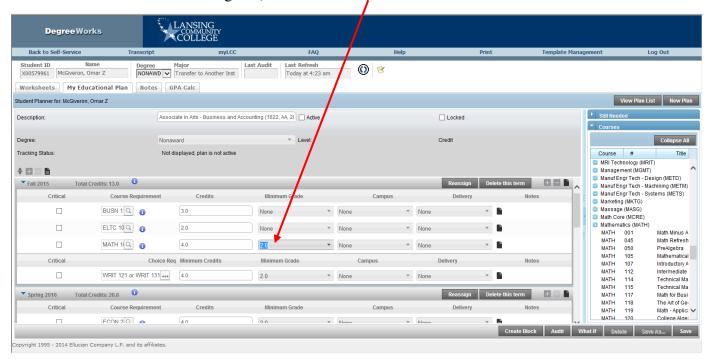
Releasing left-click drops class into place.

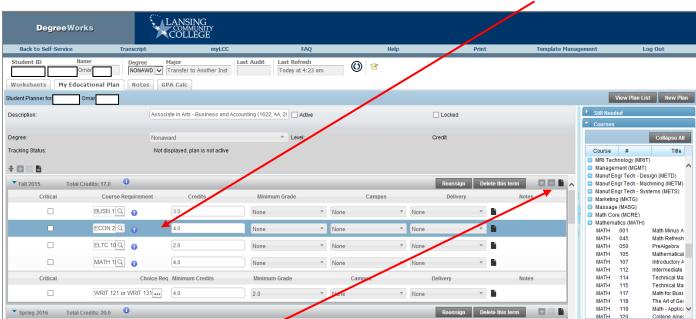


IV.I. To specify a minimum grade for the student, click the "Minimum Grade" dropdown...



...and then click the desired grade, which then fills in.

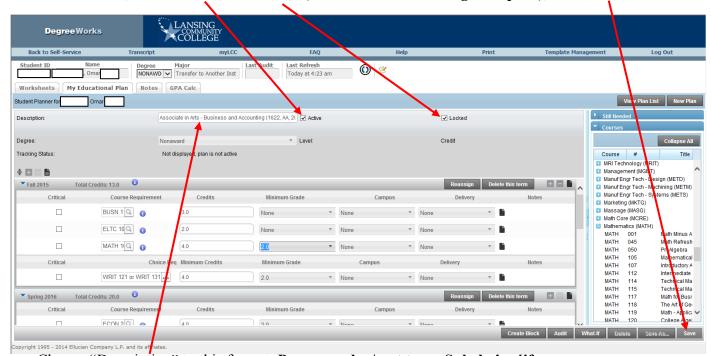




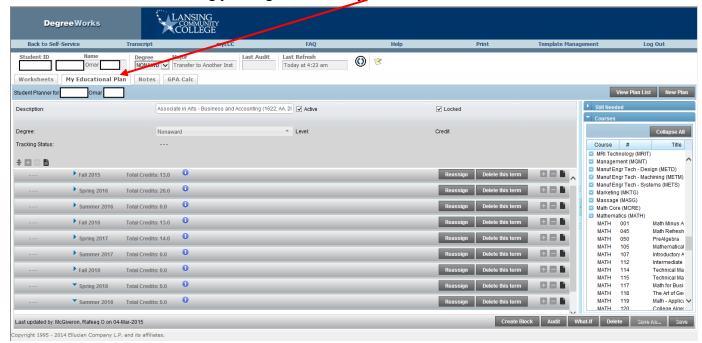
IV.J. To delete a class—because transferred or previously done—click on its line to highlight...

...and then click the "-" button.

IV.K. To save, click "Active," "Locked," (so student cannot change this plan), and "Save."



Change "Description" to this format: **Program, deg/cert type: Subchoice [if applicable]\_curric yr\_date** (for example, **CJ Law, AAS: Subchoice Mid MI PA\_15-16 20150602**.



IV.L. To see list of existing plans again, click "My Academic Plan" tab.

Note that the existing plans all show a description, whether plan is marked active, date modified, last updater, and whether locked.

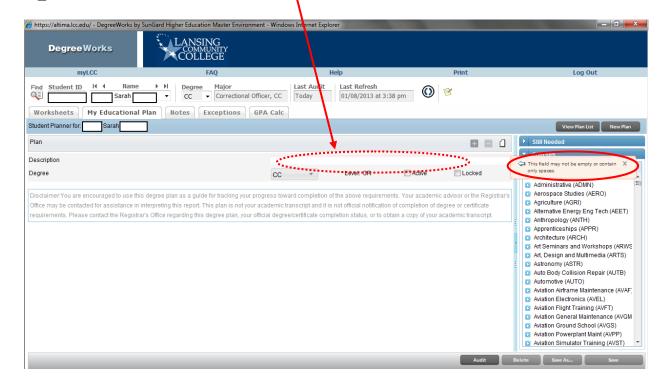


Again, clicking "Locked" before saving is very important, because it prevents a student from changing this plan. If you forget, simply double-click to open it again, and then click "Locked" before saving again. Also, remember that only one plan at a time can be "Active."

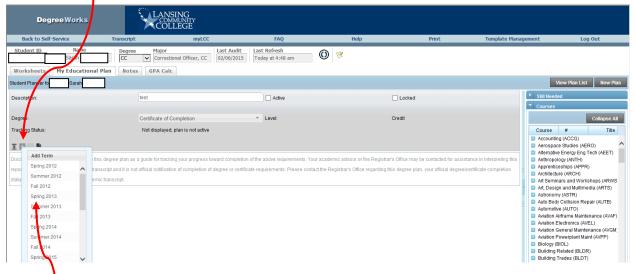
**IV.M.** If instead for some reason it is desirable to create a plan completely from scratch, click "New Plan" and the "Blank Plan" at the popup.



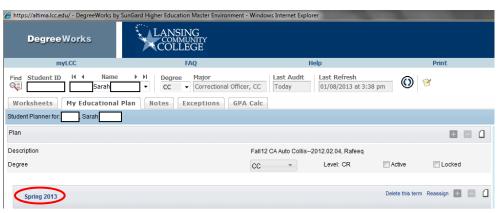
IV.N. Give the blank plan a title/description per this format: Program, deg/cert type: Subchoice [if applicable]\_curric yr\_date (for example, CJ Law, AAS: Subchoice Mid MI PA\_15-16 20150602.

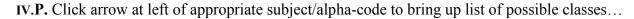


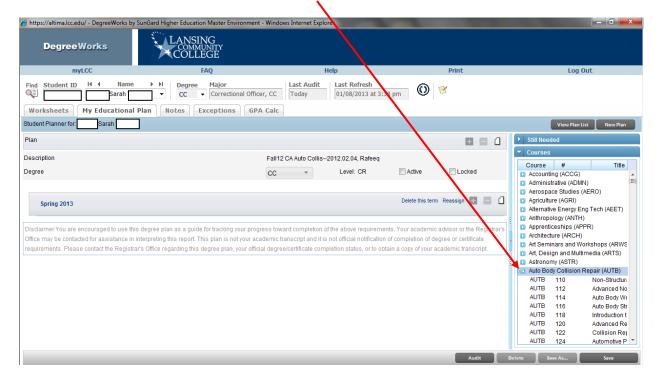
**IV.O.** Click "+" button to bring up a list of semesters...



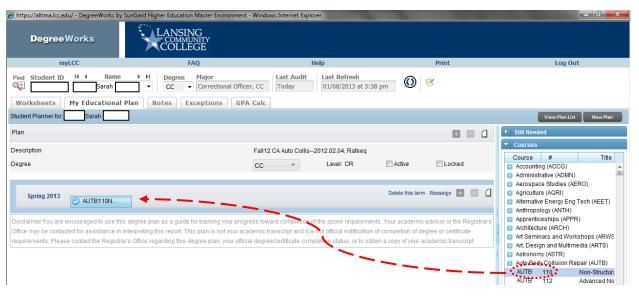
...and click desired semester to make it appear in the plan.





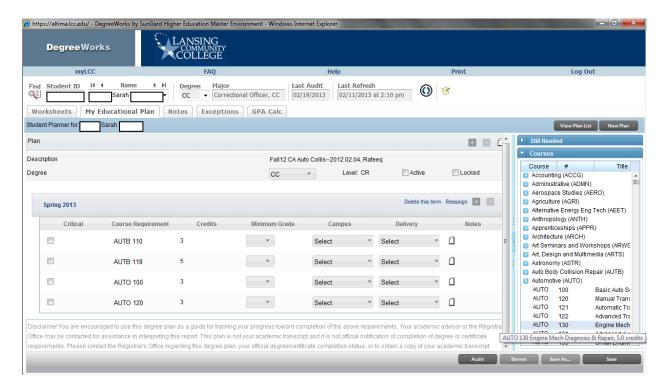


...and then click and drag class to desired semester. Releasing left-click drops class into place.

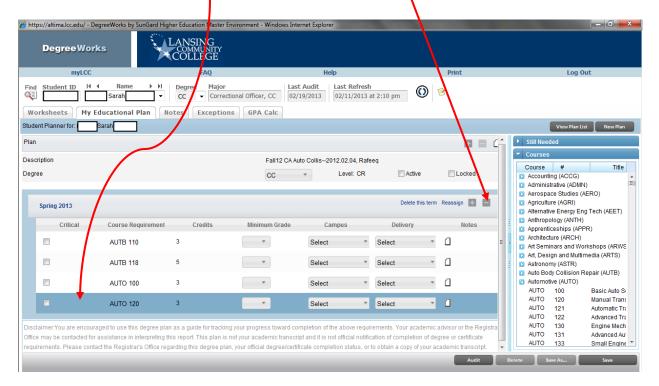


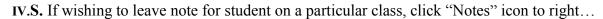
Note credit number Last Refresh auto-fill, plus ability Sarah ▼ Correctional Officer, CC Today 01/08/2013 at 3:38 pm CC to list grade needed, Exceptions GPA Calc My Educational Plan Notes campus desired (not Plan necessarily offered), Description 2 CA Auto Collis--2012.02.04, Rafeeq etc. □ Ag□ Alt Reassign -Spring 2013 D An
D Ap
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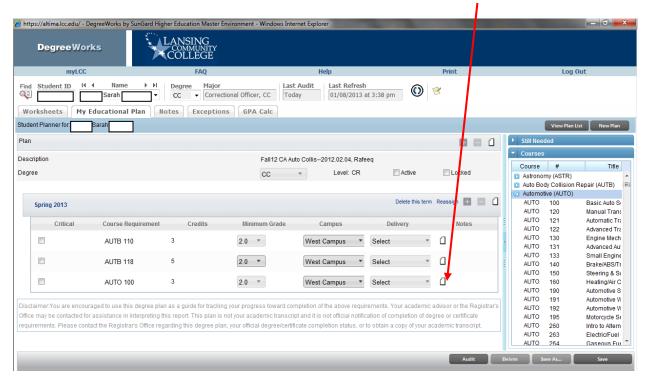
IV.Q. Repeat as desired. Clicking arrow at left of subject/alpha-code will compress list again.



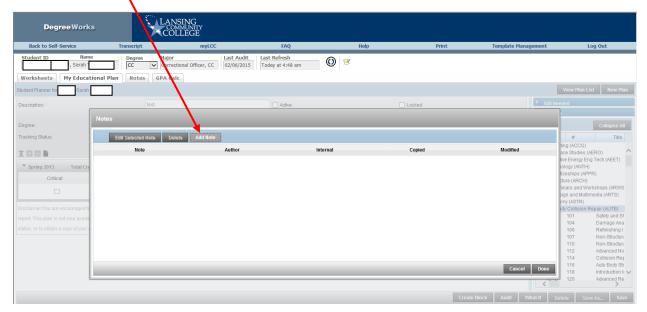
IV.R. To delete a class, click on its line in the plan, and then click "-" button.



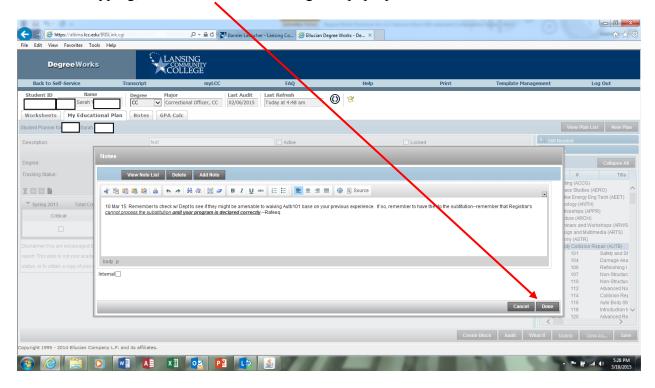




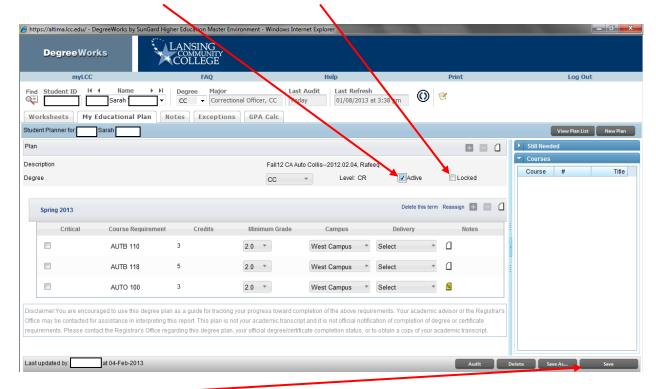
...and click "Add Note" button to allow typing.



When done typing, click "Done" at bottom right of pop-up to close note...

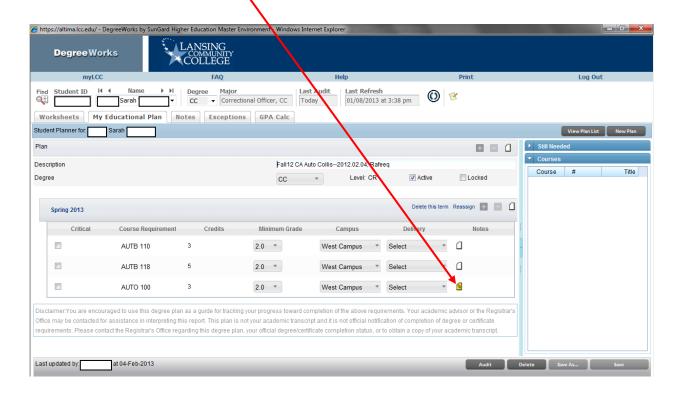


...and then check the "Active" box and the "Locked" box...

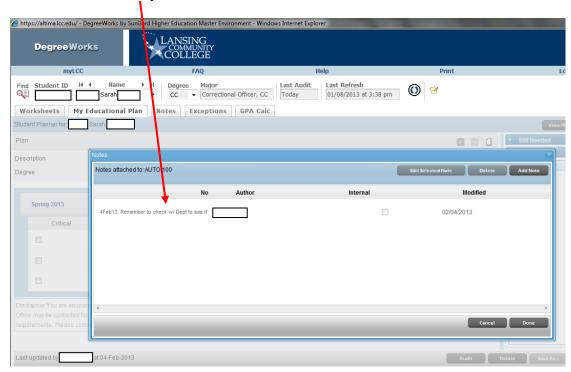


...and click "Save."

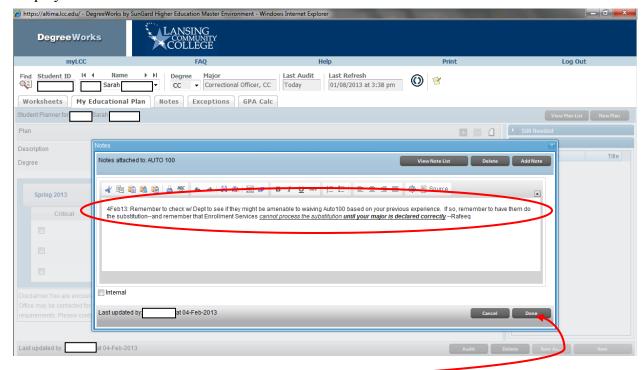
To view the note again, click the icon...



...and then double-click the entry...

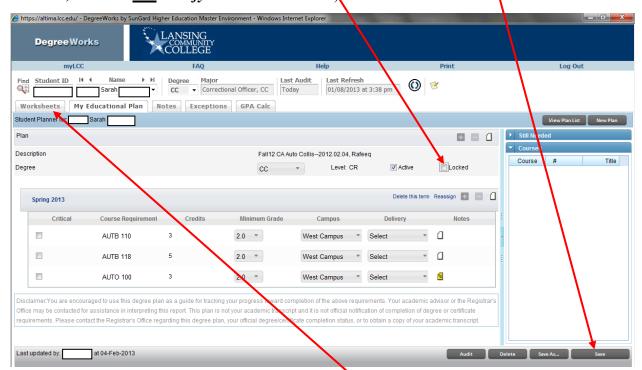


...to display entire note.



To close again click "Done."

If you forget to lock the plan, go back and check "Locked" and then click "Save" again. (Remember, advisors can modify each other's notes.)



To go back to running audits or What-Ifs, click on "Worksheets" tab.

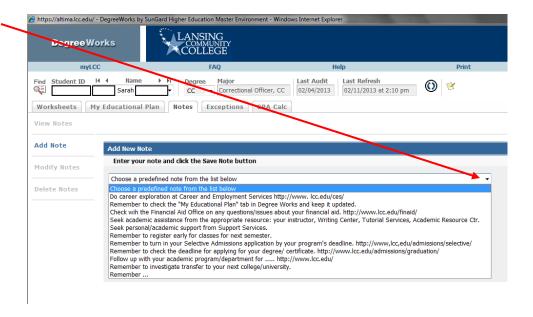
#### V. NOTES TO STUDENTS

If wishing to leave a reminder note *for the student* in Degree Works, click "Notes" tab...

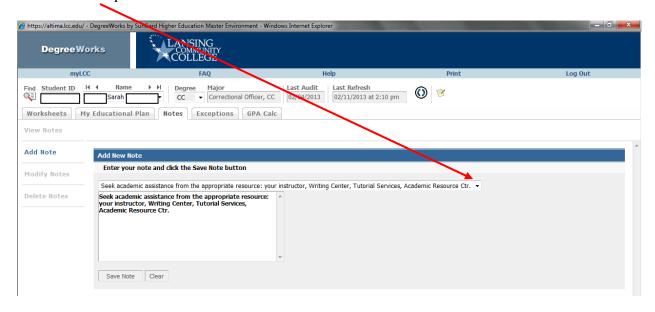


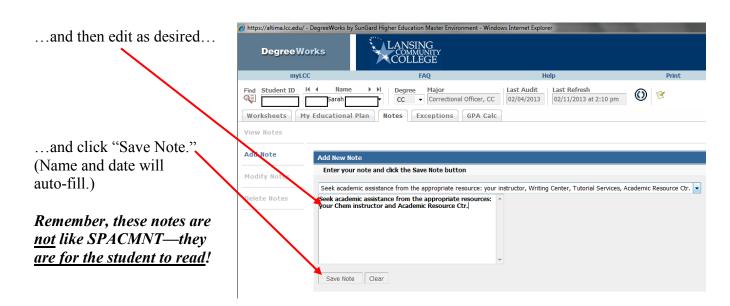


...and then the dropdown.

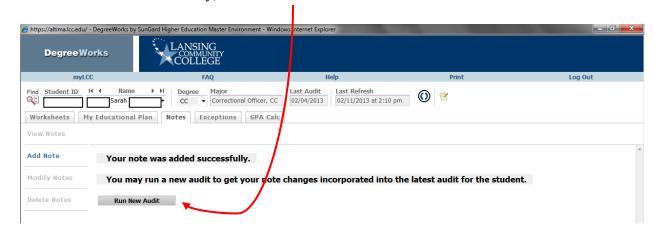


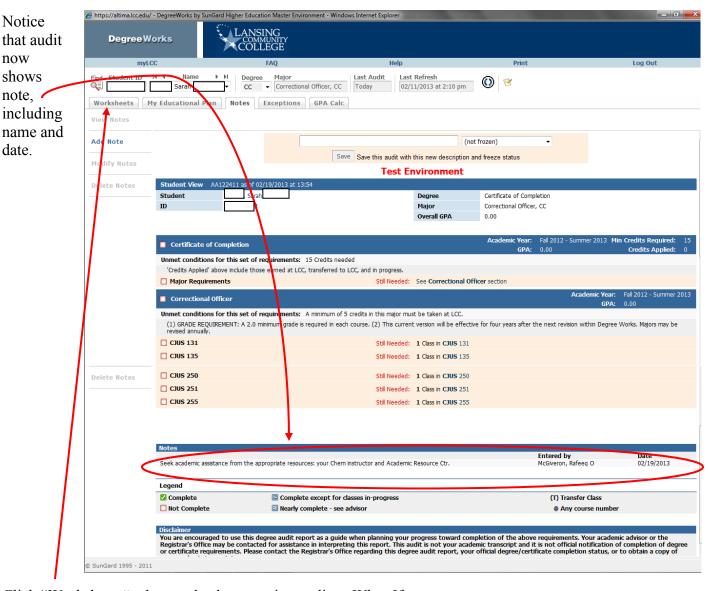
Click on the desired option to make the note auto-fill...





To add note to the audit immediately, click "Run New Audit."





Click "Worksheets" tab to go back to running audit or What-If.

To return to Banner to select another student, click on "Back to Self-Service."



Lansing Community College, Student Affairs Division

Rafeeq O. McGiveron, 5 May 2015