

## ABRA Frequently Asked Questions

### *What is ABRA?*

Registration is a two-part process: the bidding period and the add/drop period. Because there is more demand for some courses than places available in them, course assignments are made by a computerized bidding algorithm called **ABRA**, the **Auction Based Registration Algorithm**. The bidding algorithm assigns courses in accordance with student preferences, as requested through the bidding selections. There is no limit to the number of courses you select on which to bid.

During the bidding period you have the option of selecting, as alternatives to your primary choices, two courses or sections that you would like to take only if you do not get your first choice of a course or section. (For example, you want seminar "A" only if you do not get seminar "B.")

NOTE: If you exercise your substantial writing priority for the primary choice, you must exercise the option on the alternative choices. Similarly, if you do not exercise your substantial writing priority for the primary choice, you may not exercise the priority on the alternative choices.

### *How do I access the ABRA training guide?*

The ABRA training guide can be found on our NYU Law website. To access the training guide, click on the Academic Services tab, the Records & Registration link, then click on Year-Long Registration Guides, and finally click on Year-Long Registration Information.

### *How do I enter ABRA?*

ABRA can be accessed at <https://abra.law.nyu.edu/abra>. Use your NetID and password to gain access.

### *Why won't ABRA let me bid on classes?*

- *In order to register you must:*
  - Be in financial compliance according to the Bursar's policies.
  - Be in compliance with New York State Health Law requirements. See: <http://www.nyu.edu/shc/about/health.requirements.html>.
  - Supply your emergency contact information and an emergency cell phone number.

### *Can I bid for both fall and spring classes at the same time?*

Yes, you should bid for both fall and spring classes at the same time. You will have 1000 points for fall and 1000 points for spring. You cannot combine your points across semesters. For example, you cannot decide to use 1500 points in the fall and 500 points in the spring.

### *How many credits must I take each semester?*

All full-time students should be registered for a minimum of 12 credits in each semester. Transfer students may want to take between 12 and 13 credits for the fall semester as you adjust to NYU. If you receive less than 12 credits from the Transfer Bidding Cycle please participate in Add/Drop, as necessary, to obtain the requisite number of credits.

### *How much should I bid for a particular class?*

It is hard to say exactly how much you should bid on any particular class. The clearing price for a class may change from previous bidding rounds. We do, however, want you to have a full schedule and to be on par with the rest of your second-year classmates. As a result, we have set aside a few seats in courses and a smaller number of seats in seminars that will be available for you during transfer bidding. If these seats are not taken during transfer bidding they will be open to all upper-class students during add/drop. Also, please see the following link for a list of classes that were popular with students and closed during the bidding cycle:

<http://www.law.nyu.edu/recordsandregistration/schedulingyourcourses/index.htm>

It is most likely that a class that has been historically popular will continue to be popular.

### *Why do enrollment figures from the Bidding Cycle show that a class is closed but it is open when I look at ABRA during the Transfer Bidding Cycle?*

As stated above, a few seats were saved for transfer students in core classes and seminars that usually have second year student enrollments. Those seats have been released during transfer student bidding. Also, students may have withdrawn or otherwise had to drop their classes after the bidding period ended.

### *Should I bid on a course that ABRA says is closed?*

Don't be discouraged if ABRA says a class is closed, you can still bid for that class. In the typical situation when a registered student drops a class a student that bid on the closed class might win a seat in the class. During the transfer bidding cycles other registered students WILL NOT be able to bid on classes or drop classes. Nonetheless, if a registered student withdraws or must otherwise drop their classes a seat may open during the transfer cycles and you may win a seat in this previously closed class.

### *How can I see Course Evaluations, Faculty Profiles, and Grade Distributions for a particular class?*

Spring 2005 through last semester Course Evaluations are available at the following link: (<https://cfliive2.law.nyu.edu/courseeval/index.cfm>). Beginning with fall 2008, you will be able to see statistical information as well as comments. Additionally, Faculty Profiles are available at <https://its.law.nyu.edu/facultyprofiles/> and Grade Distributions for previously taught classes are available at <https://its.law.nyu.edu/gradedistribution/>.

*Do courses have pre- or co-requisites? What are mutually exclusive courses?*

There may be some courses that restrict registration by a degree program or level. For **pre- or co-requisite courses**, all students must meet course prerequisites. If you seek a waiver of a prerequisite, you must obtain approval in writing from the instructor. (Use the J.D. or LL.M. form available online.) Note: Prerequisite waivers for courses must be filed each semester, in each year of study at the Law School. For **mutually exclusive courses**, check course descriptions to see whether courses are mutually exclusive with other courses.

*During the Bidding Cycle can I register for faculty permission only classes?*

You may not register for these classes during the bidding cycles if you have not received permission and obtained a waiver. Please follow the information stated in the course description regarding enrollment in permission of instructor courses. The professor will provide the Records Office with a list of permitted students or the student may submit a permission of instructor form. At that time, a waiver will be entered on your ABRA record and the Records Office will notify you that you are able to register for the class. You are responsible for bidding zero points on the class, effectively registering yourself.

*Should I bid for the spring section of a Year-long course?*

No. For yearlong classes, **please ONLY bid for the FALL portion of the class.** One week prior to the end of the add/drop period, the Records Office will register students for the spring portion of a year long class if they are enrolled in the **FALL** portion of the class.

*Can I bid for the LLM only sections of a class?*

No. A few seats in both fall and spring have been set aside for LL.M. students. Other students are NOT eligible to bid on these sections. For example you cannot bid on the section of Corporations:

Course	LAW-LW.10644.00X	<a href="#">Corporations (For Corporation LL.M. Students)</a>
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*Can I bid the same amount of points on multiple classes?*

Generally no, you cannot allocate the same number of bid points to more than one set of primary and alternate bids. You cannot bid the same amount even in different semesters. For example, you cannot bid 10 points on two primary class selections, regardless of semester. **The only bid amount that can be repeated for multiple primary bids is ZERO.**

### *How do I access my results?*

To access your results on the ABRA home page click on the "Bidding Results" link. You will see green and red shading. **Green shading indicates** the courses you have **won** and **red shading indicates** the courses that you did not win. Bids from a bidding round cannot be carried over to add/drop periods. Your add/drop bids would be carried over to the next add/drop period.

### *During a Bidding Cycle, I won a course but I lost the Pre/Co requisite. What will happen to my registration?*

If you won a class that requires a co or pre-requisite and you are not signed up for the same, you will have until August 20 at 9:30 am (Transfer add/drop cycle #2) to correct the problem. Students who have not remedied the problem will be dropped from the course without notice on August 20.

### *What does the lost bids information contained on my ABRA results page mean?*

When a student does not win a bid they may see the following notation "Lost one of X". This means that "X" primary bids also lost this class. This number does not include the number of alternate bids that did not win the class.

### *During the add/drop cycles can I conditional Add/Drop classes?*

Yes, you may conditionally add/drop classes within the same semester.

### *During the add/drop cycles can I bid on another section of a class that I won during a Bidding cycle?*

If you are registered for a class, you cannot bid on another section of the same class (**regardless of semester**) until you drop the class from your current schedule **or unless you conditionally drop** the section. For example, if you are registered for Evidence in the fall you cannot bid on Evidence in the spring until you drop or conditionally drop your fall Evidence class.

### **WHEN TO USE "ABRA" AND "ALBERT":**

Keep in mind that you use **ABRA** (<https://abra.law.nyu.edu/abra>) for:

- Registration (for law classes and Stern preferential classes)
- Checking your law school schedule

Keep in mind that you use **Albert** (via [www.home.NYU.edu](http://www.home.NYU.edu)) for:

- entering your emergency contact information
- credit/fail selection (which begins **AFTER** add/drop ends)
- checking your non-law class schedule (not cross listed classes – classes that start with letter other than LAW-LW).
- applying for graduation