

College Add Drop Policy

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As I'm staring down a reading assignment for a class that will not be named, I can't help but ask, how did I get here? How did I find myself stuck in a class that I find myself dreading the very thought of? The first week was fine. We went over the syllabus and some key terms. Drop/Add came and went, so I felt like I was in the clear. By the time I realized I wasn't enjoying the class, it was already too late.

For the Spring Semester of 2021, PSC's Drop/Add was on January 14th. Classes started on January 8th, which is a Friday. Assuming you have a class that meets two days a week, Monday through Thursday, you will have two class periods to decide if you want to drop. How is this enough time? In the classes I have attended, the first class is dedicated to the syllabus and maybe some light discussion about the textbook. The second class is usually more structured, but it could be another syllabus or discussion day, depending on the teacher. At this point, there's nothing to base your opinion on. Even if you drop a class in time, that leaves a tiny window to pick another class. Depending on what semester a student is in and their major, they may need a specific type of class to complete their course requirements. With such a fast turnaround, it may be hard to find a suitable replacement in time.

There needs to be a deadline for students to make their class decisions. The issue is having to make such an important decision with very little time to execute it. My first week of classes was fine. It wasn't until later I realized the class I was in was not conducive to my learning. An extra week can make all the difference for students and their education.