Have you ever wondered, "How does my advisor know that the Physics for Non-Majors is a 4 credit-hour course?" or "How do I know what is a junior or senior level course?" Well, by following the simple steps below you can know all of this and more!

There are three pieces of information needed to read course numbers: the course prefix, the first digit in the course number, and the last digit in the course number. Course numbers look like this: HIST 1483. How do I know what type and level of course this is and how many hours it is worth?

First, the course prefix, HIST, indicates that this is a history course. Each department has unique prefixes for their courses. CHEM is Chemistry, PSC is Political Science, PSY is Psychology, etc. An in-depth knowledge of course prefixes is not necessary to finding courses as Ozone lists the departmental names. ClassNav uses course prefixes, but for the most part, these are pretty intuitive.

Second, the first digit in the actual course number, 1483, reveals that it is a freshman level course since it is a 1. Generally, the level of the course can be discerned using the following key: 1000=freshman, 2000=sophomore, 3000=junior, 4000=senior, 5000-6000=graduate. Also, 1000 and 2000 level courses are often referred to as "lower-division" courses, and 3000 and 4000 level courses are referred to as "upper-division."

Finally, the last digit in the actual course number, 1483, indicates that this course is worth 3 credit hours. The last digit indicating the number of hours a course it worth generally holds true. However, courses that end in a 0 may be variable credit courses that can be taken for 0 or more credit hours.

That is it! That is literally all you need to know to read course numbers!
Yes and also no! This is not some kind of academic exercise designed to get you thinking beyond the simple answer to the question at hand.

During an advising session at University College, yes, the advisor that you are speaking to is your advisor, but you have not been specifically assigned to them.

Students can request specific advisors or see any available advisor during their advising appointment. Just because you saw one advisor during the Summer Enrollment Program, does not mean that you have to keep seeing him or her; you can see someone else if you want.

Many students find that they want to continue seeing the same advisor. This is fine too! Instead of selecting "any counselor" when making an appointment, you can select a specific advisor if he or she is available.

The Student Learning Center continues to serve students in the summer. We have study space, a printing kiosk, textbooks, and other resources (Wagner Hall 245, Mon-Fri 8am-5pm). UC Action tutoring is also offering limited courses by appointment or as drop-in sessions. These include Introductory Zoology, Human Physiology, General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry, Math for Critical Thinking, College Algebra, and Pre-Calculus. See more information at http://uc.ou.edu/action. You can even improve your study skills this summer by meeting one-on-one with a Study Consultant (book at http://tutor.ou.edu or come by our office to inquire) or doing self-assessments (http://studentsuccess.ou.edu).

We’re also accepting applications for Peer Learning Assistants and Office Assistants for the fall semester. Search for the “UC Learning Center” at http://jobs.ou.edu for more information and to apply.

Tips from UC Advisors for Success at OU

- Treat your class commitment and any accompanying schoolwork like a full-time job that takes 40 hours per week.
- Go to class.
- Talk to your professors, either in person after class or during their office hours, especially right before and right after exams.
- Start going to tutoring as soon as it’s available and make it part of your weekly routine.
- Work hard! Education is the one thing that can never be taken from you!
- Come prepared to start the first week of school with a study schedule reflecting 2 hours of study for every hour of class.
- It does not matter how long it takes you to graduate, as long as you complete the task.