How to Use the Catalog

Browsing
Each department's page will show a listing of their currently offered undergraduate programs, along with course requirements and elective options. Some important features are listed below:

Tab Buttons
Each page contains a row of red or grey buttons just below the page title to let you jump quickly between different sections of the page. The button in red shows which tab you're reading.

Back to Top Button
As you scroll down a page, you will see a red arrow button appear, pointing upwards. You can click it to go back to the top of the page.

Pop-Up Course Descriptions
Wherever you see a course number (e.g. 76-101) displayed as a link, you can click on it to bring up the course's description, number of units, the semester(s) in which it is offered, and any prerequisites. Please remember that these descriptions are accurate as of the publication of the Catalog; details for some courses, especially “special topics” courses, may change from semester to semester. You can also check the Course Schedule tab in Student Information Online (https://s3.as.cmu.edu/sio/#schedule-home) for current descriptions and prerequisites.

“In this Section” Links
The tan box near the top-left corner of every page, labeled “In this section,” provides quick links to major subsections of a page. Once one of these links is clicked, you will also see “Back to Top” links at the beginning of each subsection which will take you back to the top of a page.

Course Description Pages
Each department section will have a tab containing course descriptions, etc. for each course offered by the department. As with the pop-up course descriptions, these are accurate as of the date of publication. Note: College interdisciplinary courses can be found by going to the college's main page and clicking on the Course Descriptions link.

You can also view the overall Course Descriptions (http://coursecatalog.web.cmu.edu/coursedescriptions) page, which has links to all department-level course descriptions pages.

Faculty Listing
Each department page contains a tab with a list of its current faculty, showing for each faculty member the following: official title, degree, alma mater, and the year he or she started at Carnegie Mellon University. This list will be the next-to-last tab on each page.

Breadcrumb Navigation Links
Near the top of each page, just under the banner graphic, you will see navigation links which go back up through the levels of the catalog page hierarchy. For example, from the catalog main page, you can choose “Mellon College of Science” to go to the college main page, then choose “Department of Biological Sciences” to go to that department). These are listed in alphabetical order according to the name of the page.

Finding Course Descriptions
There are several ways to find course descriptions in the online Undergraduate Catalog:

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Search Box
If you know the number for a course (e.g. 21-111) and want to see its description, you can type the number (hyphen included) into the Search Box at the top-right of each page. Pressing “Go” will bring up a Search Results page that includes the following:

- The full course description, including number of units, the semester(s) in which it is offered, and any prerequisites.
- A link to the page of the department which offers the course. The department entry will also include a link to the full Course Descriptions listing for that department.
Finding Prior-Year Catalogs

The “Previous Catalogs (http://coursecatalog.web.cmu.edu/previous)” link in the grey bar near the top of each page will take you to a page containing links to several Undergraduate Catalogs from years past (from 2004 to the present). All of these can be downloaded as PDFs for viewing or printing.

Catalogs from 2010 and later can be viewed as archived webpages, with all search functionality intact. You will see a note at the top of each page to note that you are viewing an archived catalog, along with a link to the current catalog.