

Job Aid

Combining Sections

You can combine sections, when you need to offer two or more separate classes as one class offering (one instructor, one room location, one meeting pattern). Combining sections has four distinct parts:

- Part A: Adding classes to the Class Schedule
- Part B: Creating Combined Sections
- Part C: Linking Classes to a Combined Section ID
- Part D: Updating the Meeting Patterns

These instructions will guide you with steps to create combined sections. For your convenience, the last section of this document contains the frequently asked questions (FAQs).

Note:

Until further testing has occurred, it is not recommended that you roll or copy combined sections from a prior term. The section level and the section's combined level control the enrollment and wait list.

Part A: Adding classes to the Class Schedule

Before you can combine a class, it must exist in the class schedule. You can accomplish this using one of two methods: Option A or B:

Option A

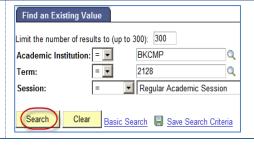
- Create the class and all its components.
- Assign the facility ID, day, time and instructor or as much meeting pattern information you have on hand to one course subject only.
- Example: You want to combine the ANTH 300 lecture and lab component with the SOC 300 lecture and lab component. You would assign meeting pattern to ANTH 300 lecture and lab; but, you would leave the meeting pattern for SOC 300 lecture and lab blank. Don't worry, the meeting pattern will propagate to the other courses, after you combined them.

Option B

- Create the class and all its components.
- Do not assign facility ID, day, time or instructor (leave meeting pattern and instructor blank).
- After you combine classes, you must perform updates to meeting pattern and instructor information through Schedule Class Meetings meetings tab. You need only update one subject, but each component if more than one. The system propagates the meeting information to the other combined courses.

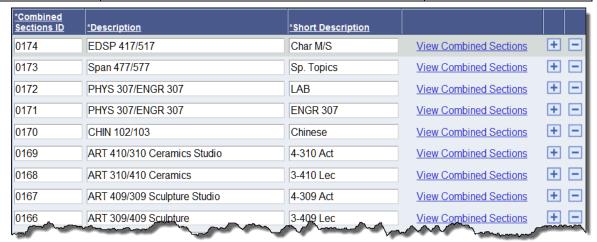
Part B: Creating Combined Sections

- 1. Navigation: Curriculum Management > Combined Sections > Combined Sections Table
- 2. On the Find an Existing Value tab,
 - In the Academic Institution, enter BKCMP
 - In the **Term**, enter a term, such as 2128 or use the \(\bigcirc\).
 - In the **Session**, select *Regular Academic Session* from the drop down box.
 - Click the Search button

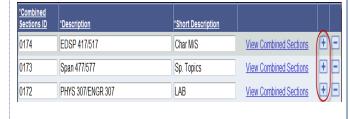


3. The **Combined Sections Table** appears displaying a list of combined sections. The table has four columns:

Column Name	Explanation	Example	
Combined Sections Id	A system generated number that uniquely identifies each combined section record. DO NOT CHANGE THIS NUMBER.	0169	
Description	Your description should have descriptive value for the person, who assigns the IDs to the classes. It cannot exceed 30 characters. Student can see this description on printed class schedules. ART 410/310 Cerar		
Short Description	Your short description should have descriptive value for the person, who assigns the IDs to the classes. It cannot exceed 10 characters.	4-310 Act	
View Combined Sections	Hyperlink to the Identify Combined Sections page	View Combined Sections	
+	Add row	+	
=	Remove row (Please do not remove any existing courses or rows)		



4. When combining sections, you must add a row for each section. For example if you were combining classes that have a lecture and an activity, then you would add a row for the lecture and another row for the activity. To add a row,



Click the button

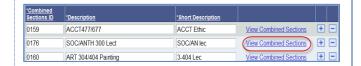
- 5. On the new row,
 - In the Combined Sections Id, leave the default information
 - In the **Description**, enter a description, such as SOC/ANTH 300 Lect.
 - In the Short Description, enter a short description, such as SOC/AN lec.
 - Click the Save button



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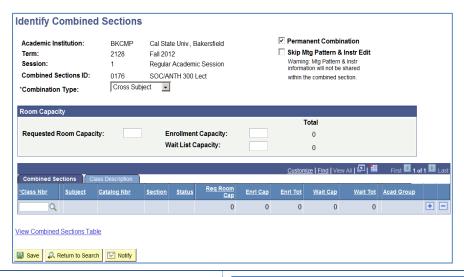


 Click the <u>View Combined Sections</u> link for your newly added row.



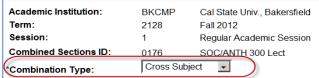
Part C: Linking Classes to a Combined Section ID

1. The **Identify Combined Sections** page appears. This page allows you to view or modify classes that are linked to a specific combined section ID.



2. In **Combination Type**, select the combination type, such as *Within Subject*.

You can select Cross Subject, Within Subject, or both.



3. In **Permanent combination**, either check or uncheck the box.

A check commands the system to roll the combination when you perform the prior term copy process.

If you clear this check box, the system assumes that the combination is a temporary arrangement for the current term.



4. In the **Skip Meeting pattern**, leave unchecked.

Only select this check box to combine sections with different meeting patterns and instructor information. In this case, you enter the meeting pattern and instructor information into the Schedule of Classes directly. The updated data will not propagate across the sections. The system considers instructor workload for each of the sections and does not combine hours. If necessary, you can adjust the instructor workload hours on the Meetings page.





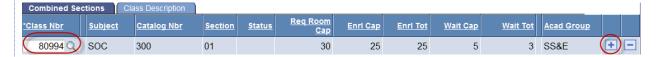
- 5. For the **Room Capacity** section,
 - In the Requested Room Capacity section, leave blank (This option is not used currently)
 - In the **Enrollment Capacity, e**nter the enrollment capacity for the combined section, such as *120*.

In the **Wait List Capacity** - enter the wait list capacity for the combined section, such as 20.

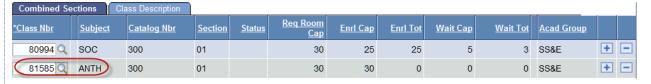
(The system will update the enrollment capacity and wait list capacity totals as enrollments are processed.)



- 6. On the **Combined Sections** tab,
 - In the **Class Nbr**, enter the class number of the first section to combine, such as 80994 or use the \(\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{conto}}}}}} \) icon to search for it.
 - Click the button to add a row



- 7. On the new row,
 - In the **Class Nbr**, enter the class number of the second section to combine, such as *81585* or use the Q icon to search for it.
 - Click the save button



An error will occur, if the instructor, meeting pattern, session begin date and session end date, or weeks of instruction do not match identically.



8.



If your class has another component, such as a lab, activity, etc., please <u>repeat</u>

Parts A-C for the other component. Otherwise, skip to the Part D: Updating your

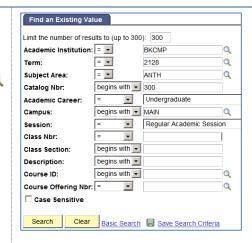
Meeting Patterns.

Part D: Updating your Meeting Patterns

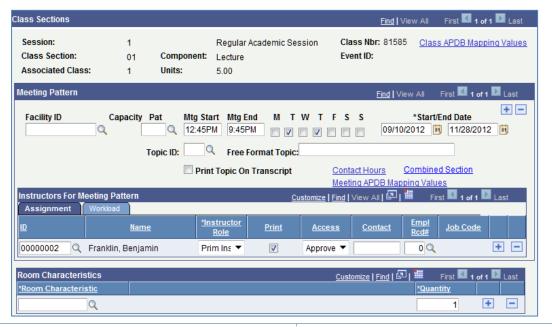
After you combine classes, you must perform updates to meeting pattern and instructor information through the **Schedule Class Meetings - Meetings** tab. You will have to use this method because the facility/meeting pattern and instructor information is unavailable for entry for combined sections from within the **Maintain Schedule of Classes**.

- 1. Navigation: Curriculum Management > Schedule of Classes > Schedule Class Meeting > Meetings tab
- 2. On the **Find an Existing Value** tab, you will search for one of the combined sections, such as *ANTH 300*:
 - In the Academic Institution, enter BKCMP
 - In the Term, enter a term, such as 2128 or use the
 - In the Subject Area, enter the subject for one of the combined sections, such as ANTH
 - In the Catalog Nbr, enter the catalog number, such as 300
 - Click the Search buttor

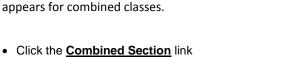
If you get search results, click the desired course from the Search Results.



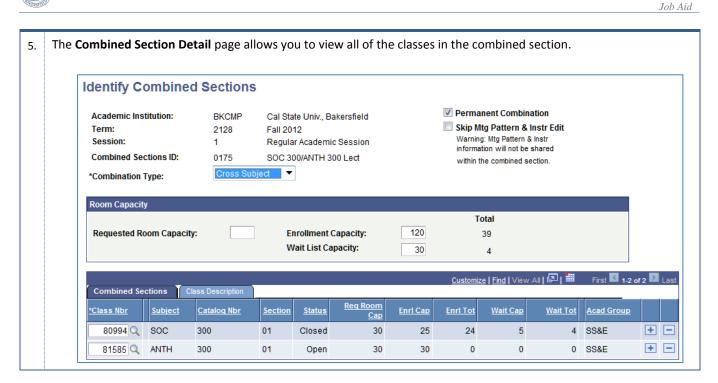
8. On the **Meetings** tab, you can make your desired changes for meeting pattern, instructors, etc.



On the Meetings tab, you will see a new link, <u>Combined</u>
 <u>Section</u> in the Meeting Pattern section. This link only
 appears for combined classes.







Note:

When you remove a class from a combined section, the system deletes all meeting patterns and instructor data from the removed section.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)		
#	Question	Answer
1.	Can I combine a class after enrollments exist?	You can combine if enrollments do not exist in one of the classes. For instance, you can combine FIN 460 that has 5 students enrolled with ECON 460 that has no students enrolled. Before combining classes, first remove (use minus) the facility ID, days, times and instructor from the class without enrollment.
2.	Why did I get this warning? Microsoft Internet Explorer Warning Meeting pattern for all class sections in Sections Combined ID: 0015 will be deleted. (14620,70) Canceling a section that is part of a combined sections group will cause all meetings for all sections to be deleted from the database, and the meeting patterns will be removed from all sections. To avoid this, the section to be cancelled must be manually removed from the combined sections group prior to its cancellation.	If you attempt to cancel a combined section of a course prior to removing it from view combined sections or identified combined sections, you will receive a warning. Once classes have been combined, leave both as active do not cancel only one portion/component of a combined class.
3.	Why is the meeting pattern grayed out and preventing me from making any changes, when I go through Maintain Schedule of Classes to update the facility ID assignment or the meeting pattern?	After you combine classes, you must perform any class meeting updates through the Schedule Class Meetings menu, Meetings tab.
4.	Why is PeopleSoft not allowing me to combine my classes?	PeopleSoft will only combine sections that have the same Event ID. If you individually assigned a Facility ID or meeting pattern to each class number, PeopleSoft will assign each course a different Event ID, which will prevent you from combining the classes. To avoid this from happening, do not assign the Facility ID or meeting pattern to each class number.