Individuals who wish to enroll in a credit course, have at least a baccalaureate degree, and are not currently in a degree program at UW–Madison are eligible for admission as a University Special student in the professional or personal enrichment classification (UNDS). This may include:

- teachers, social workers, and others seeking enrollment for professional development
- graduate students from other U.S. colleges and universities
- individuals seeking personal enrichment
- individuals wishing to explore an interest for further study
- students graduating and who wish to enroll in a course in the next term

Note, grades earned as a University Special student will not change a previous cumulative undergraduate or graduate degree GPA earned at UW–Madison, including if a course is repeated.