Overview
Renni: Welcome to CNS Orientation Video 2. In this video we will go over CNS degree requirements.

Basic Requirements
Allicyn: Each degree includes Core, Flags, Entry Level and electives if needed. First, let’s talk about core classes.

Core
Allicyn: The core curriculum includes general education courses that all UT students must complete in order to graduate. It’s going to be made up of classes like Government, Visual and Performing Arts, as well as a first-year signature course.

Renni: Common core classes that CNS students take can be found in the linked document “CNS Core Recommendations”

If you have completed your core classes at your previous college or university, you may be considered "core complete." Students who come in core complete are not required to take a signature course, which is a core class specific to UT. Make sure to talk with your advisor about this if you think you may be core complete.

Core FAQ
Allicyn: You will also see that the core requires math and science courses, but as a CNS Student, you will not need to take additional math and science courses outside of your degree to satisfy these core requirements.

Flags
Renni: Next we are going to talk about flags. Flags are unique to UT and are an opportunity to gain specific skills that are built into your classes. There are 7 flags that you will need to fulfill in order to graduate. They include things like quantitative reasoning and global cultures. You won’t have to take a class called Global Cultures, rather you will take a course that includes global cultures as part of its curriculum.

Flags may be fulfilled by courses you already plan to take for your degree or core requirements. They cannot be fulfilled by claiming or transferring credit.

This is what flags will look like on the course schedule. They will be designated by a yellow box with a two-letter abbreviation for which flag it represents. If you are not sure what the abbreviation stands for, you can hover over it and it will tell you which flag it is. Courses can carry up to three flags. However, there are two culture flags and only one can count per course.

Entry-Level
Allicyn: Now that we have an understanding about the core and flags, let’s talk a little bit about what it means to be entry-level student.

Within the College of Natural Sciences, each major has required intro level courses that you will need to complete before you can officially declare your major and start on upper-division coursework.

Until you have completed those intro courses you will be considered entry level. Once you have completed your entry-level requirements you will be transitioned to your department advising center.

Electives
Allicyn: Whether or not you need electives does depend on your individual plan and goals. There is no set number of electives you will need, but you can work electives into your degree plan based on your interests. That’s what this time is for! When you review our CNS documents, you’ll notice that we don’t have a list of electives for you to choose from since they are any classes outside of your degree requirements.

Balanced Schedule
Renni: Our goal for Fall is to create what is called a ‘balanced schedule’, that will include 2-3 Science or Math courses, 1-2 core, flag or elective classes, depending on your academic goals. You should review the linked document “CNS Sample Schedules” to see what a possible schedule might look like for you in the fall.

Overview
Allicyn: Thank you for watching Video 2. This has been an overview of CNS Degree Requirements. Next, please watch Video 3 titled Registration 101.