Understanding Minimum/Maximum Semester Hour Restrictions

Overview

Per the University Undergraduate Catalog: A normal enrollment for undergraduates is defined as 15 semester hours per semester. To enroll for more than 18 semester hours in a semester, a student must have the written permission of the academic advisor and the chairperson of the student’s major department. Twelve semester hours is considered full-time for a fall or spring semester and nine semester hours for a summer semester. Students who withdraw are not considered enrolled in the course once the withdrawal has been processed, and enrollment status will be adjusted as of that time.

Only the Office of the Registrar may perform an override to the minimum/maximum hours restrictions.

Students needing a minimum/maximum hours override should contact their advisor to complete the Registration Drop/Add Form with the Credit Hour Waiver portion filled out, then submit it to the Office of the Registrar.

Minimum/Maximum hours restrictions

Undergraduate, degree-seeking students*:

- Maximum hours = 18 hours
- Academic probation and Reinstated After Suspension (1st semester): Maximum = 14 hours

Graduate, degree-seeking students* (Master’s, Specialist, and Doctorate):

- Maximum = 12 hours

Student-athletes (does not apply for summer):

- Undergraduate level:
  - Minimum = 12 hours
  - Maximum = 18 hours
- Master’s Level:
  - Minimum = 9 hours
  - Maximum = 12 hours

International students (does not apply for summer); students with F-1 or J-1 visa:

- Undergraduate level:
  - Minimum = 12 hours
  - J-1 visas maximum = 15 hours
  - F-1 visas maximum = 18 hours
- Graduate level (M, S, and D):
  - Minimum = 9 hours
  - J-1 and F-1 visas maximum = 12 hours

Non-degree seeking students:

- Undergraduate level:
  - Maximum = 18 hours
- Graduate level (M, S, D):
  - Maximum = 12 hours

*No students may withdraw/drop their last course online. They must contact the Withdrawal Coordinator in the Office of the Registrar. See also: D dropping Courses and Withdrawing After Drop/Add.

Related articles
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