

## Academic Load Policy

Date Issued: Fall 2014  
Issued By: Registrar's Office  
Contact: Registrar's Office, 814-393-2229

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### Purpose:

This policy is to describe the number of credits that full-time students should enroll in for each semester.

### Policy:

*Undergraduate students:* A full-time undergraduate student is one who is taking 12 or more credits. An undergraduate student having fewer than 12 credits is considered a part-time student. Only registered coursework in a given term is counted towards a student's full or part time status for that term. The work that a student may need to complete for an incomplete class from a previous term will not count towards a student's full or part time status for the current term.

In order to graduate within four years with a bachelor's degree, a student must average 30 credits a year or 15 credits in a semester. If a degree requires more than 120 credits, students must still satisfy all requirements for their degree program. Circumstances and abilities vary among students so each student should discuss credit load with their academic advisor. As a guideline, freshmen and students on academic probation are advised to take no more than 15 credits during their first semester.

*Graduate students:* A full-time graduate student is one who is taking 9 or more credits. A graduate student taking less than 9 credits is considered a part-time student. The typical load for graduate students is 9 to 12 credits during the Fall and Spring semesters.