Course Load and Credit

Students normally register for four course credits per semester, but since there are exceptions, students may arrange their programs with some flexibility. With consent of their advisors, students may enroll or pre-enroll for five credits in a given semester, or more than five credits with the approval of their dean. Students may also register for as few as two credits, provided they are making normal progress toward completion of the 32 course credits in four years required for graduation. Students can meet the latter condition either by having accumulated extra credits or by evidencing, to the Committee on Student Standing and Programs, an ability to make up a deficit in the future.

If a student wishes to carry fewer than four credits in a semester and does not have sufficient extra credits by the end of that semester to be on schedule for the four-year graduation limit, he or she must seek approval of his or her dean, who acts for the committee in such matters. A student dissatisfied with the dean’s decision may have the case reviewed by the full committee. Students permitted a credit overload or an underload during any given semester must pay full tuition, regardless of the number of credits they take.

Students are expected to achieve the following number of course credits in order to make satisfactory progress toward the degree and advance to the next grade level:

- end of first year: 8.0 course credits;
- end of sophomore year: 16.0 course credits;
- end of junior year: 24.0 course credits, full senior standing;
- end of senior year: 32.0 course credits and fulfillment of all other requirements for the degree.

Should a student fail to achieve any of the above, he/she will not be advanced to the next grade level but will, instead be referred to the Committee on Student Standing and Programs, for action regarding the student’s continuing status at the College.