Please visit the central site to find the details about 2022-23 Graduate Calendars and Academic Schedules

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Academic Policies & Standards

Academic Year

The academic year is divided into two semesters (the spring and summer) that span approximately seven weeks each (7 weeks) and a winter session that spans approximately four weeks (4 weeks). The courses are taught in each session are the same and have the same academic requirements. Students may choose to take courses in any session of the year and may participate in any session they wish.

Course Administration

GPO reserves the right to cancel any course for which there are insufficient registrations to be viable, but we do not like to do this. Students are encouraged to register early to avoid disappointment. Students are responsible for ensuring that they have completed the necessary course prerequisites to be accepted into any course they wish to take.

Class Periods/Credits

Please note that one credit equals one hour. Three hours of work per week are, on average, required to earn one semester credit hour. [Graduate class credit hour](#) includes all of the following components:

1. Time spent in class or in direct faculty instruction, and
2. Time spent in out-of-class student work, such as reading, writing, preparation for tests, and homework, and
3. Time spent in scholarship, internships, practica, study and work, or other academic work, regardless of delivery mode, as determined by the institution to be equivalent to the above.

A two-credit graduate course is expected to require approximately 6 hours of work per week, on average, over the course of the term. A three-credit graduate course is expected to require approximately 9 hours of work per week, on average, over the course of the term, and so on. Some courses may require more than 9 hours of work per week, on average, over the course of the term. Students should refer to the course syllabus for the specific requirements for each course.

Full-time Student Status

Graduate

GPO's graduate academic standards regulations for "Credits or hours per semester or session or term for full-time graduate students, 9 credits per semester or equivalent, normally averaged over the academic year" are as follows:

Undergraduate

GPO's undergraduate academic regulations "12 credits or hours per semester or session or term for full-time students, 6–12 credits per semester or equivalent, normally averaged over the academic year" are as follows: [12 credits per semester is generally considered to be full-time study for undergraduate students. Students who wish to study more than 12 credits per semester will normally be required to pay additional tuition fees for each credit hour exceeding 12 credits.](#)

Credit Hour Levels in Excess of 20

Students who wish to register for more than 20 credits in a semester must have approval from the dean of the appropriate school and/or campus.

Year Classifications & Credit Hours

Freshman (0-30 credit hours)
Sophomore (30-59 credit hours)
Junior (60-89 credit hours)
Senior (90+ hours credit hours)

Grading Policies

Academic performance is measured by a letter grade sequence denoted by the letters and assessment and scale. Graduate evaluation of experience, on their courses and course instructors, and from exam time and assessments. Assessment decisions are made by the instructor of the course. Grades are awarded for the quality of work completed by students in their courses. Grades are awarded for the quality of work completed by students in their courses. [Grades are awarded for the quality of work completed by students in their courses.](#) Grades are awarded for the quality of work completed by students in their courses. Grades are awarded for the quality of work completed by students in their courses. Grades are awarded for the quality of work completed by students in their courses.