

# Minimum Registration Requirement

*To retain active status and to qualify for subsequent registration, graduate students must register for and receive acceptable grades in at least six credit hours each academic year. (D, E, W, NS, and I grades do not count towards the minimum registration requirement, nor do audit or independent study courses.)*

- All students are required to register for and receive acceptable grades for at least 6 credit hours over the course of the full academic year (fall, winter, spring, and summer).
- Students are required to register for and receive acceptable grades in at least 2 credit hours per semester and 2 credit hours over the course of the spring and summer terms during any period in which they are using university facilities (including faculty time) **or in which they will defend and graduate.**
- Students who apply for graduation in August and are unable to defend until Fall will need to meet the six-hour requirement for the previous academic year as well as the two hours required to defend and graduate in the fall

**Students who do not fulfill the minimum registration requirements are dropped from their graduate programs; they lose their graduate status and must apply for readmission if they decide to complete their graduate degree.**

In January, Graduate Studies sends a report to each department listing students who have not met the yearly minimum registration requirement after Winter Semester registration. Students on this list must register for the additional credits needed before the end of Summer Term in order to avoid being dropped from their program. Each year in July a report is sent to every graduate department notifying them of students who have been dropped for failure to meet the minimum registration requirement.

Departments have ten days to notify Graduate Studies of any errors before students are notified by email of minimum registration problems. Once a student is dropped, he or she loses graduate student status.

Graduate students from the United States and international students who are permanent U.S. residents are required to register for at least 2.0 credit hours during any semester or term in which they use any university facilities, consult with faculty, or take

comprehensive oral or written examinations. The number of graduate credit hours for which they register must, in the judgment of the faculty advisor, accurately reflect the student's involvement in graduate study and use of university resources such as libraries, laboratories, and computer facilities. In no case will the registration be for fewer than 2.0 credit hours per semester. International students must register for at least 9.0 credit hours in both Fall and Winter Semesters to fulfill U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) requirements. Questions should be directed to International Services.