

International Student (F-1 visa) Registration Reminders

Full Course of Study

F-1 students must take a full course of study in the Fall and Spring semesters. The summer is usually a break unless you begin your program in the summer. The following are the required number of credits to satisfy the full course load requirement:

	Fall & Spring	Summer
Undergraduate	12 credits	12 credits
Master	9 credits	6 credits

Mini term classes do **not** count toward this total

Winter term classes do **not** count towards Spring

Terms:

- Undergraduate students must be registered in full semester classes (meet August to December).
- Graduate students must be registered in at least one full semester class and the rest can be a combination (excluding mini terms and winter terms).

Reduced Course Load Exceptions (talk with a DSO for details):

1. **Final Semester:** In your *final* semester you only have to take the classes that you need to graduate. You must apply to graduate and be on the graduation list to request this benefit.
2. **One-time Exception:** There is an exception that can be granted for advising error, or initial difficulty with: English, American teaching methods, or reading requirements. This requires approval, is not guaranteed, and can only be granted once per academic level.
3. **Medical Reasons:** If ordered by a doctor, a student can get up to 12 months of partial or full reduced course load due to a medical condition. You must meet certain criteria and apply before reducing your course load.
4. Students may study **concurrently** at other universities while they study at DBU but there are restrictions. You will need to visit a DSO to learn more about this process.

Online Classes*

Federal law restricts the number of online classes F-1 students can take. Only 1 online class or up to 3 credits can be counted towards a full course load. The remaining classes **must** be on-campus.

Please Note:

- **CP and IS** courses– are considered an online class
- **Hybrid** – considered an on-campus class. **IMPORTANT:** you may **not** make arrangements with your professors to do all course work online. You must come to campus for the campus components of the class.
- **Last Semester** – If you only have one class remaining, it must be an on-campus class.

IMPORTANT: Ask your advisor about those concentrations and programs that are heavy with online requirements and spread out the required online classes.

*If you take more than the minimum credits, you can take additional online classes.

*Break terms are a great time to take extra online classes (example: Winter, Summer breaks).