

ENROLLMENT

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Enrollment is the selection of courses for a fall, spring, or summer schedule based on the student's Academic Progress Plan previously developed and continually reviewed with the academic adviser.

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

For purposes of enrollment and determining eligibility for certain student activities, a division of students by class is made by the Office of the Registrar at the end of each semester on the basis of the number of credits earned and according to the following schedule:

Credits Earned	Class
less than 28	Freshman
28 to 55	Sophomore
56 to 87	Junior
88 and above	Senior

Students who have matriculated at Michigan State University and have achieved junior standing (56 semester credits) may not earn credits from two-year institutions.

Students who have matriculated at Michigan State University and have not yet achieved junior standing (56 semester credits) may earn credits from two-year institutions, up to the 56-semester credit limit.

REGISTRATION

Registration is the process of securing classes for which one has enrolled by payment of charges due. Completion of this process generates official University and class records for use by faculty and staff.

PERIOD COVERED BY REGISTRATION

Refer to the statement on *Period Covered by Registration* in *The Academic Program* section of this catalog.

SEMESTER CREDIT LOAD

All undergraduate programs of study require a minimum of 120 credits. Most programs are designed so that a student starting a program as a freshman may finish it in 8 semesters by satisfactorily completing an average of 15 credits a semester. In practice, students usually carry from 12 to 18 credits a semester depending on personal circumstances and the chosen program of study. Students with less than a 2.50 grade-point average (GPA) the preceding semester should not enroll for more than 15 or 16 credits except when required by the specific program. Only under unusual circumstances will a student be permitted to carry more than 20 credits.

A student with less than satisfactory academic performance may be required to take a reduced credit load as a condition of continued registration in the University.

Full Time Students

Students must carry at least 12 credits a semester in order to:

1. Participate in intercollegiate athletics.
2. Qualify for the Dean's List for the semester.
3. Qualify for most scholarships, awards, and financial aids. Most of these are limited to undergraduate students carrying at least 12 credits a semester excluding credits for any course carried as a visitor. Students should determine the specific requirements from the appropriate agency or contact the Office of Financial Aid.
4. Be certified in full-time status to loan agencies and other external entities.

Students participating in authorized forty hour/week internships or cooperative work programs are considered full time for all the purposes listed above.

SELECTING A MAJOR

Selection of a field of study as a major preference may be made at the time the application for admission is submitted. Any student entering the University with fewer than 56 credits may choose to enter without a major preference, *No-Preference*. A *No-Preference* student defers declaring a major preference or major until there has been an opportunity to sample courses from a variety of fields under special academic advising directed by a Student Affairs Office of the Undergraduate University Division. A major must be selected before junior standing (56 credits) is reached.

Certain academic programs which specify particular courses or sequences of courses during the first two years may require more than eight semesters for completion of the degree program.

CHANGING A MAJOR

FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES. Students (except James Madison, Lyman Briggs and Nursing students) with 55 or fewer credits initiate changes of major preference either in the office of the associate dean of the college major or in the appropriate Undergraduate University Division Student Affairs Office noted above.

JUNIORS AND SENIORS. A student wishing to change a major in one degree college to a major in another degree college (or within the same college) must initiate the change in the office of the associate dean of the college to which the student wishes to transfer.

The student must meet the requirements for graduation given in the catalog current at the time the change is effective. Twenty credits must be completed while enrolled in the major in the college in which the degree is to be earned.

SELECTING A MINOR

A minor is a secondary field of study at the undergraduate level, and is a coherent set of courses that provides students with an understanding of the central concepts of the field of inquiry. Minors are an introduction to the breadth and in-depth knowledge of a field of inquiry, and must carry the same name as the major associated with that field of inquiry. Minors are open to students who are not in majors in the field of study represented by the minor, and may be limited to students from particular majors or colleges. The minimum number of credits for a minor is fifteen, twelve of which must not be used to fulfill requirements for the student's major. A student wishing to declare a minor must initiate the request with the unit responsible for the administration of the minor.

SELECTING A SPECIALIZATION

A specialization is an interdisciplinary program of thematically related courses distinct from a student's major, designed to complement approved department or interdepartmental majors or to provide an interdisciplinary perspective on a topic of interest. Specializations are open to students from a wide variety of majors, but may be limited to students from particular majors or colleges. Specializations generally require between twelve and eighteen credits. At the undergraduate level, at least six credits counted toward the requirements of the specialization must not be used to fulfill requirements for the student's major. A student wishing to declare a specialization must initiate the request with the unit responsible for the administration of the specialization.

GUEST STATUS AT ANOTHER INSTITUTION

MSU students may attend other institutions as *Guest Students* or *Non-matriculated Students* for short periods, either during the regular academic year or in the summer, for the purpose of earning credit for transfer to Michigan State University.

Students planning to attend accredited Michigan institutions should use the Michigan Uniform Undergraduate Guest Application form available on the Web at www.reg.msu.edu. Students who wish to attend non-Michigan institutions should obtain application forms from the host institution. The completed form should be taken to the host school.

A student wishing to take courses at another institution should consult an academic adviser or the Transfer MSU course equivalency table on the Web at www.transfer.msu.edu to assure transferability.

A minimum of 2.0 must be earned in each course in order for the credit to be transferred to Michigan State University.

Michigan State University students beyond sophomore standing may not earn credit in two-year institutions for transfer to Michigan State.