



## **AOP 12.22: Undergraduate Student Course Load**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Academic Operating Policy and Procedure (AOP) is to establish the policy regarding student course load at Mississippi State University.

### **POLICY/PROCEDURE**

The following policies will apply:

1. Students in good academic standing can take a total of up to 19 credit hours per semester without special permission. Requests to take 20 or 21 credit hours total must be approved at the level of Advisor, Department, and Dean. Requests to take 22 or more credit hours total must be approved at the levels of Advisor, Department, Dean, and Provost.
2. A student in a five-week summer session may take one course in addition to the normal maximum load (two courses) if his or her cumulative MSU Grade Point Average is between 3.0 and 4.0 and if he or she secures approval at the levels of Advisor, Department, and Dean.
3. A student on academic probation (AOP 12.15 Academic Probation, Suspension and Dismissal for Undergraduate Students) is limited to an enrollment of 16 credit hours (including ensemble and academic support/developmental classes.)
4. An entering first-year student with low ACT scores or sub-scores is required to take appropriate developmental and/or learning skills courses and should schedule them within the first two semesters of enrollment, and should be limited by his or her academic advisor to an enrollment of 16 credit hours (including ensemble and academic support/developmental classes).
5. Any exceptions to points 1, 2, 3, and 4 above or special circumstances not covered by points 1, 2, 3, and 4 above requires approval at the levels of Advisor, Department, Dean, and Provost.

### **REVIEW**

This AOP will be reviewed every four years (or whenever circumstances require an earlier review) by the Executive Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School with recommendations for revision presented to the Provost and Executive Vice President.

**REVIEWED**

/s/ Peter Ryan  
Executive Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

1/25/2021  
Date

/s/ David Shaw  
Provost and Executive Vice President

1/25/2021  
Date

/s/ Rebecca Robichaux-Davis  
President, Robert Holland Faculty Senate

1/25/2021  
Date

/s/ Tracey N. Baham  
Director, Institutional Research and Effectiveness

1/25/2021  
Date

/s/ Joan Lucas  
General Counsel

1/25/2021  
Date

**APPROVED**

/s/ Mark Keenum  
President

1/25/2021  
Date