

Tulane University

Catalog Glossary

Academic year: The period consisting of fall and spring semesters.

Advanced placement: Exemption or credit awarded to beginning first-year students based on scores on the College Board Advanced Placement [AP] Tests.

Advanced standing: Exemption or credit awarded to beginning first-year students upon successful performance on proficiency examination.

Audit: To enroll in a course for no credit.

Capstone experience: A core curriculum requirement, designed by the student's school or major department; every senior completed the capstone by applying information, skills and ideas from the major to one significant project.

Code of Student Conduct: The regulations of behavior which prohibits unsatisfactory or disruptive conduct. Disciplinary action and sanction resides with the Office of Student Affairs.

Course load: The total number of semester hours for which a student is registered in one semester or summer term.

Credit: The quantitative measure of recognition given to a course stated in semester hours.

Cross-registration: Courses designated in other divisions of the university or at Loyola for which a student may register.

Cumulative or overall average: A student's grade point average based on the total number of quality points earned and total number of semester hours attempted.

Curriculum: A program of courses required for a degree in a particular field of study.

Departments: The academic units of the university within colleges or schools; administered by chairs or directors.

Drop/Add: A change in registration during the designated period of time in which a course and/or a section the time and day the course is offered may be changed.

Dual degrees – A program whereby a student may pursue concurrently two undergraduate degrees within the same school or in two schools of the university.

Early registration: A specified period of time during a semester when a student may pre-enroll in courses for the following semester.

Elective: Course chosen by the student, as opposed to a required course. The term “elective”, without a qualifier, will be understood to be a free elective, chosen by the student at his or her option from all the courses offered by the university for degree credit, with due regard for prerequisites and subject to restrictions of the school or college in which the student is enrolled.

Equivalent: When used in a course prerequisite [e.g., “Prereq: SOCI 101 or equivalent”], this term means either credit in a comparable course, or equivalency to be determined by individual department.

Good standing: The typical status of a student who is not on academic probation and is eligible to continue in or return to the university.

Grade-point average (GPA) – A measure of scholastic performance; the ration of quality points earned to semester hours attempted.

Honor Code: Procedures in dealing with academic assignments that are misrepresented by the student to be his/her work, or cooperation in such a misrepresentation.

Interdivisional transfer [IDT]: The procedure for transfer from one school or college within the university to another.

Joint-degree programs: A program whereby a student may pursue an undergraduate degree and a graduate degree

Leave of absence: An interruption in enrollment approved by the student's dean which permits re-enrollment without an application for readmission.

Major: The primary field of study; students will take the majority of their required courses in this area.

Matriculation: The state of being registered for credit and working toward a specific degree.

Minor: The student's field of secondary academic emphasis.

Over/Under load: Stated minimum and maximum course loads for which approval must be obtained from the students' dean.

Pre-professional program: A program of study in preparation for entry into a professional degree program at another institution or another division of the University.

Prerequisites: The preliminary requirement, usually credit in another course, that must be met before a course may be taken.

Privacy act: The privacy of students' records and affairs is protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as amended [P.L. 93-380], preventing the distribution of any information other than 'directory information' on a student.

Probation and dismissal: Failure to meet the minimum semester requirements toward graduation for the fall or spring semester will result in being placed on academic probation. Academic deficiencies not corrected in the subsequent semester or in the Tulane Summer School will be cause for dismissal from the University.

Proficiency examination: A test equivalent to a final examination in a college-level course in which a beginning student not formally enrolled may demonstrate competence.

Quality of work: The progress toward the baccalaureate degree measured by credits and quality points at the close of each semester.

Quality point: Numerical value assigned to each letter grade from A to F, when given as the final grade in a course; provides a basis for quantitative determination a grade point average.

Registration: The process by which a [duly admitted] student, upon payment of required tuition and fees, is enrolled in classes.

Residency requirement: The period of time students are required to be enrolled for a designated number of courses or credits.

ROTC: The Reserve Officers Training Corps program.

Schools: The academic units of the university that offer the university's academic programs, and are administered by deans,. The degree anticipated determines the student's choice of school or college.

Semester hour: The unit by which coursework is measured.

Student schedule: The courses in which a student is enrolled.

S/U option: Satisfactory or unsatisfactory is elected as an irrevocable option (following the announced deadline) for a course in which a letter grade and quality points are not awarded, thereby not affecting the GPA.

TIDES (Tulane InterDisciplinary Experience Seminar) – a core curriculum requirement for all first-year students

Transfer student: A student who terminates enrollment in another university and subsequently enrolls in Tulane University.

TOUR (Tulane University's On-line Registration) Online registration for courses.

Withdrawal: Extensive nonattendance to class(es) requires formal withdrawal from: course(s), section(s), or the college/school, with appropriate approvals including that of the dean.