

	ACADEMIC AFFAIRS POLICY		Page 1 of 2
	Issued: (original policy date) 5/9/2013		Revised: (date) 11/30/16

Policy Title: ***Student Load and Limitations***

Policy Status: ☐ New

☒ Revision

☒ Supersedes existing policy titled: Student Overload

☐ Deletion

Policy Purpose/Reason: To provide a system of oversight for students wishing to take more than the traditional load of courses.

Effective Date of Policy (Note: Enter a date here only if the effective date is not next July 1): January, 2017

Background: There have been instances of students taking 20+ semester hours in a single term. In most instances, at this level students have a low level of success and it is difficult to argue that adequate rigor is applied as defined by federal standards (2 hours of study for every hour in class).

The original Overload policy is found in the 1996 Policy Master.

Definitions: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Full Policy Statement: The normal student load is 15 semester hours (some disciplines require a higher number). The minimum load required for a student to be recognized as a full-time student is 12 semester hours. If students register for fewer than 12 semester hours, they are classified as part-time students. Students receiving scholarships and/or financial aid are generally expected to complete 12 credit hours of courses each semester. In order to receive full Veteran's Administration financial benefits, veterans must be enrolled in 12 or more semester hours each semester of attendance, for the entire semester. It is recommended that students in good academic standing limit their academic load to 18 semester hours or fewer. Students must obtain a signature from their advisor before attempting an overload between 19-21 semester hours in a regular semester or between 10-12 semester hours in a summer term. Students interested in taking more than 21 hours in a regular term or more than 12 in a summer term must submit, in writing, their plan for success during the overload and obtain signature approval from their faculty advisors. Students must then obtain second and third signature approvals from the Department Heads with oversight over their degree programs and the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Students earning a cumulative Colorado Mesa University grade point average of 2.00 or lower will be limited to 15 credit hours per semester.

Exclusions or Special Circumstances: Students accepted to the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) program may be excluded from the Student Overload policy limitations. This exclusion is appropriately derived based on the combination lecture/lab/field-based nature of the POST curriculum, combined with the program's demonstrated success employing a concentrated program delivery format. While not specifically identified in this policy revision, students in other similarly situated and approved programs may be considered for exclusion with VPAA and Faculty Senate approval.

Policy Summary for Catalog: No additional language will be added to the catalog. The "Exclusions or Special Circumstances" statement on the previous page will be added to the policy published on the Academic Affairs policy webpage that can be found at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/academic-affairs/policies.html>

Related Documents:

Policies: Click here to enter text.

Forms: Change of Schedule / Special Permission (Registrar's Office)

Other: Click here to enter text.

Approved by (signatures as applicable):

Faculty Senate Committee: [Signature] /date 12/13/16

Faculty Senate: [Signature] /date 12/13/16

Vice President for Academic Affairs: [Signature] 12.13.16

President [Signature] /date _____

Board of Trustees (if applicable) BOT approval /date _____

Expiration Date (if applicable): Click here to enter text.

1.17-18 2017