

BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

Policies and Procedures

AREA: Academic Affairs

NUMBER: Policy 2.09

SUBJECT: Academic Load

1. **Undergraduate**

The minimum semester hour load to be considered a full-time student at Blue Mountain College is twelve hours during either the fall or spring semester and six hours each term of the summer session. These numbers *exclude* any courses that a student may be auditing.

Eighteen semester hours is the maximum load for freshmen during regular semesters. Six semester hours is the normal maximum load allowed for any student taking courses during a BMC summer term. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least 3.00 in order to take loads in excess of 18 hours during either the fall and/or spring semester(s) and then only with the permission of the student's advisor and the Vice President for Academic Affairs. A 3.00 CGPA is also a minimum requirement for those students wishing to take loads in excess of six hours during a summer term—the above noted permissions are also required for students seeking to exceed this limit.

Under no circumstances will students be permitted to take in excess of 21 semester hours during a regular semester (including any courses that are being audited) or nine hours during either of the four-week summer terms (including any courses that are being audited).

2. **Graduate**

One must be enrolled for a minimum of 9 semester hours to be classified as a full-time graduate student during a regular semester. In summer school a graduate student who is enrolled for a minimum of 6 semester hours across a full summer session will be classified as a full-time student. International students (F-1) must maintain full-time enrollment pursuing their degree in compliance with Immigration and Naturalization regulations. [Cross Reference with Policy 2.16: Graduation Requirements.]

The maximum load for a graduate student is 15 semester hours of graduate credit per semester, including registration for a thesis (if there is a thesis option in the degree program). In summer school, the maximum load is 7 semester hours per summer term. Under no circumstances can a student earn more than 14 semester hours of graduate credit in the summer.

SOURCE: Board of Trustees: February 22, 2002; October 04, 2002; October 03, 2003; November 27, 2006.