



## Rules for Maintaining a Full-Time Course Load

Federal regulations require that students in F-1 and J-1 status be registered for a full-time course load each Fall and Spring semester until graduation. Failure to be registered as a full-time student is a violation of your non-immigrant status, will result in the loss of F-1 or J-1 benefits (including employment eligibility both on and off campus), and may subject you to federal immigration sanctions.

### What constitutes a full-time course load varies according to academic level:

Academic Level Minimum	Full Time Course Load
Exchange Students:	12 credits per semester
Undergraduates:	12 credits per semester

There are some very limited exceptions to the full course of study rule. These reasons include academic difficulty, medical condition, or completion of study, and there are strict criteria for each. All of these exceptions require documentation and must be approved, *in advance*, by the International Programs Office before dropping courses that reduce your schedule to less than full-time.