Semester Hour Requirements

The majority of degrees offered through the College of Arts & Sciences require 122 semester hours. There are only two exceptions to this rule: all Biology degrees (require 128 s.h.) and B.S. in Environmental Science (requires 123 s.h.). This number may need to be altered in a few instances:

Transfer Students

Beginning in Fall 2012, all students are required to have 50 hours at a senior (4-year) institution. (Prior to Fall 2012 this requirement was 60 hours.) The 4-year institution work may be from ASU or another 4-year institution. This means that students who transfer in more than 72 hours from a 2-year institution will need more than the minimum number of hours to graduate due to the 50 hour rule. For example:

80 hours earned at 2 yr school + 50 (4-year) = 130 hours required

Remember if the student transfers into ASU with 80 hours from another 4-year institution, this requirement is met.

All students must meet the overall residency requirement: at least 25% of the student’s degree must be completed in residence through ASU.

- 122 hour degrees = 30.5 hours required in residence
- 123 hour degrees = 30.75 hours required in residence
- 128 hour degree = 32 hours required in residence

BA Degree Seeking Students

BA Degree seeking students are allowed to complete no more than 46 s.h. in their major discipline above General Education requirements. Any additional hours will be added to the total number of hours required to complete their degree. So, what happens if a BA student has 52 hours, for example, in Anthropology?

The student would need to have enough other hours to reach 122 without counting the extra six hours—or 128 hours total (122 + 6 hrs to allow for the extra ANT courses). So, this could really affect a student who has exactly the 122 earned hours needed. One thing to remember is that any courses used to meet core/gen ed requirements don’t count toward the 46. So if the above student had taken ANT 1415 to meet core/gen ed requirements, we would say only 49 hours were used for the major. In that case the student would need 125 hours to graduate.

What constitutes full-time enrollment? An undergraduate student must take 12 semester hours during a regular semester in order to be classified as full-time.

While 12 hours is considered full-time, students should be aware that in order to reach 122 hours in 8 semesters (4 years of regular fall/spring attendance), they should average 15.25 hours per semester!