MEMO

Date: February 5, 2021

To: Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee

From: Student Equity Audit Working Group:

Crystal Eddins, Africana Studies (FAPSC Representative)

Mira Frisch, Music (FAPSC Representative)

Oscar Lansen, History (FAPSC Representative)

Susan McCarter, Social Work (Faculty Council Committee Representative)

Matt Parrow, Biological Sciences (CLAS Committee Representative)

Lisa Walker, Undergraduate Education (ex-officio)

Leslie Zenk, Academic Affairs

Re: UNC Charlotte Academic Policy: Baccalaureate Degree Progression

The Student Equity Audit Working Group, a working group of FAPSC, is charged with the examination of policies that could have differential effects on low income,

first generation students, and/or students of color. The effect of the pandemic makes this

assessment a pressing concern. With these considerations and clarity for students in mind, we propose the following changes to the Baccalaureate Degree Progression policy. Professors Eddins, Frisch and Lansen are available to discuss further rationale with FAPSC as needed prior to consideration by the FEC and Faculty Council.

# UNC CHARLOTTE ACADEMIC POLICY: BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRESSION

### I. Introduction

All baccalaureate degrees require completion of 120 credit hours (except for programs that have applied for and received a waiver to exceed 120 credit hours from the UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees), including all requirements for a major field of study.

### II. Policy Statement

#### **Course Load**

A student should complete an average of 15 credit hours each Fall and Spring semester to complete a bachelor's degree in four academic years. Enrollment in more than 18 credit hours in a Fall or Spring semester requires [advance approval](https://academicpetition.uncc.edu/) of the dean of the student's major college. An undergraduate student enrolled in 12 or more credit hours is considered to be a full-time student and must pay full tuition and fees.

Enrollment in the Summer semester is optional; a maximum load for an undergraduate student enrolled in the Summer semester is 7 credit hours per half term for a total of 14 credit hours. Enrollment in more than 7 credit hours in a Summer half term or 14 credit hours in a Summer semester requires [advance approval](https://academicpetition.uncc.edu/) of the dean of the student’s major college. Successful academic achievement typically requires two or more hours of preparation per credit hour per week outside of class. For example, enrollment in 16 credit hours would require minimally 32 hours of preparation per week.

#### **Student Classification**

At the beginning of each semester, students working toward a bachelor's degree are classified on the basis of earned credit hours:

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| --- | --- |
| **Classification** | **Earned Credit Hours** |
| Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior | 0-29  30-59  60-89  90 or more |