

ACADEMIC COURSE LOAD

The appropriate academic course load depends on a student's available time for coursework, personal obligations, and other commitments. Students should take into account class time, out-of-class academic responsibilities, homework, and other personal commitments when determining a manageable course load. Students are encouraged to register for a course load that supports academic success. Overloading may result in course withdrawals or unsatisfactory academic performance. Academic planning tools in MyVC and Student Success Coaches are available to assist with course load planning.

Full-Time and Maximum Course Loads

A full-time academic course load during Fall, Spring, or Summer Terms ranges from 12 to 19 credits.

Any request to exceed the 19-credit maximum must be evaluated by the AVP of Student Success or designee. Exceptions may be granted only in exceptional circumstances. Students seeking an exception should contact a Student Success Coach.

Valencia College reserves the right to limit the number of credits in which a student may enroll if the student's academic record indicates the need for developmental coursework or if the student is on academic warning, probation, or suspension.

Excess Hours Advisory Statement

Section 1009.286, Florida Statutes, establishes an excess hour surcharge for students seeking a baccalaureate degree at a state university. The surcharge may apply to credits attempted beyond 120% of the credits required for the degree (e.g., beyond 144 for a 120-credit program).

Students intending to pursue a baccalaureate degree should identify a major early and complete required courses efficiently, as withdrawals, repeats, and non-required courses may increase excess hours and result in higher tuition charges at state universities.