

Academic Policies

The following academic policies apply to all students who matriculate during the academic year of this catalog publication. These policies will apply throughout the entire time a student is enrolled. In the event that these policies need to be revised as the result of new accreditation requirements, mandates by the United States Department of Education, or other unforeseen circumstances, students will be notified in writing prior to the effective date of the new policy.

Faculty and students should also refer to the college/program Academic Policy section for additional policies that apply to students enrolled in a specific college/program.

Attendance

The policy for class attendance is determined by each course director/coordinator. Students should refer to their course syllabus for additional attendance requirements. Students are expected to satisfy these attendance requirements in order to receive course credit.

Midwestern University encourages 100% attendance by students at all course-related sessions, lectures, laboratories, and clinical assignments. Each course director/coordinator has the prerogative to establish individual attendance requirements and policies. Unless a department's/division's policy differs, class attendance is mandatory for all students for the first session of each course in each quarter as well as on the first day of class after scheduled vacations. There is also a mandatory attendance policy for all students during clerkship/preceptorship and experiential rotations. If illness, a personal emergency, personal incapacitation, or other exceptional problem of a serious nature causes a student to be absent from a rotation or a session requiring mandatory attendance, the student must immediately notify the department/division or program responsible for the course and follow stated course policies and procedures. Unexcused absences during mandatory attendance sessions may result in course failure. Refer to specific course policies and procedures for course attendance requirements set forth by each department/division, program, or college.

Class Rank

Class rank is calculated annually on July 1 for continuing students and one month before the official program/college graduation date for graduating students. Class rank may be accessed through the [student's personal page](#).

Classroom Visitation

Each faculty member has the responsibility and authority to determine who, in addition to the enrolled students, may visit the faculty member's classes. Anyone wishing to visit a class must request permission from the course director, the Department Chair/Program Director/Division Director or Head, and the faculty member who is presenting the lecture.

Classroom/Exam Etiquette

In order to maintain an appropriate classroom environment that is most conducive to teaching and learning, students are expected to behave in a manner that is not disruptive or disrespectful to any person and that does not adversely affect teaching or learning of any person. If cell phones need to be turned on during classroom time, then they must be set to the vibrate mode. All calls must be made/received outside of the classroom as this type of activity is disruptive to the teaching/learning environment and is disrespectful to others in the classroom. Students who do not abide by this policy may be asked to leave the classroom. Abuse of this policy could result in disciplinary procedures.

Children are not typically allowed in the classroom. Students who have an unforeseen temporary need to bring a child into the classroom must receive prior approval from the lecturer.

Students must abide by the policies and procedures of the University Testing Center when taking examinations or other assessments therein. Students must abide by the procedures of the college or department/division/program when taking examinations or other assessments on campus outside of the University Testing Center.

Closed Meeting Policy

All students enrolled in Midwestern University's academic programs are considered graduate students. As such, the University holds the student accountable for the student's actions and decisions. During the student's enrollment any and all required meetings with faculty committees, faculty, or University/college administrators, are closed to only the involved student. All invited or voluntary formal or informal meetings, telephone discussions, or conference calls with faculty committees, faculty or University/college administrators are closed to only the involved student.

Course Auditing

An enrolled student can audit a course under the following conditions. The student must first receive the written approval of the course director and the Department Chair/Program Director/Division Director or Head. Once these approvals have been acquired and received by the Registrar, the student is registered for the course as an auditor and the student's name appears on the course roster. Students auditing courses are expected to attend class. An auditing student may be administratively withdrawn from a course when, in the judgment of the instructor and Department Chair/Program Director/Division Director or Head, the attendance record justifies such action. Academic credit is not issued to audited courses, and the possibility does not exist to change the course status from audit to full credit.

Enrolled Midwestern University students are charged 25% of the tuition costs to audit a course.

Course Credit Policy

Midwestern University has defined course credits across all colleges and programs.

A quarter is typically 9-12 weeks long.

The following contact times are assigned for every one credit hour in a course based on the specific type of learning activity independent of course length:

- Lecture: 10 hours of lecture (where each lecture hour is 50 minutes in duration) and 20 hours of student study time outside for the classroom
- Laboratory: 20-40 hours of contact time
- Case discussion, interactive group problem-solving, recitation or workshop: 20 hours of contact time
- Online or distance education: 30 hours of student work. Student work includes reading, research, online discussion, instruction, assigned group discussion, and preparation of papers or presentations.

Experiential education or rotation credits are determined by different formulae depending on the college or program.

- For AZCOM, CCOM, CPDG, CPG, CDMA, CDMI, CVM, AZCOPT, CCO: Each week of full time experiential education (equivalent to 40 hours of instruction) is equivalent to 1.5 credits.
- For AZCPM, CHS and CGS: Each week of full-time experiential education (equivalent to 40 hours of instruction) is equivalent to 1 credit.

If approved, some Colleges or Programs may allow the inclusion of full-time student participation on Midwestern University - sanctioned mission trips as experiential education or rotation time. In this case, the course credit policy for experiential education or rotations applies. The minimum amount of credit per mission trip that can be applied to a stand-alone course is 0.5 credit hours.

The Curriculum Committee of the College approves the number of credits hours for all courses including those utilizing alternative delivery methods. The determination/assignment of credit hours should reflect the overall educational content of the course and the academically engaged time required to achieve the desired outcome for the typical student. Academically engaged time may be measured by the type, quantity, and required level of mastery of the course content.

Course Prerequisites

Prerequisites for courses may be established by the college/department/program that administers the course. Prerequisites are recommended to the Curriculum Committee for approval and are listed with the course description in the University Catalog.

On a case-by-case basis, prerequisites may be waived upon recommendation of the college/program Promotions, Academic Progress/Review, or Student Promotion and Graduation Committee; and with the approval of the Department Chair that delivers the course, and Program Director, Associate Dean or Dean of the college. In case of a conflict, the ultimate decision will be made by the Dean of the college.

Final Course Grades Due

All course directors or course coordinators must submit to the Registrar the final grades for students by the end of the day on the Tuesday following final exam week each quarter.