

From: ui-advisors-bounces@uidaho.edu [mailto:ui-advisors-bounces@uidaho.edu] **On Behalf Of** Brewick, Andrew **Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2013 8:51 AM **To:** Mailman - ui-advisors@uidaho.edu; Mailman - advising-list@uidaho.edu **Cc:** Baker, Doug; Christiansen, Jeanne **Subject:** [Ui-advisors] Important Advising Information

Dear advisors:

As the Vandal Friday events and the advising season approach, here are some important regulation updates and university-wide initiatives with which you should be familiar. My apologies for the lengthy email. Please be aware all of this information is also available on the advising website (www.uidaho.edu/academicadvising) for your quick reference later. Attached, please find a PowerPoint presentation pertaining to the updates listed below, a PowerPoint presentation that will be used to prepare students for registration on Vandal Friday, and a new general education curriculum guide incorporating our new terminology (see below for explanation).

New Initiatives:

All Students Should Enroll in at Least 15 credits every semester

According to the Complete College America initiative (and the Complete College Idaho plan), students who attempt at least fifteen credits per term are significantly more likely to graduate from a university. They are also more likely to persist from the first to the second year and feel more connected to their institution. Over the last six years, less than 50% of UI students have been enrolled in 15 or more credits and we would like to address this issue immediately.

Please work with your incoming and current students to identify the best fifteen (or more) credits to fit their needs and developmental level. There are certainly cases where a student cannot undertake this course load (e.g. working full time, overextended in other areas, etc.) but we believe the typical UI student is fully capable of completing a 15 credit semester.

Update Four Year Plans to Provide Consistent and Accurate Information to Students

With the changes to the general education curriculum and our institutional focus on identifying 15 credit course loads for students, this is an ideal time to reconfigure those old four-year plans in your department. Please take the time to craft a new four-year plan for your degree with a focus on:

- Balancing historically difficult courses
- Incorporating the new components of the general education curriculum
- Maintaining at least 15 credits in each semester
- Being mindful of course sequences and fall only/spring only course offerings

Once you've created a new plan, please send it to advising@uidaho.edu. We will work with the Registrar's Office to upload your plan into the Degree Audit software, which will make it

possible for students to automatically load your pre-defined plan into their planner tab (training on this will be available next fall). Ultimately, by creating a clear and consistent plan for the students, it will make your life easier in the long run.

Regulation Changes:

Change to Regulation J-3

According to the language adopted by the Faculty Senate in Regulation J-3, all students with fewer than 14 transferable credits earned after high school graduation are considered first-year students (regardless of their class standing) and will participate in the UI general education curriculum. State Board core is reserved only for those students with 14 or more transferable credits earned after high school graduation.

Change to Regulation L

Starting next fall, first-semester students who earn below a 1.0 term GPA will be placed on immediate first disqualification and asked to take a semester away from the university to refocus their priorities. For those students with extenuating circumstances or a strong desire to return, colleges will still have the authority to grant academic reinstatements on a case-by-case basis.

Changes in University Terminology and General Education

The term, “freshman” now only applies to a student’s class standing. As a way to better define our incoming student population, the university (through faculty governance) has adopted the term “first-year student” to apply to all students coming in with fewer than 14 credits earned after high school graduation. Aside from being non-gender specific, the term first-year more accurately captures our incoming cohort – many of whom qualify as sophomores in terms of credits.

The term “UI core” is being replaced by “UI general education curriculum.” Please see attached curriculum guide with this change represented

The section of the UI core formerly known as the “General Core Studies” requirements has been change to “Integral Studies.” This component of the general education curriculum contains:

- ISEM 101
- 6 credits of humanities
- 6 credits of social sciences
- ISEM 301 – Great Issues Seminar
- American Diversity Requirement

- International Requirement
- Senior Experience

For more information on gen ed, please visit: <http://www.uidaho.edu/class/general-education>

Please try to incorporate these new terms into your presentations and daily discussions with students.

First-year Transition Courses:

Please remember that we have three section of INTR 101 (sections 14, 15, and 16) open to any incoming first-year student. This course focuses on transitioning to the university with special attention on academic skill building and success strategies. These sections should be filled with students who will most benefit from additional support, so please be judicious when promoting this opportunity to students.

All of this information is available on the academic advising website:

(<http://www.uidaho.edu/academicadvising/advisors/advising-changes-for-2013>)

My sincere thanks for all the work you do with incoming and continuing students.

Best,
Andrew

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