

MODEL PLAN OF STUDY FOR 4+1 BA/MA PROGRAMS

YEAR 1 – FALL (Undergraduate Degree Seeking)		
Undergraduate Courses		15
		Total Hours 15
YEAR 1 – SPRING (Undergraduate Degree Seeking)		
Undergraduate Courses		15
		Total Hours 15
YEAR 2 – FALL (Undergraduate Degree Seeking)		
Undergraduate Courses		15
		Total Hours 15
YEAR 2 – SPRING (Undergraduate Degree Seeking)		
Undergraduate Courses		15
		Total Hours 15
YEAR 3 – FALL (Undergraduate Degree Seeking)		
Undergraduate Courses		15
		Total Hours 15
YEAR 3 – SPRING (Undergraduate Degree Seeking)		
Undergraduate Courses		15
		Total Hours 15
	Student will apply for their graduate program to be admitted in YEAR 5 – FALL.	
YEAR 4 – FALL (Undergraduate Degree Seeking / Graduate Non-Degree Seeking)		
Undergraduate Courses		6 - 9
Graduate Courses	These courses count towards the undergraduate degree.	6 - 9
	Student must be graduate <u>non-degree seeking</u> . Student <u>cannot</u> be a Graduate Pre- or Degree Seeking student.	Total Hours 15
	Student must be enrolled in at least 6 hours (half time) in undergraduate credits in this semester and would receive undergraduate financial aid.	
	Student will be charged at the undergraduate rate.	
YEAR 4 – SPRING (Undergraduate Degree Seeking / Graduate Non-Degree Seeking)		
Undergraduate Courses		6 – 9
Graduate Courses	These courses count towards the undergraduate degree.	6 – 9
	Student must be graduate <u>non-degree seeking</u> . Student <u>cannot</u> be a Graduate Pre- or Degree Seeking student.	Total Hours 15
	Student must be enrolled in at least 6 hours (half time) in undergraduate credits in this semester and would receive undergraduate financial aid.	
	Student will be charged at the undergraduate rate.	
	Student graduates with undergraduate degree	
YEAR 5 – FALL (Graduate Degree Seeking) *Student admitted to their graduate program		
Graduate Courses		9
		Total Hours 9
YEAR 5 – SPRING (Graduate Degree Seeking)		
Graduate Courses		9
		Total Hours 9

This model has been established to meet these criteria:

- Completion of an undergraduate and graduate program in 5 years (4+1)
- Charging of tuition at the undergraduate rate in year 4
- Ability of students to receive undergraduate financial aid in year 4

From [HLC Policy: Assumed Practices Number: CRRT.B.10.020](#) (Last revised June 2021)

B. Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources, and Support

1. Programs, Courses, and Credits

- a. The institution conforms to commonly accepted minimum program length: 60 semester credits for associate's degrees, 120 semester credits for bachelor's degrees, and 30 semester credits beyond the bachelor's for master's degrees. Any variation from these minima must be explained and justified.
- b. The institution maintains structures or practices that ensure the coherence and quality of the programs for which it awards a degree. Typically institutions will require that at minimum 30 of the 120 credits earned for the bachelor's degree and 15 of the 60 credits for the associate's degree be credits earned at the institution itself, through arrangements with other accredited institutions, or through contractual relationships approved by HLC. Any variation from the typical minima must be explained and justified.
- c. The institution's policy and practice assure that at least 50% of courses applied to a graduate program are courses designed for graduate work, rather than undergraduate courses credited toward a graduate degree. (Cf. Criterion 3.A.1 and 2.)^{SEP}(An institution may allow well-prepared advanced students to substitute its graduate courses for required or elective courses in an undergraduate degree program and then subsequently count those same courses as fulfilling graduate requirements in a related graduate program that the institution offers. In "4+1" or "2+3" programs, at least 50% of the credits allocated for the master's degree – usually 15 of 30 – must be for courses designed for graduate work.)