

General Degree Information



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Academic Advisement

The University of Central Oklahoma's Center for Undergraduate Academic Advisement is located in Room 121 of the Nigh University Center. Here, students can obtain information about the university's undergraduate degree programs. The center is staffed by thirteen professional academic advisors whose purpose is to assist with the development and achievement of students' academic goals. Advisors are excellent resources for academic information and decision making strategies.

It is the student's responsibility for class selections each semester. From the student's first enrollment at the University of Central Oklahoma, a goal of the enrollment process is to encourage personal and academic self-sufficiency and self-confidence. Students are encouraged to be advised each semester.

The university catalog is the source of information for academic rules, regulations, procedures, and programs. Students are responsible for identifying and completing the requirements of their degree programs. Accuracy of the student's class schedule, as well as processing of withdrawals and schedule changes, are the student's responsibility.

Declaring a Major

On the Application for Admission, students indicate their educational intentions while attending the University of Central Oklahoma. This educational intent or goal is discussed with the academic advisor who assists the student in selecting a program or identifying related courses. An appropriate major code is then entered to reflect the student's choice of program.

Students wishing to change their major/degree programs or educational intentions must complete a "Change of Major/Minor" form available in the Center for Undergraduate Academic Advisement, in the Nigh University Center, Room 121 or complete the form on-line at <http://www.ucok.edu/registrar/advisement/forms.htm>.

A student may earn multiple majors, multiple minors, a major and a minor within a bachelor's degree in different programs. Students cannot earn a bachelor's degree with multiple majors, multiple minors, or a major and minor in the same program, except in a Foreign Language program.

Discontinued Major

A student has three years to complete a degree after a major has been inactivated. A student may not declare a major that has been inactivated regardless of the student's catalog year.

Catalog Applicability

The set of degree requirements needed for a student (graduate or undergraduate) to complete a degree is initially determined by the catalog in effect the first semester matriculated by the student. Students in consultation with the academic advisor may elect a more current catalog. All degree requirements in the effective catalog must be met. Students who have had a break in enrollment at UCO for two or more years (from the end of the last

semester in which they were enrolled) will be required to meet current requirements when they return.

In no case shall the University of Central Oklahoma be obligated to make degree requirements in effect at the time of a student's first enrollment applicable to that student for more than 10 years.

Degree Audit

The degree audit compliance report is an individualized appraisal for students using their specific major and catalog. A degree audit compliance report can include such detailed information as the major requirements which have been satisfied, the courses applied to each requirement, the semester courses were taken, the grade in each course, and the requirements that remain incomplete. The degree audit compliance report can be a useful tool in the advisement process, but should not replace other valuable university resources. A degree audit compliance report may not currently be available for every student or every major. An academic advisor can assist individual students with obtaining a degree audit compliance report or an alternative evaluation of degree status.

Academic Degree Requirements

General requirements for a bachelor's degree at UCO:

A. Credit Hour Minimums:

1. 124 total college-level semester hours.
2. 30 semester hours at UCO exclusive of correspondence and extracurricular credit.
3. 15 of the last 30 semester hours applying toward the degree at UCO.
4. 60 semester hours, excluding physical education activity courses, from colleges that award bachelor's degrees (senior colleges/universities).
5. 40 semester hours, excluding physical education activity courses, at the upper division (3000 and 4000) level.
6. 15 semester hours of major courses at the upper division (3000 and 4000) level.
7. 10 semester hours in the major in residence at UCO.
8. 6 semester hours at the upper division (3000 and 4000) level in each minor.
9. 30 unique hours in each major for students earning double majors.

B. Credit Hours Maximums:

1. 120 of the 124 semester hours required for graduation must be coursework exclusive of physical education activity courses.
2. 6 semester hours of workshop credit (courses numbered 3000 – 3006) may apply toward the degree.

C. Double Counting of Courses:

1. Double counting or allowing courses to overlap from one area to another will be permitted in the following undergraduate degree components: multiple degrees; double (or multiple) majors; multiple minors; a major and a minor; the university core course/general education and a major and/or a minor.
2. A course may not count in more than one area/core of the general education/university core.
3. Double counting is not allowed between a General Studies major and another major or minor.
4. Double counting is not allowed between the university core and a major in general studies.

5. Double counting does not reduce the total number of hours in general university requirements such as total hours required or upper division hours.
6. Double counting is not allowed between the Professional Teacher Education (PTE) component and the corresponding major requirements of the degree.

D. Other Regulations:

1. Extracurricular examination credit such as CLEP, AP, etc., is not considered residence credit at UCO.

E. Computer Proficiency:

Students admitted after Fall 1998 must demonstrate proficiency as defined by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

F. Minimum Grade Point:

Each degree program in the UCO undergraduate catalog specifies minimum grade point averages for: (1) major course work, (2) UCO course work, and (3) total work, exclusive of physical education activity courses.

Second Bachelor's Degree

Students may become eligible for a second or an additional bachelor's degree that differs from their first degree (as defined by the University of Central Oklahoma) by meeting the degree requirements listed under the Academic Degree Requirements section of the undergraduate catalog in addition to all applicable course work and grade point requirements. All prior undergraduate coursework will be considered, and applicable work will satisfy degree requirements for the additional degree.

Minimum requirements for the second (or subsequent) degree include:

- 30 additional undergraduate credit hours beyond the awarding of the previous bachelor's degree*
- 12 additional hours in the major not used in the first degree
- 15 of the last 30 hours in residence at UCO (excludes extra-institutional credit)
- 12 hours of upper division course work not used in first degree
- GPAs required for the degree/major (overall, major, UCO)

A second bachelor's degree with a major in General Studies is not available.

The major of a second or subsequent degree may be within the same program as the major of the first (or previous) bachelor's degree but will differ at the major level.

*Any remaining course work beyond the courses in the major to fulfill the 30 hour minimum would be identified on a contractual basis between the student and the department chair offering the major. The agreement is initiated in the Advising Center, must have department chair and student signatures, and becomes official when received by the Academic Advisor in the Advising Center.

Medical Students Baccalaureate Degree

Some UCO students are accepted early to medical and allied health professional schools (e.g. Dentistry, Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Physician's Assistant, Chiropractic Medicine) prior to earning a bachelor's degree. They will be allowed to transfer the first year medical course work toward the award of a bachelor's degree. Transfer of up to thirty credit hours will be considered elective credit unless the department chair from the major of the bachelor's degree determines that specific medical school course work may substitute for or count toward a major course requirement.

To be eligible, students must have successfully completed the following minimum requirements from UCO before admission into the professional program:

1. 94 credit hours total;
2. 30 credit hours in residence at UCO;
3. 15 credit hours of upper division in the major;
4. 50% of the total major credit hours;
5. All regular degree requirements, including general education.

Students must apply for their bachelor's degree within two years of completing their UCO work, but no later than graduation from medical school.

Graduation Information

Degrees are conferred at the close of the fall, spring, and summer terms. Commencement ceremonies are held in the fall and spring semesters only. Summer graduation candidates participate in the spring ceremonies. The graduation fee will be applied to the student's account at the time of application. It may be paid at the Cashier's window in the Nigh University Center. Application for Graduation forms should be submitted to the Academic Advisement Center for Bachelor Degree candidates or completed on-line at <http://www.ucok.edu/registrar/advisement/gradapp.htm>.

Students should file the Application for Graduation form prior to the semester in which they plan to graduate. They should apply no later than July 1, 2008, for fall 2008, no later than November 3, 2009 for spring 2009, and no later than March 2, 2009 for summer 2009 in order to avoid an additional late fee. Students applying for graduation later than the deadlines above will be charged an additional \$25 above the early graduation fee. Students who complete their degree requirements should receive diplomas by mail approximately four to five weeks following the last day of class in the semester in which they graduate.

Transcripts reflecting notations of degrees earned in the previous semester are available approximately two weeks after the close of each term (fall, spring, and summer). The graduation date indicated on the University of Central Oklahoma transcript will be the last official day of the semester at the close of the applicable fall, spring or summer terms.

Graduation With Honors

The University of Central Oklahoma grants baccalaureate degrees "with honors" to graduating seniors based on retention GPA as follows:

Graduation Honors	GPA Required (not rounded up)	Minimum UCO hours completed to be eligible for graduation honors
Summa Cum Laude	3.9 or higher	45
Magna Cum Laude	3.8 - 3.89	45
Cum Laude	3.7 - 3.79	45

Recognition of graduation with honors at the commencement ceremony is based on the student's current retention GPA and will not include pending courses during the last semester of enrollment.

Class Marshal

The University of Central Oklahoma awards class marshal stoles to the top student in each college graduating each fall and spring who will be graduating with at least 45 hours of UCO coursework. Worn over the traditional academic robe, it signifies the highest degree of academic excellence.

Determination of class marshal is made by the Office of Graduation Support Services shortly after October 15 for fall graduation and March 15 for spring graduation.

Commencement

Degrees are conferred three times yearly at the close of the fall, spring, and summer terms. Commencement ceremonies are held in the fall and spring semesters only. Summer graduation candidates participate in the spring ceremonies. Candidates should apply for graduation according to published deadlines. The graduation date indicated on the University of Central Oklahoma transcripts will be the last official day of the semester at the close of the fall, spring, or summer terms.

Degrees Delayed

Courses with incomplete grades changed to permanent grades, grade changes and/or course substitutions not submitted within four weeks after the end of the semester will have official conferment of the degree at the next graduation time. Reapplication for the next graduation semester and payment of an additional graduation fee will be required.

Enrollment Policies

Classification of Undergraduate Students

Freshman:	0 - 29 semester hours earned
Sophomore:	30 - 59 semester hours earned
Junior:	60 - 89 semester hours earned
Senior:	90 or more semester hours earned
Post Baccalaureate:	A non-degree seeking student with a bachelor's degree taking additional undergraduate coursework.

Full-time Student Status

To be considered full-time, an undergraduate student must be enrolled in at least 12 hours in the fall or spring semester and in at least six hours in the summer semester. Students who wish to graduate in four years, excluding summer terms, should enroll in and complete an academic course load averaging 16 hours each fall and spring semester.

Enrollment in correspondence courses does not count toward a student's enrollment status (full or part-time). For example, if a student was enrolled in nine semester hours on-campus and in a three semester hour correspondence course, the student would only be considered a part-time student based on the nine semester hours of on-campus enrollment.

Class Attendance

It is the student's responsibility to be aware of an instructor's attendance policy. Instructors will make policies known to the

students with respect to absences. The instructor makes the final decision to excuse or not to excuse an absence.

Students who stop attending class and do not officially withdraw or drop will receive "F" grades.

Course Loads

The maximum allowable enrollment for a regularly admitted undergraduate student is 20 hours in the fall or spring semesters and 10 hours in the summer term.

In some unusual cases, it may be necessary for junior or senior students pursuing their education full-time to take an academic overload in order to complete their degree requirements at a desired time. Students wishing to carry an academic overload must have demonstrated superior performance in class.

Students who have enrolled simultaneously in two or more institutions are also bound by the standards set forth above. Further, the above standards relating to academic load apply to both regular classroom enrollment and enrollment in courses through individual study, but do not apply to academic credit awarded on the basis of extrainstitutional examination or correspondence.

Intersessions which occur between semesters are considered early extensions of the upcoming semester and are included in the maximum credit hour limits.

The maximum course overload for a student in any given semester or term is limited to the number of semester credit hours which is fifty percent greater than the total number of weeks in the applicable academic semester or term. For students earning credit in an intersession course, the number of intersession weeks may be added to the regular semester weeks to arrive at a higher maximum course load.

Intersession enrollment will not be measured as a stand alone session but rather as part of the entire semester or term. In summer four week blocks, students are limited to six hours maximum enrollment.

When enrolling for classes, students will not be allowed to enroll in overlapping classes, in particular, classes with conflicting hours and days.

Course Numbering System

Courses are numbered to indicate their level. In general, courses numbered lowest are designed to be completed first. Courses with numbers in the 1000 and 2000 series are lower division designed for freshman and sophomore students. Courses with numbers in the 3000 and 4000 series are upper division designed to be taken by junior and senior students. Courses numbered in the 5000 series are for graduate students only.

The last digit of the course number indicates the number of semester credit hours awarded for the course completion. For example, FIN 4333 is a three-hour course; PHED 1701 is a one-hour course. Courses which have a final digit of "0" listed in the course description section of the catalog vary in the amount of credit for which they will be offered.

Academic Semester Hour

The academic semester is the standard academic calendar unit used at the University of Central Oklahoma. The standard semester is 16 weeks in length, excluding enrollment, orientation, and designated holidays.

The semester credit hour is the standard unit used by the University of Central Oklahoma in evaluating the student's educational attainment and progress. Semester hours credit are calculated as follows:

- A. One semester hour of credit is awarded for a lecture class meeting 800 minutes exclusive of enrollment, orientation, and designated holidays.
- B. One semester hour of credit will normally be awarded for a laboratory meeting a minimum of 1600 minutes.
- C. Instruction offered through a combination of classes and laboratory meetings would normally observe the standard set forth in (A) and (B) above on a pro-rata basis.

System of Grading

For the purpose of distinguishing between the ranks of scholastic attainment, the following system of grading is used at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Grades Used in Calculating Grade Point Average			Grades Not Used in Calculating Grade Point Average	
Grade	Note	Points/ Hour	Grade	Note
A	EXCELLENT	4	S	SATISFACTORY
B	GOOD	3	U	UNSATISFACTORY
C	AVERAGE	2	P	PASS
D	BELOW AVERAGE	1		
*F	FAILURE	0		

*Failure - given when students fail to meet minimum standards for passing. Also given when students discontinue class attendance and do not formally drop or withdraw. An "F" grade is also assigned by the instructor when a student is failing the course but is allowed to drop or withdraw after the established deadlines.

SYMBOLS USED TO INDICATE COURSE STATUS

Symbol	Note	Symbol	Note
I	INCOMPLETE	W	WITHDRAWAL
AW	ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL	N	GRADE NOT REPORTED
AUD	AUDIT	X	THESIS IN PROGRESS

- P Passing - given for workshops, student teaching, physical education activity courses, and extracurricular examinations.
- S Satisfactory - given for 0-level (non-collegiate/developmental) courses.
- U Unsatisfactory - Given for 0-level (non-collegiate/developmental) and physical education activity courses and indicates the student's level of understanding is not sufficient to take the next level of course work.
- I Incomplete - given at the instructor's discretion to indicate that additional work is necessary to complete a course. It is not a substitute for an "F" grade and no student may be failing a course at the time an "I" grade is awarded.

To receive an "I" grade, the student should have satisfactorily completed a substantial portion of the required course work for the semester. Students have one year to resolve incomplete grades. In extenuating circumstances, exceptions may be requested.

- W Withdrawal - given when a student initiates a withdrawal by the established deadline. This grade may be assigned for a student who is allowed to drop or withdraw beyond the established deadline and who is passing the course as of the date of last attendance.
- N Not Reported - given when an instructor fails to submit grades by the established deadline.
- *AUDIT - given when students formally audit classes.
- *AUD-U - given when a student enrolled for audit but did not meet the instructor's attendance and/or participation requirements for auditors.

*All courses require permission from the class instructor to audit. The student receives no credit for audit of classes. Fees are the same for audit as for credit. Students may not drop courses for audit and pick them up for credit after the end of enrollment for that term. The only admission material needed for audit is a completed admission form. Audited hours are not included in any calculation for verification of enrollment for financial aid, student loans, veterans' benefits, or athletic eligibility.

Course Prerequisites or Corequisites

A prerequisite is a course, skill, or knowledge required to be completed PRIOR to taking another course. Prerequisites are established for courses requiring a specific background knowledge or skill level for successful completion. Most courses have more than one prerequisite.

Corequisites are complementary courses which require concurrent enrollment and which together comprise a body of knowledge or skills for the student.

Prerequisites and corequisites are established for the **BENEFIT of STUDENTS**. Insufficient background knowledge is an obstacle to success and often results in frustration, lower grades, and withdrawal. More study time and effort is generally needed if the prerequisite(s) have not been met.

Meeting prerequisites and corequisites is the **RESPONSIBILITY of STUDENTS**. (Exceptions must be cleared by the appropriate department or instructor.) Prerequisites and corequisites are listed in the catalog and on the web class listings. Some prerequisites may be taken concurrently, and are listed as such in the course descriptions.

Students who pre-enroll in a course which requires a prerequisite or corequisite in which the student is currently enrolled may be dropped from that course by the university if they subsequently fail or drop the prerequisite/corequisite course.

Adjusting a Class Schedule

Each semester there is an established time during which students may adjust their class schedule without resident fee and nonresident tuition penalty. The course adjustment period is one week for fall or spring, beginning with the first official day of classes for that semester and proportionately shorter for summer and block courses.

Students should consult the fee adjustment and refund policy and corresponding dates which can be viewed on-line at

<http://uconnect.ucok.edu> each semester before adjusting their class schedules.

Individual Class Drop or Complete Withdrawal From All Classes

A student is considered to be completely withdrawing when he or she “drops” all courses in which he or she is enrolled. Before the first day of the semester, students may completely withdraw from all courses by using the web. Complete withdrawal from the current semester enrollment once the semester begins must be initiated in Enrollment Services. Students should complete the withdrawal form, obtain all necessary approvals and take the form to Enrollment Services. Until the withdrawal form has been processed by a service representative in Enrollment Services, the student is not considered withdrawn.

A student may drop an individual class or more than one class on the web as long as it is not their last enrolled class during the first eleven weeks of the fall/spring semester or by using a Drop/Add form if after the transaction he/she will still remain enrolled at UCO.

Complete withdrawal or individual class drop on or after the beginning of the third week and through the 11th week of a regular semester, or after the third day but before the end of the 6th week of an 8-week summer semester, will result in grades of “W” on the academic record. A student who ceases attendance before the term is over, and does not complete the procedure to completely withdraw or drop an individual class will generally receive “F” grades.

Whenever a withdrawal deadline ends on Friday, students will have until midnight at the end of the weekend to drop all but the last class using the web. The ability to withdraw in person will end on the deadline date at the time of office closing.

Students who withdraw during the first two weeks of a 16-week term (or appropriate date for a short term class) will have the term “withdrew” and the date listed on their university transcript without the course(s) being identified.

Students should check the calendar in the student information system to find the last date they may completely withdraw from all classes.

A student unable to complete a withdrawal or drop an individual class by the 11th week of a regular semester (or the 6th week of an 8-week summer semester) may petition the Director of Admission and Records Processing for an exception. Permission may be approved if proper evidence exists to show that the withdrawal or drop could not be completed during the required time because of unforeseen circumstances or an emergency AND the instructor confirms the student’s absence and other relevant information. Unforeseen circumstances and/or an emergency (hospitalization, work, transfer out of state) must be documented. Missing the last day to withdraw is not considered an emergency.

Poor academic performance or lack of deadline awareness will not be a consideration for approval.

All requests for late/emergency withdrawals must be initiated within one year of the semester in which grades were assigned. Requests received after one year will not be considered. Courses that have been completed (i.e. final exam taken) are not eligible for an exception and must be addressed through the grade appeal process. Regardless of the circumstances, **all approved withdrawals and drops after the deadline will be reflected on the transcript as “W” for passing or “F” for failing. A late withdrawal can have significant negative impact on financial aid.**

Administrative Withdrawal for Non Attendance - Students who never attend courses in which they are enrolled and do not personally drop/withdraw may be administratively withdrawn from each affected class. The appropriate faculty member may submit the Administrative Withdrawal after the last day to drop a class without a grade but before the last day to withdraw for the semester. Students will be charged a fixed rate of 25% per credit hour.

Final Examinations Policies

1. Final Exams - The last week of a semester is dedicated to final examinations. A student is not required to take more than two final examinations on the same day. When three or more final examinations are scheduled on the same day, as listed on the official examination schedule, rescheduling of the excess examinations will start with the lowest course number(s), not course reference number(s). To reschedule a final examination, the student must petition the appropriate dean no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the beginning of exam week for the semester or term in question using the Petition for Rescheduling Final Exams and following all approval requirements.
2. Emergencies during Finals Week - If a university emergency occurs that prevents the administration of a final examination, the student’s final course grade will be calculated based on the work in the course completed to that point in time and the faculty member’s considered judgment. Final exams will not be rescheduled and the grade of “I” will not be given as a result of the missed exam.

Academic Retention Standards

The University of Central Oklahoma, in cooperation with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, has adopted the following policy relating to retention of students pursuing undergraduate course work. The three phase policy combines an early notification to students experiencing academic difficulties with a gradual increase in the overall standards required for retention/continued enrollment at the university. All courses in which a student has a recorded grade (excluding those courses marked as repeated, reprieved, activity physical education, or remedial courses) will be counted in the calculation of the grade point average for retention purposes.

Grade Point Average Definitions

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA). All courses attempted in which a grade of A, B, C, D, or F was assigned. Grades of P, S, I, U, AW, W and X do not contribute toward the calculation of the cumulative GPA.

Retention Grade Point Average. All courses attempted in which a grade of A, B, C, D, or F was assigned, excluding any courses marked as repeated or reprieved. A maximum of 4 courses, not to exceed 18 hours may be repeated and one semester or two consecutive semesters may be reprieved. Grades of P, S, I, U, AW, W and X do not contribute to the retention GPA. Repeats in excess of four courses are averaged in calculating the retention GPA.

Retention Status

All students at the University of Central Oklahoma will be classified in one of the following statuses for retention purposes:

Academic Good Standing - Any student who meets the retention requirements as set forth in this section.

Freshman Academic Notice - Undergraduate students with 30 or fewer credit hours with a retention GPA of 1.7 to 1.99.

Academic Notice - Any student in an area of study with higher academic standards whose GPA falls below the retention requirements but remains higher than 2.0.

Academic Probation - Any student whose retention GPA falls below the retention requirements. Students placed or continued on academic probation must maintain a 2.00 GPA in regularly graded course work (excluding activity or performance courses) for continued enrollment at UCO.

Students who raise their retention GPA to meet the retention requirements will be removed from academic probation.

Academic Suspension - Any student who was on academic probation the previous semester will be suspended from the University if he or she fails to raise his or her retention GPA to the required retention GPA level (retention requirements) or achieve a 2.00 semester GPA in regularly graded course work, not to include activity or performance courses. Students not meeting either of these criteria will be immediately suspended and may not be reinstated until one regular semester (fall or spring) has elapsed.

For continued enrollment as a student in academic good standing at the University of Central Oklahoma, a student must have earned a retention grade point average at or above the following:

Retention Requirements 2008 - 2009

Credit Hours Attempted	Retention GPA Requirement
*0 through 30 semester hours	1.7
Greater than 30 semester hours	2.0

*Students with 0-30 semester credit hours with a retention GPA of 1.7 through 1.99 will be considered to be on freshman academic notice.

Students will be removed from academic probation when they have met the minimum requirements above.

At the end of the probationary semester or term, students who continue to fail to make satisfactory progress toward the academic objective, as indicated by the retention requirements, will be suspended for the next regular (fall or spring) semester. Students suspended twice from the University of Central Oklahoma are not eligible to return until by attendance at another accredited institution, they have raised their retention grade point average to a minimum of 2.0.

Continued Study by Suspended Seniors

A student suspended for the first or second time from UCO with 90 or more hours in a specified degree program who failed to meet the retention GPA of 2.0 or the semester GPA of 2.0 may enroll in an additional 15 semester hours in a further attempt to achieve the requirements for retention. During this 15 hours of enrollment, the student must achieve a minimum 2.0 GPA during each semester or raise his/her retention GPA to 2.0 or above. Such students will be afforded this extension one time only.

Reinstatement of Suspended Students

Suspended students will be eligible to apply for readmission to the University of Central Oklahoma after an absence from the University for a regular (fall or spring) semester. To be readmitted, students must make application and pay the \$25 application

fee. Students should be prepared to discuss with the advisor reasons for earlier academic difficulties and should explore available campus resources that will assist in meeting educational goals.

Students suspended from the University of Central Oklahoma who have attended another college or university may only reapply after demonstrating they have earned a 2.0 or higher grade point average at all institutions attended since the suspension.

Should a second suspension occur, students will be unable to be readmitted to UCO until their retention GPA meets the University's retention standards. Students may raise their GPAs by successful attendance at another accredited college or university.

Procedures For Immediate Admission of Suspended Students From Other System Institutions

In some instances, students with no more than one suspension from another institution may apply for probational admission. To be considered for probational admission, students must have met, at the time of first college admission, all other applicable UCO admission criteria. If admission is granted, future enrollments will depend upon the student meeting applicable retention grade point average requirements. To apply for probational admission following a suspension from another institution, students must petition the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Academic Retention.

Academic Suspension Appeals

Students who believe extraordinary conditions led to an academic suspension at UCO may petition the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Academic Retention for immediate reinstatement. If approved, the suspension status will not change, but the students will be allowed an immediate readmission. Limitations on enrollment may apply. Should a subsequent suspension occur, students will not be allowed to reapply until such time as they have demonstrated an ability to succeed academically by attending another institution and raising their retention GPA to meet UCO retention standards. Students with two academic suspensions are not eligible for this appeal.

Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Academic Retention

The purpose of this committee is to consider the following petitions: Alternative Admission for First-Time Freshmen; Appeals for Adult Admission; Appeals for Immediate Reinstatement of students who have been suspended for the first time; transfer probational admission of probation or suspended students from other system institutions; and other exceptional and extraordinary individual applications.

Students who feel they have extraordinary personal circumstances which contributed to their academic difficulties may obtain an Academic Retention Appeal Petition from the Office of Enrollment Services. Students requesting Alternative Admission, transfer probation, Adult Admission, or desiring to appeal an admissions decision may obtain a Petition for Admission from the Office of Enrollment Services.

A student's request for admission or readmission will only be considered when full documentation (including complete official transcripts) supporting the appeal has been submitted for evaluation within the time requirements established for committee meetings.

Appeals will not be considered once classes begin. It is deemed inappropriate for at-risk students to begin the term late.

The authority of the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Academic Retention is limited to granting admission or re-

admission, placing conditions or limitations on the first semester enrollment, and DOES NOT EXTEND TO REMOVING OR REVERSING AN ACADEMIC SUSPENSION.

The decision of the committee is final. A student cannot reapply to UCO without satisfying the committee recommendations.

Appeal Process

If a student wishes to petition for readmission or probational admission, a written request must be submitted to the Office of Enrollment Services with attached official transcripts of all college work. The student's request for reinstatement will be considered only by satisfactorily completing the following steps for appeal:

- A. Document reasonable cause for unusual or extraordinary personal circumstances that contributed to academic failure;
- B. Provide evidence of the capability for academic success (satisfactory scores on aptitude or achievement tests may be a requirement);
- C. Provide an objective plan for balancing proposed enrollment, study time, and a work schedule which will ensure success toward obtaining an educational and/or degree goal.
- D. If the student is currently attending another college, final grades for that term must be submitted with the appeal.
- E. If testing is required, test scores must be submitted prior to deadline.
- F. Submit all requested documents and test scores on or before deadline.

Serviceman's Opportunity College

The University of Central Oklahoma is a Serviceman's Opportunity College (SOC) serving active military, guardsmen, and reservists. As a SOC institution, the university will assist eligible military in completing degree requirements by approving enrollment at another institution to be transferred toward the completion of degree requirements, subject to meeting the institution's residency requirement.

UCO awards credit for learning acquired in military service at levels consistent with the ACE Guide recommendations and/or those transcripts furnished by the Community College of the Air Force, when applicable to a service member's program. Credit is also awarded for completion of basic or recruit training. The University of Central Oklahoma's policy concerning the awarding of extracurricular credit for the completion of CLEP, DSST, ACT/PEP, and USAFI, can be found in the current Serviceman's Opportunity Colleges Guide and in brochures available in the UCO Testing Center.

Concurrent Admissions Program

The University of Central Oklahoma is a participating college in the Concurrent Admissions Program (ConAP). ConAP is a joint program of the Army Recruiting Command, assisted by Serviceman's Opportunity Colleges (SOC) and participating colleges. The program is designed to admit new soldiers into a participating college at the time of enlistment in the Army or Army Reserve, and defer their enrollment for classes until completion of military service.

Credit By Extracurricular Examination

Students or prospective students of the University of Central Oklahoma are encouraged to consider earning college credit by taking extracurricular examinations. Tests covering many courses are available to students who may have acquired college level knowledge or skill outside the classroom. At UCO two kinds of examinations are used to evaluate proficiency: nationally standardized tests and departmental examinations. Applications for nationally standardized tests can be obtained in the UCO Testing Center. To take a departmental exam, a student must first obtain permission from the chairperson of the department in which the course is offered. The University of Central Oklahoma awards extracurricular credit only in those academic disciplines taught at the University subject to the following:

- A. Students eligible to receive extra institutional learning credit must be enrolled at UCO.
- B. Credit by extracurricular examination is provisional and will be placed on a transcript only after the successful completion of a minimum of 12 semester hours of residence credit from the University of Central Oklahoma (Extracurricular credit is not resident credit.);
- C. The student must not have previously received a grade from an equivalent course at the college level;
- D. A student must earn a test score which is equal to or above the mean level for both locally administered and national examinations;
- E. Methods of evaluating students' previous learning experience for awarding extracurricular credit are as follows:
 1. Departmental Examinations (made by an instructor and may include performance testing);
 2. Standardized National Tests especially designed for establishment of credit. Tests such as the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), the Advanced Placement Program (APP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and DANTES of the College Entrance Examination Board are examples of tests that may be used to establish extracurricular credit;
 3. Recognition of Military Training Schools. Credit awarded for military training schools shall be upon the basis of credit recommendations contained in the publications of the American Council on Education;
 4. Credit will be based upon those recommendations contained in publications of the American Council on Education for non-collegiate sponsored instruction such as business and industry, labor unions, and governmental agencies.
- F. To take Departmental Examinations, students must pay the approved per credit hour test fee and obtain prior approval from the department chairperson. The fee for standardized national examinations is set by the appropriate National Testing Agency;
- G. Examinations must be taken within 30 days after making application. FEES FOR DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS ARE NOT REFUNDABLE;
- H. Extracurricular examinations may not be taken as graduate credit;
- I. Credit is listed on student transcripts as Extracurricular and will show a grade of "P"(Passing). If an examination is failed,

no record will be made on the student's transcript, and the test may not be repeated within six months. If a departmental examination or subject national examination is taken, credit will be listed on student transcripts identified by the department offering the course, course number and title. Credit earned by passing General CLEP and professional examinations will be listed by the area or title and the amount of credit hours earned. The General CLEP examinations can apply only to the institution's Bachelor of Science Degree program in General Studies. The following statement will appear on the student records below any CLEP General Examination credit: The General CLEP Credit is valid only as part of the Bachelor of Science Degree Program in General Studies;

- J. All credit earned by Extracurricular Examination at the University of Central Oklahoma must be:
1. The result of an examination method approved and administered by the University of Central Oklahoma; OR
 2. A result of examinations administered by other accredited colleges or universities. An official academic transcript from the administering college or university must be sent directly to the University of Central Oklahoma. In the case of a nationally standardized examination, scores must be reported on the testing agency's official score report form;
- K. Extracurricular credit, once recorded and validated at an institution in the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, is usually transferable on the same basis as if the credit had been earned through regular study at the awarding institution. (Students are advised to check with the institution from which they plan to graduate concerning the school's policy on the acceptance of extracurricular credit.)

Non-collegiate sponsored instruction transferred to UCO without credit recommendations according to the American Council on Education must be validated by extracurricular examination.

Departmental Exams are offered by the following:

College of Arts, Media, and Design - Art, Design, Music, Theatre, Dance and Media Arts.

College of Business Administration - Accounting, Economics and International Business, Finance, General Business, Information Systems and Operations Management, Management, Marketing.

College of Education and Professional Studies - Human Environmental Sciences, Advanced Professional Studies, Kinesiology and Health Studies, Professional Teacher Education, Occupational & Technology Education.

College of Liberal Arts - English, History, Geography, Journalism, Communications, Political Science, Sociology and Criminal Justice, Modern Languages.

College of Mathematics and Science - Biology, Chemistry, Computing Science, Nursing, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics.

The UCO Testing Services Office has a complete list of examinations.

The following standardized examinations: National subject and General CLEP, DANTES, International Baccalaureate, and Advanced Placement Program Examinations are available and/or accepted for credit: Standardized Subject Examinations (CLEP and DANTES).

Advanced Placement Program (APP)

This program recognizes that some high school accelerated classes or honors programs have prepared students to excel at the college level. Tests of the Advanced Placement Program are administered by the College Entrance Exam Board and are taken while in high school. High school counselors can usually assist students with testing arrangements. The University of Central Oklahoma will award credit to students who receive a score of 3, 4, or 5 on selected tests with exception of chemistry which requires a 4 or 5.

Test availability is subject to change. Please contact the UCO Testing Office, (405) 974-2388 for a listing of tests that UCO will recognize for awarding credit.

International Baccalaureate (IB)

This program also recognizes high school accelerated courses. Students who have participated in IB courses and scored on the national exam at the appropriate level may be eligible to receive college credit. Students interested in this program should contact the Office of Enrollment Services for more information.

Enrollment Fees

For up to date and current fees, please check out the following link:

<http://www.ucok.edu/registrar/sched/SPRING/front1.pdf>

Click on Enrollment Costs in the table of contents page.

Honor Rolls and Awards

Undergraduate Honor Roll

To be on the honor roll the student's semester record must have no marks of "I", "F", "N" or "U". Grades of "S" and "P" are not computed in the student's semester grade point average and will not be considered toward the number of hours required for honor roll consideration.

A notation regarding the honor roll achievement will appear on the student's transcript. An announcement listing those students making the honor roll may also be sent to area newspapers.

Graduating seniors enrolled in graduate credit must also successfully complete at least 12 hours of undergraduate credit consistent with the requirements previously stated to be considered for undergraduate honors. Once a student has earned a bachelor's degree, he/she is no longer eligible for undergraduate honor rolls. Honor rolls are not calculated in the summer.

President's Honor Roll - Undergraduate

Undergraduate students who successfully complete 12 or more undergraduate hours of regularly graded (A, B, C) residence credit during a fall or spring semester are eligible to have their names listed on the President's Honor Roll, provided they pass all courses and have no grade below "A". Correspondence credit will not be calculated in this determination.

Dean's Honor Roll - Undergraduate

Undergraduate students who successfully complete 12 or more semester hours of regularly graded (A, B) residence credit during a fall or spring semester are eligible to have their names listed on the Dean's Honor Roll provided they have a grade point average of 3.50 or better for the semester or term and have no grade below "B." Correspondence credit will not be calculated in this

determination. The student's semester record must have no marks of "P", "F", "N", or "U."

Graduating seniors enrolled in graduate credit must also successfully complete at least 12 hours of undergraduate credit consistent with the requirements above to be considered for undergraduate honors.

University Scholastic Award

An award is given each year to the undergraduate upper class student making the highest cumulative grade point average in scholastic work during the year. The name of the winner is announced after the close of the spring semester. This award is made using the following criteria and is determined by the Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management/Registrar.

1. Any upper class undergraduate student at the University of Central Oklahoma taking an average of not less than sixteen hours each semester for the year and who has completed a total of thirty-seven or more semester hours of college work at the time the award is made will be eligible for the award.
2. No student shall be permitted to receive the award more than once.
3. The award will be given to the student making the highest cumulative grade point average for the year's work including two semesters of the scholastic year, August to May. When grade point averages are equal, the award will be given to the student with the greatest number of total hours completed. If this does not break the tie, the award will be given to the student with the most hours completed and who carried the heaviest load during the scholastic year.
4. The award will be based on the student's grades as recorded in Enrollment Services.
5. Students who have been under college disciplinary action during the year shall not be considered.

Freshman Scholastic Awards

Two awards are made each year, one to a freshman male and one to a freshman female, who achieve the highest cumulative grade point average for the freshman year's work. These awards are made at the close of the spring semester.

To be eligible for one of these awards, the student must have completed not more than one school year which may include the previous summer session. All hours completed, however, during that year will be counted in computing the cumulative grade point average. The student must have carried not less than fifteen hours in each of the two regular semesters and must not have been under university disciplinary action during the year. When cumulative grade point averages are equal, the awards will be given to students with the greatest number of hours for the year's work. If this does not break the tie, the awards will be given to the students with the most hours completed who carried the heaviest loads during the scholastic year. The awards are determined by the Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management/Registrar.

Grade Appeal Process for Undergraduate Students

In cases where a student wishes to appeal a grade, his/her first step should be direct discussion with the faculty member and the department chairperson/school director in an attempt to resolve the matter informally. Contact with the faculty member and department chairperson/school director should be made as early as possible, as it is a mandatory first step should the student wish to file a formal appeal. If those meetings do not bring about a resolution, the student may petition to have their case reviewed by the University Academic Appeal Board. A formal grade appeal must be made within the first four weeks of the school year following the semester in which the grade was assigned.

For more information, please review the following link:
http://www.busn.ucok.edu/academicaffairs/grade_appeal_process_for_student.htm

Rights and Responsibilities

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

Public Directory Information and Student Access to Official Educational Records

The University of Central Oklahoma designates the following student information as public or directory information:

- Student's name, local and mailing address, e-mail address, home phone number(s), classification, dates of attendance at UCO, enrollment status (full-time or part-time).
- Major field of study/degree program, educational institutions previously attended, degrees and awards granted, educational background degree(s) held and date(s) granted and institutions granting such degree(s).
- Date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized organizations, activities and sports, weight and height of participants in officially recognized sports.

This information may be disclosed by the institution for any purpose, at its discretion.

Students may withhold disclosure of all categories of directory information under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Forms requesting the withholding of "Directory Information" are available in Enrollment Services, NUC 124.

The University of Central Oklahoma assumes approval for disclosure unless a student specifically requests the withholding of "Directory Information."

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, it is the policy of the University to release personally identifiable information from the educational records of a student, without written consent, to university officials (faculty, staff and agents of the University having responsibility for working with that student in admissions, registration, advisement, counseling, teaching, financial aid, payment of fees or any other activity directly related to the student's academic program, or pursuant to law or governmental regulation).

Attempts by other individuals or organizations to access student records without the written consent of the student are considered a violation of University policy/federal law. Examples of violations include, but are not limited to: 1) illegally accessing information from student, faculty, or university computers; 2) misrepresenting

themselves to obtain another student's transcript, semester grades, or class registration; 3) using a student's ID number without his/her permission to gain access to University services.

Notice

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, eligible students are entitled to access official educational records directly related to their collegiate experience, including the right of inspection and review.

For records kept in Enrollment Services, requests for access should be directed to Enrollment Services in accordance with University regulations. (Parents of a dependent student as defined in Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 may be entitled to access official educational records of their dependent student.)

Access Rights

The right of access shall include:

- A. The right to be provided a list of the types of educational records maintained by the institution that are directly related to students;
- B. The right to inspect and review the content of those records;
- C. The right to obtain copies of those records (except transcripts on hold by the university for financial indebtedness), which may be at the expense of the eligible student or parent. Parents of a dependent student as defined in Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 may have access to official educational records of that student;
- D. The right to a response from the institution to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of those records;
- E. The right to an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of those records under subpart III of this part; and
- F. The right to inspect and review or to be informed of specific information about themselves which is contained in any material or document on more than one student.

Hearing

- A. The hearing shall be conducted and decided within a reasonable period of time following the request for the hearing;
- B. The hearing shall be conducted, and the decision rendered by an institutional official or other party who does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing;
- C. The eligible parents or student shall be afforded a full and fair opportunity to present evidence relevant to the issues raised under subpart C, section 99.20 of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974;
- D. The decision shall be rendered in writing within a reasonable period of time after the conclusion of the hearing.

Liability and Responsibility Notice

Whether enrolled in an on-campus class or in a UCO internship, practicum, course, or activity involving domestic or foreign travel, students are responsible for their own medical treatment and are liable for their own actions. In the event of injury or illness while participating in a UCO sponsored activity, UCO cannot approve a claim for treatment or reimbursement. Information on insurance is available in the Student Health Center. Also, a number of reasonably priced insurance policies are available from the private business sector. Each student is strongly encouraged to invest in the appropriate coverage.