

Semester Hours Limit from Professional School Courses

Current Policy

“A maximum of 24 semester hours of courses from professional schools (business administration, education, information and library science, media and journalism, law, social work, dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, or public health) may be taken for credit toward a degree from the College of Arts and Sciences.”

(2015-2016 *Undergraduate Bulletin*, p. 45)

Background Information

The policy was last approved on September 21, 2005. Prior to 2006, the limit was 12 hours, but College of Arts and Sciences students electing professional school minors were “exempt from this rule only to the extent that the minor requires additional professional school courses.”

Students in the College of Arts and Sciences are permitted to study up to three subjects in depth, including one major and two minors. Completing two minors in the Professional Schools already exceeds the limit of 24 hours.

Professional School Minors	Total Credit Hours
Business Administration	19 hours (15 core hours + BUSI 101)
Education	12 hours + 1 course in the College
Media and Journalism	15-18 hours (business journalism requires 6 courses)
Information Science	15 hours
Speech and Hearing Sciences	15 hours

Recommended Revision

“To earn a degree in the College of Arts and Sciences, students must complete a minimum of 90 credit hours of courses in the College.” ~~A maximum of 24 semester hours of courses from professional schools (business administration, education, information and library science, media and journalism, law, social work, dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, or public health) may be taken for credit toward a degree from the College of Arts and Sciences.”~~

December 2016 graduation candidates would fall under the new policy.

Comments:

- Changing the rule from a *limit* to a *minimum*.
- 90 semester hours is 75% of the total 120 semester hours to earn most degrees.
- Allows students to complete 2 minors in the professional schools without violating the current maximum restriction.

- The revised rule provides more flexibility for students in terms of fulfilling degree requirements.
- Places no limit on the number of professional school courses that may be taken. But realistically, to complete a degree in 8 semesters with 90 hours in the College, most students will not be able to complete more than 30 hours in professional school courses.