Advising Terms & Resources

Knowing and understanding these **advising terms** will be helpful as you plan your path to graduation. In addition to your academic advisor, these **advising resources** provide easily-accessible guidance.

### The Basics
- **Credit.** A measure of instruction equal to 1 hour per week over the course of a semester (generally 15 weeks). For example, a three-credit class will meet for 3 hours per week.
- **Full-time student.** A student who registers for 12 or more credits during a semester.
- **Part-time student.** A student who registers for between 1 and 11 credits during a semester.

**NOTE:** Tuition, fees, and target graduation date are all impacted by a student’s full-time or part-time status.

### Courses
- **Course code.** A four letter and four digit code used to identify a specific course. For example, **PSYC 2010** is the course code for “Introduction to Psychology.”
- **CRN (course reference number).** A unique five-digit code used to identify a specific class within a semester (e.g., **10567**).
- **Prerequisite.** A course that must be completed with a satisfactory grade (i.e., minimum grade of C) before enrolling in another course. For example, **ENGL 1010** is a prerequisite for **ENGL 1020**.
- **Corequisite.** A course that must be completed simultaneously with another course. For example, **MATH 0093** is a corequisite of **MATH 1105**. **MATH 0093** must be taken during the same semester as **MATH 1105**.
- **Concurrency.** A course that, if not completed previously, may be taken at the same time.

### Academic Award Types
- **Certificate:** generally includes 18 to 30 credits (about 1 to 2 semesters).
- **Technical diploma:** generally includes 45 credits (about 3 semesters or 1.5 to 2 years).
- **Associate’s degree:** generally includes 60 credits (about 4 semesters or 2 years).

### Registration
- **Priority registration.** A priority scheduling period for current SLCC students. During this period, current students are eligible to register for classes prior to all new students.
- **Open registration.** The scheduling period for new first-time-in-college, new transfer, returning (previous), and visiting students.

### Schedule Changes
- **Add/drop.** Adjusting a scheduled class after registration, but prior to the add/drop deadline.
  - No affect on GPA (grade point average).
  - No affect on SAP (satisfactory academic progress).
  - **NOTE:** Financial aid will adjust if add/drop affects full-time or part-time status.
- **Withdraw.** Removing a scheduled class after the drop deadline, but prior to the withdrawal deadline.
  - Grade of “W” appears on transcript, however no impact on GPA.
  - Will affect SAP.

**NOTE:** Schedule change deadlines are posted on the academic calendar.

### Advising Resources
- **Advising handbook.** An online guide with tips on academic scheduling and degree planning.
- **College catalog.** An online collection of academic policies, procedures, requirements, and guidelines.
- **Degree plan.** A list of courses and requirements to complete a program.
- **Degree Works.** An online academic advising and degree audit system that monitors student progress toward degree completion. [Log into LoLA to access.](#)
- **LoLA (Logon Louisiana).** An online student information system that includes students’ personal information, academic records, unofficial transcript, financial aid summary, semester bill, and payment options.

See “FAQ” chapter of the **advising handbook** for additional information, as well as tips and suggestions for planning your path to graduation.

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