

#08-90/91-SA Resolution on High Unit Registration

WHEREAS, An academic load greater than 19 units has shown to be too demanding for most undergraduate students to complete successfully, while other students have succeeded with more units; and

WHEREAS, Some students have legitimate needs to take more than 19 units in a semester; and

WHEREAS, The practice of registering for an overload with the intent to subsequently withdraw from courses is both unfair to other students who want the courses and a burden on scarce university resources; and

WHEREAS, Academic advisors can better perform their professional duties when the registration system is designed to allow them to exercise reasonable professional judgment, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends the adoption of the proposed academic load policies (printed on reverse side); and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that the academic load policies be incorporated in future catalog copy and registration materials.

PASSED: 11/13/90

APPROVED: President McCrone, 02/05/91

PROPOSED ACADEMIC LOAD POLICIES

1. The normal maximum academic load for which undergraduate students may register is 19 units per semester. The academic load for graduate students will be determined in consultation between the student and the advisor.
2. With the approval of their advisors, undergraduate students may register for more than 19 units, up to the maximum indicated by the advisor. When the student goes for advisement and picks up registration materials, the advisor will indicate on the forms the maximum number of units the student may take. [New forms will be designed by the registrar to allow the advisors to make such indications and to prevent unauthorized changes.] Academic advisors will use their professional judgment when indicating the maximum units the student may take, and attempt to match the academic load with the capabilities and circumstances of the student. In general, only students with superior academic records should be allowed to enroll for more than the maximum. Factors such as time spent in employment or commuting, the nature of the academic program, extracurricular and co-curricular activities, past history of course completion, and the student's health should be considered in determining an academic load. Students are not required to take the maximum number of units indicated by their advisors.
3. If, between the time of advisement and the beginning of the next semester, the student's circumstances change and that student wants to take more than the maximum number of units

indicated, that student may go to his/her advisor who may change the maximum load limit until the time of the add-drop deadline. {Appropriate forms to make such changes will be designed by the registrar.}

4. Students who are not satisfied with the number of units approved by their advisors may appeal that decision to the department chair. If they are still not satisfied, they may appeal to the college dean. Each department and college shall devise procedures for students to appeal the limits set by their advisors.