

Summer Workload/Course Load Calculator

Determine the Summer Course Load That's Right for You! (In 3 Easy Steps)

STEP I:

So, you're considering taking a summer class. Let's run the numbers to see if you have the time this summer to successfully complete summer coursework. Read this workload table and then complete it by providing your information to #4. Using this table, you can determine the daily hours you can dedicate to summer coursework.

1. Start with the Number of Hours in a Day	24 hours in your day
2. You should sleep 7-8 hours per night and spend at least 1.5 hours eating and/or preparing meals. So, 9.5 hours have been subtracted from the 24 hours in your day.	14.5 hours remaining in your day
3. You should stay healthy by exercising and socializing with friends and family and you should dedicate time to personal hygiene such as doing laundry. Minimally this is 2 hours. So 2 more hours have been subtracted from the remaining 14.5 hours in your day.	12.5 hours remaining in your day
<p>4 Here is where you consider <u>your other commitments and subtract the time for these from the 12.5 hours remaining in your day:</u></p> <p>a. Do you have a job or are you volunteering and/or doing an internship during this summer session? <i>How many hours are you planning to work each day (hint: don't forget to add in commuting time)? Subtract this from the 12.5 hours remaining.</i></p> <p>b. Do you have a pet you have to walk once or twice a day or children you have to care for? <i>How many hours will these commitments demand? Subtract this from the 12.5 hours remaining.</i></p> <p>c. Do you belong to any clubs or organizations or have family obligations that require a daily time commitment? <i>If so, how many hours will these commitments demand? Subtract this from the 12.5 hours remaining.</i></p>	_____ hours remaining in your day
<p>You started with 24 hours in a day, then subtracted time for sleeping and eating (step 2), taking care of yourself (step 3), and meeting all your daily commitments (step 4) and ended up with the number of hours each day you can dedicate to summer coursework. Write that number in the box to the right. You'll use this number to determine the summer course load that is right for you.</p>	_____ = DAILY hours you can dedicate to summer course work*

STEP 2:

Next, let's consider the number of hours you'll need to dedicate **DAILY** to a summer course, based on the summer session and the credit hours of the course. First consider the summer session(s) and then consider the total number of credit hours you plan to take during each summer session.

3-Credit Hour Course in Maymester

If you are thinking of taking a **three (3) credit hour class** during Maymester here is what you need to consider:

- When taught during a regular (fall or spring) academic semester as a traditional face-to-face college course you would be expected to spend approximately 3 clock-hours per week in class and a minimum of 6 clock-hours (2 for every 1 in class) outside, for a total of at least 9 hours per week.
- Since this is a Maymester class the entire class will be completed in 18 days (about 2 and a half weeks) which is about a 6th (less than 20%) of the time you have during a regular academic semester. Essentially, you'll be learning a week of content almost every day. This means you'll need to dedicate **at least 7.5 hours a day to this course for 18 days straight**. Keep in mind this is a minimum and you may need more time for completing assignments and mastering the content of this course.

Course in Extended Summer

If you are thinking of taking a **three (3) credit hour class** during the Extended Summer session here is what you need to consider:

- When taught during a regular (fall or spring) academic semester as a traditional face-to-face college course you would be expected to spend approximately 3 clock-hours per week in class and a minimum of 6 clock-hours (2 for every 1 in class) outside, for a total of at least 9 hours per week.
- Since this is an extended summer class the entire class will be completed in 38 days (approximately 5 weeks) which is about a third (33%) of the time you have during a regular academic semester. This means you'll need to dedicate **at least 3 to 3.5 hours a day to this course 7 days a week for just over 5 weeks**. Keep in mind this is a minimum and you may need more time for completing assignments and mastering the content of this course.

If you are thinking of taking a **four (4) credit hour class** during the Extended Summer session here is what you need to consider:

- When taught during a regular (fall or spring) academic semester as a traditional face-to-face college course you would be expected to spend approximately 4 clock-hours per week in class (if a 4 credit hour lecture class, but more if a lecture and lab class combination) and a minimum of 8 clock-hours (2 for every 1 in class) outside, for a total of at least 12 hours per week.
- Since this is a summer class the entire class will be completed in 38 days (approximately 5 weeks) which is about a third (33%) of the time you have during a regular academic semester. This means you'll need to dedicate **at least 4.5 hours a day to this course 7 days a week for 5 weeks**. Keep in mind this is a minimum and you may need more time for completing assignments and mastering the content of this course.

Course in Summer I or Summer II

If you are thinking of taking a **three (3) credit hour class** during Summer I or Summer II session here is what you need to consider:

- When taught during a regular (fall or spring) academic semester as a traditional face-to-face college course you would be expected to spend approximately 3 clock-hours per

week in class and a minimum of 6 clock-hours (2 for every 1 in class) outside, for a total of at least 9 hours per week.

- Since this is a summer class the entire class will be completed in 28 days (approximately 4 weeks) which is about 25% of the time you have during a regular academic semester. Essentially, you'll be learning a week of content every two days. This means you'll need to dedicate **at least 4.5 to 5 hours a day to this course 7 days a week for 4 weeks**. Keep in mind this is a minimum and you may need more time for completing assignments and mastering the content of this course.

If you are thinking of taking a **four (4) credit hour class** during Summer I or Summer II session here is what you need to consider:

- When taught during a regular (fall or spring) academic semester as a traditional face-to-face college course you would be expected to spend approximately 4 clock-hours per week in class (if a 4 credit hour lecture class, but more if a lecture and lab class combination) and a minimum of 8 clock-hours (2 for every 1 in class) outside, for a total of at least 12 hours per week.
- Since this is a summer class the entire class will be completed in 28 days (approximately 4 weeks) which is about 25% of the time you have during a regular academic semester. Essentially, you'll be learning a week of content every two days. This means you'll need to dedicate **at least 6 hours a day to this course 7 days a week for 4 weeks**. Keep in mind this is a minimum and you may need more time for completing assignments and mastering the content of this course.

STEP 3:

Now that you have determined the number of hours you can dedicate to summer coursework and seen how the time needed to be successful in a summer course is determined, let's look at how these two numbers match up.

⇒ To compare the number of hours you determined you can dedicate to summer coursework to the time demand of the course you want to take during one or more summer sessions first write the number of hours from STEP 1 that you determined you can dedicate to summer coursework here: _____ hours per day.

⇒ Using Table 2 below, compare your number of daily hours available to the number of hours you'll need to dedicate daily to the summer course you are considering taking:

Table 2: Student's Summer Course Load Time Commitment by Session

Summer Session	Course Load (Credit hours)	Number of Hours You'll Need to Dedicate <u>DAILY</u> to This Summer Coursework (Clock hours per day)
Maymester	3	7.5
Extended Summer	3	3
	4	4.5

	6	6
	7	7.5
Summer I or Summer II	3	4.5
	4	6
	6	9
	7	10.5

⇒ What did you determine?

- Are you considering taking a 3-credit hour course during Maymester? If so, did you determine you have approximately 7.5 hours each day for this course?
- Are you considering taking classes during the extended summer session? If so, did you determine you have 3 hours each day to dedicate to a 3 credit hours course? If you are considering taking two classes for a total of 7 credit hours during extended summer did you determine you have 7.5 hours each day to dedicate to these courses?
- Are you considering taking classes during either the first or second summer session (Summer I or Summer II)? If so, did you determine you can dedicate 4.5 hours each day for one 3 credit hour course or 10.5 hours each day if you are considering two courses totaling 7 credit hours?

⇒ Do you have questions about summer coursework?

- Schedule a meeting with your academic advisor.