Definitions

Credit hours
Credit for academic work completed at Roosevelt University is earned in credit hours. Courses listed in the catalogs are 3 credit-hour courses unless otherwise noted. A 3-credit-hour class meets 2.5 clock hours per week for 15 weeks (2.5 hours x 15 weeks = 37.5 contact hours per term). Longer periods are required for 1 credit hour in laboratory courses and certain applied courses in art, drawing, and music. Note that in the College of Pharmacy, the academic year consists of four terms, but credit is still awarded based on credit hours.

Course load
The standard course load for a graduate student is 9 to 15 credit hours of coursework. Institutional scholarships and the RU flat rate tuition is available to those enrolled in 9 or more credit hours, however 6 credit hours of graduate work qualify for full-time status in terms of federal financial aid.

During the summer term, no more than 6 credit hours is standard. A student is considered part-time if enrolled in fewer than 9 credit hours in fall or spring term. For purposes of enrollment certification, a student must be enrolled in 6 credit hours in fall or spring to be considered half-time. No student is permitted to take more than 12 credit hours without the written consent of the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled. The university reserves the right to limit students’ programs when it is obvious that students have enrolled for more work than they can handle successfully.

International student course loads
Students in F-1/J-1 status must be full time (per the course load definitions above) during the fall and spring terms. Summer attendance is not required.

Course numbering system
Courses offered at Roosevelt University are identified by a subject area abbreviation and number. The course numbering system helps advisors and students find appropriate courses. Numbers also differentiate courses that are appropriate for particular populations of students.

Graduate-level courses are numbered from 400 to 799, with these distinctions:

- Most master’s degree courses are numbered from 400 to 499.
- Psychology master’s degree courses are numbered from 400 to 699.
- Education doctoral courses are numbered from 500 to 699.
- Psychology and Pharmacy doctoral courses are numbered from 500 to 799.

Individualized class sections
Individualized sections are sections that are created at the student’s request for a specific purpose. Graduate students, upon recommendation of the program chair and with the approval of the dean of their college, may be permitted to take individualized sections in order to pursue independent research or supervised readings.

Individualized sections are not listed in the schedule/Coursefinder (https://www.roosevelt.edu/Registrar/Schedule.aspx) online and may include theses, dissertations, project research, master’s degree projects, doctoral projects, internships, independent studies, and courses by arrangement. Only degree-seeking students are eligible to enroll in individualized sections or independent studies classes.

Online registration is not available for an individualized section. See the How to Register (https://www.roosevelt.edu/current-students/academics/register-classes/) webpage for more detail on procedures for registering for an individualized section.

Thesis, internship, practicum and dissertation
Some programs require an internship, thesis, practicum, or dissertation for degree completion. Registration must be approved by the graduate advisor and completed in the Office of the Registrar. A student who has not completed a thesis, internship, dissertation, or other final project by the end of the original term must maintain continued registration during fall and spring semesters until completion of the project. See the How to Register (https://www.roosevelt.edu/current-students/academics/register-classes/) webpage for more detail on procedures for registering for an individualized section.

For master’s students, except in the Chicago College of Performing Arts, students must register for the zero-credit course (course number followed by “Y”) to maintain continuous registration. Students in the Chicago College of Performing Arts must enroll for 1 hour of credit. Students who have not maintained continuous registration for thesis, dissertation, internship, or other final project courses will be required to register for all intervening fall and spring terms prior to graduation.

Transfer credit
Roosevelt accepts college-level credit from regionally accredited colleges and universities. Graduate Transfer Credit is evaluated by the individual department. The Graduate Transfer Credit Approval Form (https://inside.roosevelt.edu/spaces/80/student-success/wiki/view/2111/graduate-transfer-credit-approval-form/) must be filled out completely and submitted by your graduate program advisor, noting exactly how the course is to transfer: either as a direct equivalency to a Roosevelt course or as subject 4XX for a master’s-level course and 6XX for a doctoral course.

Grading and grade options

Audit courses
Students may audit selected courses. Students auditing a course attend classes consistent with the instructor’s attendance policy and may participate in any or all course requirements and examinations. No academic credit is granted for the course, and the grade of audit (AU) is the only grade recorded. It cannot be changed to another grade at a later date. For more detail, please see procedures for registering (https://www.roosevelt.edu/current-students/academics/register-classes/) for an audit course.
Grades
A student’s academic progress is indicated by grades A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D- or F in completed courses. The grade D is unacceptable towards graduate degree programs. Only two courses with grades of C may be counted toward completion of a graduate degree. Only one “C” grade may count toward completion of doctoral programs in the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education. The grade F indicates failure. Second examinations to raise final grades or to make up failures are not permitted.

P/F (pass/fail)
Graduate students may have the option to register for courses with a pass/fail grade option. The number of credit hours of such courses allowed to count toward a degree varies by program. Some degree programs also have required courses that must be taken as pass/fail. Students should consult with a faculty advisor regarding pass/fail options pertaining to their particular degree program.

IP (in progress)
The grade IP (in progress) is given only for specific courses (such as independent study, thesis, dissertation, practicum, or internship) that may have a span of two or more semesters.

I (incomplete)
A grade of Incomplete may be given only with the consent of the instructor and appropriate notification to the Office of the Registrar. An incomplete grade specifies to the student and to the registrar that only a small portion of the total semester’s work needs to be completed (e.g., the student may take a final examination, complete a paper, or finish similar requirements), that the student is academically able to complete the work, and that the student has presented a satisfactory reason to the instructor for not completing the work within the deadline of the regular semester.

Students must complete the course requirements by the date that the instructor has set. If no date is indicated, students must complete the course requirements prior to the end of the following semester, excluding summer. For work completed within the deadline, the incomplete grade will be removed when the instructor, using a grade update form, submits a letter grade evaluating academic progress (A, B, C, D, P, F). At the end of the following semester, the registrar will convert Incompletes that have no grade submitted and no extension granted to the default grade (A, B, C, D or F). The default grade is the grade submitted by the faculty member at the time when the original incomplete grade was granted. If no default grade is specified, a grade of F will be automatically submitted.

A student may be given an extension of an incomplete due to extraordinary circumstances — for example, if the instructor will not be available during the following semester to ensure that the work is completed. Under such circumstances, the instructor will complete and submit an Incomplete Grade — Extension Request form (https://www.roosevelt.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-resources/teaching-resources/entering-grades/).

W (withdrawal)
Students may withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” upon written request submitted to the Registrar’s Office by the published deadline on the Important Dates and Course Schedule page. (https://www.roosevelt.edu/current-students/academics/important-dates/) Approval by a financial aid counselor is also required if the student is receiving financial aid. Students should also inform their instructor of their intention to drop courses. After the published deadline, no grade of W will be permitted for academic reasons, and the student will be graded solely on academic performance at the end of the term. Stopping attendance or notifying an instructor, advisor, or any other staff or faculty member is not considered an official withdrawal. It may result in receiving a failing grade and being responsible for the full tuition payment. See the Important Dates and Course Schedule page (https://www.roosevelt.edu/current-students/academics/important-dates/) for detail on withdrawals, refunds, and petitions for late withdrawal for non-academic reasons.

Late Withdrawal
A student wishing to withdraw from a course after the withdrawal deadline has passed may request an exception to the withdrawal policy by submitting a Petition for Late W Grade form. Exceptions to this policy may be entertained because of extraordinary non-academic circumstances. Approval must be received from the instructor of the course, the department chair, and the dean.

Repeated courses
Students may retake a course with a grade of C or lower. This requires written approval by the program’s director. The form for this purpose must be submitted with the course selection worksheet at the time of registration. Students may repeat up to two courses for a maximum of 7 credit hours to improve grades. Both grades of a repeated course remain on the academic record; however, only the course with the higher grade is used in computing the grade point average and counted toward degree completion. This policy does not entitle the student to a retroactive degree and does not change the historical recording of academic standing.

For more information, please see procedures for repeating courses (https://www.roosevelt.edu/current-students/academics/register-classes/).

Information on repeated courses’ eligibility for financial aid is available on the Financial Aid web pages (https://www.roosevelt.edu/FinancialAid/Policies/RepeatedCourseWork.aspx). If the student repeats a course taken at another institution, only the credits earned at Roosevelt will be computed in the cumulative credits and grade point average.

Registration procedures
- See How to Register (https://www.roosevelt.edu/current-students/academics/register-classes/) webpage (https://www.roosevelt.edu/current-students/academics/register-classes/) for guidance on registering and withdrawing (https://www.roosevelt.edu/current-students/academics/register-classes/).

Cancelled classes
The university reserves the right to cancel classes. If a student is registered for a class that is canceled, that student will be dropped automatically and will receive advising assistance in selecting an alternative course. If a suitable alternative course cannot be found,
the student will receive a full tuition credit. Financial aid students should consult their counselors about implications for their aid.