GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Census
The date in which enrollment is considered finalized for the term/semester. After this date, full tuition is assessed for any new courses added to a student’s schedule or withdrawn courses.

Credit or Semester Hour
The unit of measurement for college credit. For each credit hour earned, you will spend approximately 50 minutes per week in class. You will also hear credit hours referred to as “hours” or “credits.”

College or School
An individual degree-granting unit within the University.
At CU Denver, there are seven undergraduate school and colleges:
- Architecture and Planning
- Arts and Media
- Business
- Education and Human Development
- Engineering and Applied Science
- Liberal Arts & Sciences
- Public Affairs

All of which are part of the University of Colorado Denver. Regardless of what school or college a student has been admitted to, they are a CU Denver student.

Course Drop
Dropping one or more courses, but not all, within a specific term prior to census. Dropped courses are not reflected on the student’s transcript.

Course Withdrawal
Dropping one or more courses, but not all, within a specific term after census. When students withdraw from a course, the course earns a grade of “W,” which will be reflected on the student’s transcript, but does not affect a student’s GPA.

Full Time/Part Time Enrollment
To be a full time graduate student, you must be registered for at least 5 credits. Part time enrollment is anything below 5 credits. Full time/part time status does not relate to how many days per week you come to campus for classes. Full time/part time status is defined differently for graduate students.

Grade Point Average
The grade point average (GPA) is calculated by multiplying the credit hours for the course by the points for the letter grade, totaling all the credit points and dividing them by the number of credit hours included. Pass grades and no-credit courses are not included in a student’s GPA.

Student’s University of Colorado GPA will not include courses that have been taken at other institutions prior to enrollment at the University of Colorado. The GPA for undergraduate students includes all courses taken as an undergraduate. This includes all grades for courses taken more than once.

Hold
A hold is a service indicator that prevents registering for classes and receiving an official transcript and/or diploma. A hold can be placed on a student’s record for a variety of reasons that may include financial, health, academic standing, required documentation, and advising. Students can view holds in the UCDAccess student portal. Students should contact the appropriate department to resolve the hold in a timely manner.

Incomplete Grade
Policies with respect to “I” grades are available in the individual college and school dean’s offices. Use of the “I” is at the discretion of the course instructor and/or the academic dean’s office. Please see the Grades definition for more information.

Independent Study
An academic experience created collaboratively with a faculty member. A student and a faculty member would decide the work to be produced, the hours dedicated to the study, the outcomes for the experience, and the credits earned for the study.

Requisites

Prerequisites
A course that needs to be taken prior to registration for the next course in the designated sequence.

Co-requisites
A course(s) that must be completed concurrently, in the same semester, with another course. Some schools and colleges may allow students to complete corequisites before enrolling in a concurrent course.

Restrictions
Restricted to a specific population (i.e. Restricted to MUSC majors, Restricted to junior standing, etc.)

Repeat
A course students may have re-enrolled in after completing the same course with a D- or higher. If a student has earned credit for a course already and chooses to re-enroll in the same course, the student will not earn additional credit.

Semester/Term Withdrawal
Dropping all courses within a specific semester or term. When students withdraw from all courses, each course earns a grade of “W,” which will be reflected on the student’s transcript, but does not affect their GPA. A term withdrawal note is also reflected separately on the transcript.