A full load for a graduate student during a semester is nine semester hours, and the maximum load is 15 semester hours with the exception of the M.S.W. program. A full load during the summer session is six semester hours. A student in a thesis or dissertation program must register for thesis/dissertation each semester during which the resources of the university (faculty, library, labs, etc.) are utilized. Credit for master's degree thesis research and writing courses, however, is awarded only one time, and enrollment in these courses is not counted in determining the maximum course load for a semester or summer session. Credit for doctoral dissertation research and writing courses is variable.

A student with a graduate assistantship must be enrolled for at least six semester credit hours of graduate courses in a fall or spring semester, or three semester credit hours during the summer to be eligible for an assistantship. A graduate assistant that falls below the minimum requirements for a semester will not be eligible for an assistantship the following semester; however, a full load for a graduate student, including graduate assistants, is nine semester hours. A graduate assistant who receives additional funding through scholarships, veteran's benefits, financial aid or other sources may be required to take nine hours to receive the additional benefits. Please consult the source of your additional benefits to determine the number of hours you must be enrolled in to receive the benefit. Except for the Ed.D., Ph.D. and M.F.A programs, graduate assistantships are usually limited to four semesters.

A graduate assistant who receives additional funding through scholarships, veteran's benefits, financial aid or other resources may be required to take nine hours to receive the additional benefits. A student should consult the source of additional funding to determine the number of hours you must be enrolled in to receive the benefits.