# UNC Charlotte Academic Policy: Baccalaureate Degree Progression

### **I. Introduction**

All baccalaureate degrees require completion of 120 credit hours (except for programs that have applied for and received a waiver to exceed 120 credit hours from the UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees), including all requirements for a major field of study.

### **II. Policy Statement**

**COURSE LOAD**

A standard load for an undergraduate student enrolled in the fall or spring semesters is between 15-18 credit hours.. A student must complete 15-16 credit hours per fall and spring semester to complete a bachelor's degree in four academic years. Enrollment in more than 18 credit hours in a fall or spring semester requires advance approval of the dean of the student's major college. An undergraduate student enrolled in 12 or more credit hours is considered to be a full-time student and must pay full tuition and fees.

A standard load for an undergraduate student enrolled in the summer semester is up to 14 credit hours. Enrollment in more than 14 credit hours in summer requires advance approval of the dean of the student’s major college. Students are not permitted to enroll in more than 7 credits in a summer half term, unless advance approval is received from the dean of the student’s major college.

The appropriate course load for an undergraduate student is dependent on two factors: scholastic ability as reflected by the student's academic history and available study time. Successful academic achievement usually requires at least two hours of study per week outside of class for each credit hour in which the student is enrolled. For example, enrollment in 16 credit hours would require minimally 32 hours of outside preparation per week.

**STUDENT CLASSIFICATION**

At the beginning of each semester, students working toward a bachelor's degree are classified on the basis of earned credit hours:

