



F-1/J-1 Online Enrollment Policy

Regulatory Background:

Sec. 214.2(f)(6)(i)(G): For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of **one class or three credits*** per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement. (Revised effective 1/1/03; [67 FR 76256](#).)

***“one class or three credits” is interpreted as:**

- **A single course of any # of credit hours**
- **A combination of courses up to (but not exceeding) 3 credit hours.**

IU Distance Education Courses

For the purposes of full-time enrollment, the following classifications of courses (as found in SIS) are considered fully online and are implicated in the regulation stated above:

- “Correspondence Course” – 75% or more through correspondence
- “Online Interactive Course” – 75 – 100% distance education
- “Online All” – 100% Distance education

Students may count only one of these courses towards their full-time enrollment requirement, however:

“Hybrid Courses,” on the other hand, are 26-75% face-to-face, and may be considered a regular course.



Sample Schedules (undergraduates requiring 12 credits)

Example A:

- 9 credits (3 courses) of hybrid coursework
- 3 credits (one course) of online coursework

√ Acceptable – Only one online course is being counted towards the minimum 12 credits of enrollment. Hybrid courses are not considered online.

Example B:

- 9 credits (3 courses) of regular coursework
- 6 credits (2 courses) of online course work

√ Acceptable – One online course counts towards the student’s required 12 credits, and the remaining online course is simply an extra. There is no rule restriction enrollment in additional online courses as long as only 1 is counted towards the required full-time enrollment in 12 credits.

Example C:

- 8 credits (3 classes) of regular course work
- 4 credits (1 class) of online course work

√ Acceptable – According to F-1 regulations, students may take “one class or three credits” of online course work per session. According to our interpretation, one class (regardless of credit hours) may be counted.

Example D:

- 9 credits (3 classes) of regular course work
- 3 credits (2 classes of 1.5 credits each) of online course

√ Acceptable - According to F-1 regulations, students may take “one class or three credits” of online course work per session. According to our interpretation, multiple classes adding up to, but not exceeding 3 credits may be counted.