

Q&A for Residential Students Requesting Online Enrollment

Q: When are O'Neill residential students eligible to register for online courses?

A: Residential students will be eligible to enroll in online courses several weeks in advance of the start of each semester. The exact date online courses will be available to residential students will be communicated via email from the MPO.

Q: Do I need permission to enroll in O'Neill Online courses?

A: O'Neill Online courses no longer require permission to enroll. However, if you are an outside dual student (e.g. MPA-MA) **and** are enrolling through the non-O'Neill school, you will need to request permission to enroll in O'Neill Online courses. Please email oneillrc@indiana.edu to request permission.

Q: Which O'Neill Online courses are available to residential students?

A: Residential students can enroll in all online courses except:

- SPCN-V 600 Capstone
- SPCN-V 551 O'Neill Online Week

Q: How many courses are residential students allowed to take online?

A: Residential students **MUST** take the majority (greater than 50%) of their degree credits residentially; we will be referring to this as the **Minimum Residential Credits**. This number will be determined by using the total number of IU credits counting towards a student's degree, which we will refer to as the **Total Credit Count**. The Total Credit Count number will vary depending on degree program, transfer credit, credit reductions, and in some cases, each student's course choices. Assuming that a student is taking the full program through IU, is not in a dual degree program, and does not have a credit reduction, the Minimum Residential Credits for the public affairs programs are:

- MPA: 25
- Public Affairs Certificates: 8

Since O'Neill does not offer other degree programs online at this time, we do not anticipate non-public affairs students nearing the Minimum Residential Credits threshold.

Q: How does the Total Credit Count work for residential dual degree students?

A: For dual degree students whose curriculum is integrated (MAAA-MPA and MPA-MSES), greater than 50% of credits for each degree must be taken in the modality in which the student wants their degrees awarded. This means that the total number of credits required by each dual degree (60 credits for the MPA-MSES and 63 credits for the MAAA-MPA) is NOT used to calculate the Minimum Residential Credits. Credits must be separated by the degree program requirement to which they apply in order to find the total number of degree credits used for each degree's Total Credit Count. There is no standard number used for the Total Credit Count, as some requirements could count towards either program. **In these cases, the Minimum Residential Credits will be determined on a case-by-case basis; students should contact the O'Neill Graduate Records Office for a calculation based on their specific situation.**

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Q: How do Prior Experience (professional, volunteer, military) credit reductions factor into the Total Credit Count?

A: Prior Experience credit reductions DO NOT factor into the Total Credit Count. If a student receives a credit reduction, we will use the total number of IU enrolled credits to find the Minimum Residential Credits (e.g., if an MPA student is approved for a 6-credit hour reduction, only the 42 enrolled credits would be taken into consideration for the Total Credit Count, making the Minimum Residential Credits 22).

Q: How does transfer credit factor into the Total Credit Count?

A: It depends on the type of transfer credit.

- Transfer credits from **other institutions** DO NOT factor into the Total Credit Count. If a student receives transfer credit from a non-IU institution, we will use the total number of enrolled credits through IU to find the Minimum Residential Credits.
- Transfer credits from **other IU campuses or IUB departments** DO factor into the Total Credit Count.

Q: What will happen if a residential student ends up enrolling more than 50% of their degree credits online?

A: If a residential MPA student takes more than half of their degree credits online, they will be switched to the online MPA program before their degree is awarded. Please note, the online MPA program does not utilize concentrations. Online students are required to identify a focus area, but the focus area will not appear on students' transcripts. Since O'Neill does not offer other degree programs online at this time, we do not anticipate non-public affairs students going below the Minimum Residential Credits threshold.

Q: How do COVID semesters (summer 2020, fall 2020, spring 2021), when the entire university was mostly online, affect residential students?

A: Courses taken during COVID semesters (SU20, F20, S21) will not be factored into the Total Credit Count.