Eight-Semester Degree Completion Policy

The University of Arkansas is committed to helping all of its students identify and achieve their educational goals. The many University of Arkansas programs of study and activities provide opportunities to students to follow varied career and learning paths and enjoy educational experiences of different kinds. Plans for degree completion are available in the Catalog of Studies and from colleges, schools, and departments. Academic advising services in each college and school assist students in making plans for their own degree completion and in carrying them out consistent with students’ abilities, circumstances, and preferences.

The Eight-Semester Degree Completion Program (DCP), makes it possible for qualified degree-seeking freshmen to express their intention — and assume the associated obligations — to complete identified bachelor’s degree programs of study in four academic years. The list of majors and degrees designed to be completed in eight semesters and for which the DCP is available is maintained by each college and school. It may be accessed from the DCP Web site and is published in the Catalog of Studies. Colleges, schools and individual departments can provide this list as well. Before registering for their first semester of study, all freshmen entering the university must accept participation, decline participation, or acknowledge ineligibility for participation in the DCP by signing the Participation Document. New freshmen will be notified regarding how to view the Participation Document on-line and learn more about registering for a Degree Completion Program. A student’s participation or nonparticipation in the DCP will not affect scholarship eligibility.

Students who are admissible to the DCP and who choose to participate have the responsibility for meeting all requirements specified by the university and their degree completion plan and the responsibility for complying with the DCP policy. The university is responsible for providing academic support and for ensuring that students can complete university, program and course requirements within eight consecutive semesters. The university will also provide students with timely notifications to the student’s official university e-mail address regarding advising, registration, and other requirement completion information.

A student may choose at any time to discontinue participation in the DCP without penalty. Students are encouraged to discuss such choices with an authorized academic adviser for the program of study. Participation and subsequent withdrawal from the DCP will not jeopardize the student’s opportunity to complete the degree program, to do so in a timely manner, or to complete another degree program or major by fulfilling program requirements.

In some circumstances it may be in a student’s best interest to decline participation or withdraw from the DCP. Examples include students who are not prepared to choose a major before enrolling for the first semester and students who feel that a full semester class load of 15 or 16 hours will be too heavy given other responsibilities. Other students may plan to study abroad for a semester in an institution where the required courses are not offered or to participate in a semester-long internship program not included in the program plan. A decision or need to work or participate in certain time-intensive curricular and extra-curricular activities such as band and intercollegiate athletics may make it impossible to schedule all requirements in some programs. A student may be required to withdraw from the DCP as a result of illness or other personal circumstances that make it impossible to do his or her best work, continue as a full-time student, or complete requirements in the time available. There are also a number of acts and events that may or will cause the DCP agreement to be voided; these are identified below in the section “Student acts and other events that will or may void the degree completion plan agreement.”

Requirements for Admission to the Eight-Semester Degree Completion Program (DCP):

1. Participants must begin their program of study in the fall semester as first-time, full-time freshmen and must be committed to be full-time students able to enroll in and successfully complete at least 31-36 hours each academic year.
2. Participants must have chosen a major included in the DCP, must meet all admission requirements for the chosen program of study including applicable program grade point average and other grade requirements, and must have been admitted to programs requiring formal program admission.
3. Participants must be qualified to begin enrollment in the fall semester without being required to take remedial courses in math, English, or reading or other course prerequisites to entry-level courses in the chosen program of study.

Requirements for Continuance and Completion of the Eight-Semester Degree Completion Program:

1. Students must follow exactly the degree completion plan for the chosen major and must meet all the specified requirements in their degree plan each semester unless an alternative is approved by an authorized academic adviser for their program or unless they have already met the requirement.
2. Students must be continuously enrolled in and successfully complete at least 31-36 semester credit hours of appropriate course work each academic year as outlined in their degree completion plan.
3. Students must make satisfactory academic progress as defined by the university and degree program and must maintain the grade point average required by the university and the program of study.
4. Students must monitor their own progress in meeting the requirements identified in their degree completion plan, consistent with the program plan.
5. Students must register for classes at the first/earliest assigned time during their designated registration period each semester for the following term. For courses required for graduation, students must accept any available course or class section that does not conflict with other required courses. Students should understand that special scheduling accommodations cannot be guaranteed for work or other activities including athletics and band.

Students must seek assistance from an authorized academic adviser for their chosen program of study if they are unable to identify or register for any course(s) required for that semester in their degree program. For situations in which an authorized academic adviser for the program cannot identify a required course for the student to take, the adviser must notify the department chair and dean for the student’s program of study that it has not been possible for the student to complete registration for a required course for the next semester of enrollment. Notification must be made in writing immediately following the unsuccessful attempt to register. Consistent with the terms of the degree completion
program, the chairperson or dean will identify an alternate course, in 
writing, to fulfill graduation requirements or will provide an override 
to allow the student to enroll in the required course(s). 
Students must complete registration no later than the last official 
day of class for the fall or spring term preceding the next term of 
enrollment, unless the identification of an appropriate course to 
complete the student’s registration is still in progress. 
6. Students must have prior written approval by an authorized 
academic adviser before enrolling in any course at another 
institution (such as concurrent enrollment, enrollment during a 
summer term, or study abroad) if the student wishes to transfer the 
course and have the course included in the coursework submitted 
for the degree completion plan. 
7. Students must confer with an authorized academic adviser for 
their program before withdrawing from a required course as such a 
withdrawal will void the DCP agreement. 
8. Students must at all times maintain an accurate local address, 
and telephone number in official university records. Students may make 
changes to such information in the Student Information System Self 
Service component as needed and should make them immediately 
following any change. Students may also make changes by written 
notice to the Registrar. 
9. Students must respond in a timely way to any official notice or 
message from an authorized academic adviser and to any official 
notice regarding registration, degree progress, financial obligations 
or aid, or any other university requirement. 
10. Students must make timely application for all necessary financial 
assistance, consistent with deadlines. 
11. Students must meet all university degree requirements (including 
formal application for graduation consistent with deadlines and 
requirements as established by the Registrar for the semester in 
which the student is scheduled for graduation).

Student Acts and Other Events That Will 
or May Void the Degree Completion Plan 
Agreement:

1. Withdrawing from (“dropping”) a required course 
2. Receiving a failing grade in a required course or receiving a grade 
below that required by the program 
3. Changing one’s major or degree program 
4. Withdrawing from the University of Arkansas 
5. Failure to meet any degree requirement(s) as specified and in the 
time specified 
6. Unauthorized non-payment or delayed payment of any tuition or 
fees 
7. Incurring a disciplinary action affecting the student’s enrollment 
8. Failing to comply with any other requirement of the Eight-Semester 
Degree Completion Policy.

Appeal Process 
A student may appeal the voiding of the DCP to the dean of the college or 
school in which the student is enrolled. The appeal process requires that 
the student submit a statement of the basis for the appeal to the dean in 
writing within 30 days following notification of the voiding of the program, 
with a copy to an authorized academic adviser for the program. The dean 
will notify the student and the adviser of the outcome of the appeal within 
60 days after receiving the statement.

The university provides semester-by-semester plans to help students 
complete their degrees in a timely manner. Immediately following are 
links to plans that qualify for the university’s Eight-Semester Degree 
Completion Policy. Below them are plans that do not qualify for the 
eight-semester policy but which also provide a road map to finishing 
most degrees in four years. Following those are plans for professional 
programs that usually take five years.

Eight-Semester Plans

- Agricultural Business B.S.A. with Agricultural Economics Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/agricultural_business_bsa_with_agricultural_economics_concentration)
- Agricultural Business B.S.A. with Management and Marketing Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/agricultural_business_bsa_with_management_and_marketing_concentration)
- Agricultural Business B.S.A. with Pre-Law Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/agricultural_business_bsa_with_prelaw_concentration)
- Agricultural Education Communication and Technology B.S.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/agricultural_education_communication_and_technology_bsa)
- Animal Science B.S.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/animal_science_bsa)
- Anthropology B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/anthropology_ba)
- Anthropology B.S. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/anthropology_ba)
- Art B.A. with Concentration in Art History (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/artbawithartconcentration)
- Art B.A. with Concentration in Studio Art (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/artbawithstudioartconcentration)
- Art B.F.A. with Concentration in Art Education (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/artbawitharteducationconcentration)
- Art B.F.A. with Concentration in Studio Art (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/artbawithstudioartconcentration)
- Biology B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/biology_ba)
- Biomedical Engineering B.S.Bm.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/biomedical_engineering_bsbme)
- Career and Technical Education B.S.E. with Technology Education Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/career_and_technical_education_bse_with_technology_education_concentration)
• Career and Technical Education B.S.E. with Family and Consumer Sciences Education Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/career_and_technical_education_bsewith_family_and_consumer_sciences_education_concentration)

• Chemical Engineering B.S.Ch.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/chemical_engineering_bsch)e)

• Chemistry B.A. with Biochemistry Option (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/chemistry_ba_with_biochemistry_option)

• Chemistry B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/chemistry_ba)

• Chemistry B.S. with Biochemistry Option (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/chemistry_bsvbiochemistryoption)

• Chemistry B.S. with Biophysical Option (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/chemistry_bsvbiophysicaloption)

• Chemistry B.S. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/chemistry_bsv)

• Childhood Education B.S.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/childhood_education_bse)

• Civil Engineering B.S.C.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/civil_engineering_bscve)

• Classical Studies B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/classical_studies_ba)

• Communication B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/communication_ba)

• Communication Disorders B.S.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/communication_disorders_bse)

• Community Health Promotion B.S.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/community_health_promotion_bse)

• Computer Engineering B.S.Cmp.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/computereengineering_bscmpe)

• Computer Science B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/computerscience_ba)

• Computer Science B.S. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/computerscience_bsv)

• Criminal Justice B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/criminal_justice_ba)

• Drama B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/drama_ba)

• Earth Science B.S. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/earth_science_bsv)

• Economics B.A. with Emphasis in International Economics and Business (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/economics_ba_with_emphasis_in_international_economics_and_business)

• Economics B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/economics_ba)

• Economics B.S.B.A. with Business Economics Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/economicsbsbawithbusinesseconomicsconcentration)


• Electrical Engineering B.S.E.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/electrical_engineering_bsee)

• Elementary Education B.S.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/elementaryeducation_bsee)

• Engineering First Year (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/engineering_first_year)

• English B.A. with Concentration in Creative Writing (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/englishbawithconcentrationincreativewriting)

• English B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/english_ba)

• Environmental, Soil and Water Science B.S.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/environmental_soil_and_water_science_bsa)

• Finance B.S.B.A. with Banking Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/financebsbawithbankingconcentration)

• Finance B.S.B.A. with Financial Management and Investment Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/financebsbawithfinancialmanagementandinvestmentconcentration)

• Finance B.S.B.A. with Insurance Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/financebsbawithinsuranceconcentration)

• Finance B.S.B.A. with Personal Financial Management Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/financebsbawithpersonalfinancialmanagementconcentration)

• Finance B.S.B.A. with Real Estate Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/financebsbawithrealestateconcentration)

• Finance B.S.I.B. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/financebsib)

• Food, Human Nutrition and Hospitality B.S.H.E.S., Dietetics Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/food_human_nutrition_and_hospitality_bhes_dietetics_concentration)

• Food, Human Nutrition and Hospitality B.S.H.E.S., General Foods and Nutrition Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/food_human_nutrition_and_hospitality_bhes_general_foods_and_nutrition_concentration)

• Food, Human Nutrition and Hospitality B.S.H.E.S., Hospitality and Restaurant Management Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/food_human_nutrition_and_hospitality_bhes_hospitality_and_restaurant_management_concentration)

• Food Science B.S.A., Food Science Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/foodsciencebsa_foodscienceconcentration)

• French B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/french_ba)

• General Business B.S.B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/generalbusiness_bba)


• General Human Environmental Sciences B.S.H.E.S. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/general_human_environmental_sciences_bhes)

• Geography B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/geography_ba)

• German B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/german_ba)

• History B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/history_ba)
• Human Development and Family Sciences B.S.H.E.S. with Birth through Kindergarten Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/human_development_and_family_sciences_bshes_with_birth_through_kindergarten_concentration)
• Human Development and Family Sciences B.S.H.E.S. with Child Development Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/human_development_and_family_sciences_bshes_with_child_development_concentration)
• Human Development and Family Sciences in B.S.H.E.S. with Life Span Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/human_development_and_family_sciences_in_bshes_with_life_span_concentration)
• Industrial Engineering B.S.I.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/industrial_engineering_bsie)
• Information Systems B.S.B.A. with Enterprise Systems Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/informationsystemsbsbawithenterprisesystemconcentration)
• Information Systems B.S.B.A. with IT Applications Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/informationsystemsbsbawithitapplicationconcentration)
• Information Systems B.S.I.B. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/information_systems_bsib)
• International Relations B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/international_relations_ba)
• Journalism B.A. with Advertising-PR Sequence (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/journalismbsbawithadvertisingprsequence)
• Journalism B.A. with Broadcast Sequence (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/journalismbsbawithbroadcastsequence)
• Journalism B.A. with News/Editorial Sequence (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/journalismbsbawithnewsseditorialsequence)
• Journalism/Political Science B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/journalismpoliticalscience_ba)
• Kinesiology B.S.E., Applied Exercise Science Concentration III (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/kinesiologysbseappliedexercisescienceconcentration)
• Kinesiology B.S.E., P-12 Concentration I (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/kinesiologybsbep12concentration)
• Kinesiology B.S.E., Pre-Professional Concentration II (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/kinesiologybspreprofessionalconcentration)
• Landscape Architecture Studies B.S. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/landscape_architecture_studies_bs)
• Management B.S.B.A., Human Resources Management Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/managementbsbahumanresourcesmanagementconcentration)
• Management B.S.B.A., Organizational Leadership Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/managementbsbaorganizationalleadershipconcentration)
• Management B.S.B.A., Small Business and Entrepreneurship Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/managementbsbasmallbusinessandentrepreneurshipconcentration)
• Management B.S.I.B. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/managementbsib)
• Marketing B.S.B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/marketing_bsba)
• Marketing B.S.I.B. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/marketing_bsig)
• Mathematics B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/mathematics_ba)
• Mathematics B.S. Option 1 (Applied) (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/mathematicsbsoption1applied)
• Mathematics B.S. Option 2 (Pure) (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/mathematicsbsoption2pure)
• Mathematics B.S., Option 3 (Statistics) (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/mathematicsbsoption3statistics)
• Mechanical Engineering B.S.M.E. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/mechanical_engineering_bsm)
• Philosophy B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/philosophy_ba)
• Physics B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/physics_ba)
• Physics B.S. with Astronomy Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/physicsbswithastronomyconcentration)
• Physics B.S. with Biophysics Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/physicsbswithbiophysicsconcentration)
• Physics B.S. with Computational Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/physicsbswithcomputationalconcentration)
• Physics B.S. with Electronics Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/physicsbswithelectronicsconcentration)
• Physics B.S. with Optics Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/physicsbswithopticsconcentration)
• Political Science B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/political_science_ba)
• Poultry Science B.S.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/poultry_science_bsa)
• Psychology B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/psychology_ba)
• Retail B.S.B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/retail_bba)
• Sample Music B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/samplemusic_ba)
• Sample Music B.M., Music Education (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/samplemusicbmmusiceducation)
• Sample Music B.M., Music Performance (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/samplemusicbmmusiperformance)
• Social Work B.S.W. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/social_work_bsw)
• Sociology B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/sociology_ba)
• Spanish B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/spanish_ba)
• Supply Chain Management B.S.B.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/supply_chain_management_bsba)
• Supply Chain Management B.S.I.B. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/plangrids/supply_chain_management bsib)

Four-Year Plans

The following plans do not qualify for the Eight-Semester Degree Completion Policy, usually because they require a summer internship or
field course, and, therefore, take nine semesters. However these plans offer students a road map to complete their degree in four years.

- Agricultural and Extension Education B.S.A. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/dalebumperscollegeofagriculturalfoodandlifesciences/agriculturalandextensioneducationaeed/#eightsemesterplantext)
- Food Science B.S.A., Food Technology Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/dalebumperscollegeofagriculturalfoodandlifesciences/foodsciencefdsc/#eightsemesterplantext)
- Food Science B.S.A., Food and Culinary Sciences Concentration (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/dalebumperscollegeofagriculturalfoodandlifesciences/foodsciencefdsc/#eightsemesterplantext)
- Geology B.S. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/jwilliamfullbrightcollegeofartsandsciences/geologygeol/#ninesemesterplantext)

Five-Year Plans

The following plans do not qualify for the Eight-Semester Degree Completion Policy, in part because they are intended to be five-year professional programs. However, these plans offer students a road map to complete their degree in five years.

- Architecture B.Arch. (http://catalog.uark.edu/archives/2013-14/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/fayjonesschoolofarchitecture/architecturearch/#tensemesterplantext)