Frequently Asked Questions about University of Wisconsin–Madison Summer Term

Q: What is Summer Term?
A: Summer Term is a regular academic term, just like Fall and Spring Term.

Q: Why should I take Summer Term courses?
A: 1) It’s a great way to get ahead in your studies.
2) Earning credits in the summer gives you more time to participate in semester-long study abroad programs, co-ops, and internships.
3) Summer courses can help you stay on track for graduation.
4) Taking classes in the summer can lighten your course load in fall or spring.

Q: What courses are offered?
A: UW-Madison offers more than 1,000 three-week to eight-week courses on campus and more than 100 online throughout May, June, July, and August. These include some of our most in-demand classes, and cover a wide range of disciplines.

Q: What is the difference between face-to-face and online courses?
A: The only difference is how they are delivered. All face-to-face and online courses are taught with same level of academic rigor by our prestigious UW-Madison faculty.

Q: When can I enroll in summer courses?
A: The list of summer courses that will be offered is available in your MyUW Student Center in early January. You can begin enrolling via your MyUW Student Center, the same way you enroll for Fall and Spring courses, in late March/early April.

Q: How much time should I expect to spend on my summer course?
A: Course load depends on the number of credits you take. Summer courses are accelerated. Courses are taught over a three-week to eight-week period instead of the normal 16-week period. Expect to spend approximately 15-18 hours per week, including homework time, on each eight-week, three-credit course.

Q: How many credits can I take?
A: In general, you may carry one credit per week of instruction during Summer Term. The limit for summer work is 12 credits.

Q: How much is tuition for a summer course?
A: In summer 2015, tuition and fees for a one-credit course is $455.01 for Wisconsin residents, $571.12 for Minnesota residents, and $1,132.08 for non-residents. Visit the Office of the Registrar at registrar.wisc.edu for the most accurate information.

Q: Is financial aid available?
A: Yes. It is possible to receive financial aid for Summer Term, through Federal Direct Loan and Federal Work-Study. More information is available at the Office of Student Financial Aid at finaid.wisc.edu.

Q: Are scholarships available?
A: Yes. UW-Madison Undergraduate Awards for Summer Study scholarships are need-based awards available to high-achieving undergraduate students who seek financial support to take Summer Term courses.

Q: Is housing available in the summer?
A: Yes. You can apply for on-campus housing in a UW-Madison University Residence Hall. However, spaces are limited during summer. See University Housing at www.housing.wisc.edu for more information.

Q: What academic support is available for students during the summer?
A: Most student services and academic support are open and available to you during the Summer Term. Some tutoring services are limited.

Q: Who do I contact if I have more questions?
A: Contact your academic advisor for questions about summer course selection and enrollment. If you have general questions, you can also contact UW-Madison Summer Term at summer@dcs.wisc.edu or visit summer.wisc.edu.

6 out of 10 UW-Madison students participate in at least one Summer Term before graduation.