

Registration – What courses will I be taking?

Registration – Overview

You will be working toward a bachelor's degree.

What does this mean? How does this work?

- If a student starts as a freshmen and plans to graduate in four years, the student will need to average 31 earned credits each year to reach the minimum of 124.
- Fulltime students are enrolled in 12-16 hours per semester – depending on the student's GPA an overload above 16 credits is possible, for an additional fee.
- McPherson College is on a 4-1-4 academic calendar. This means that we have a January session where students can take one course. There currently is no additional tuition for January, so it is a great time to earn more credits.

Registration – Credit Hours

What is a credit hour?

- The credit hour typically correlates with the amount of time in class and the amount of time a student should expect to study.
- For each hour of academic credit, a student should expect to spend 50 minutes per week in class.
- For each hour of academic credit, a student should expect to spend approximately 2 hours of outside class time for study and completion of assignments.

Bucket 1, Bucket 2, Bucket 3

As you look at earning your bachelor's degree and the various courses available, you will take three types of courses: major, general education, and elective courses.

All three of these types of courses are important to help you reach the minimum number of earned credits (124 credits) toward your degree.



Major Courses



General Education
Courses



Elective Courses

Bucket 1 – Major Courses

Major Courses are just as they sound. These are courses related to your major area of study.

Students start taking major courses their first semester at McPherson College which helps them be better prepared for field experiences early on.



Major Courses

Bucket 2 – General Education Courses

At the root of a liberal arts education are the general education courses.

When you see your course schedule, you will notice that some of the courses begin with a “G”. That means it meets a general education requirement.

Effort is made to align general education courses with your major, when possible. For instance, G-BAI 30 – Principles of Business Management is required for business majors **and** it meets a general education requirement. Win-Win!



General Education
Courses

Bucket 3 – Elective Courses

Elective courses give you the opportunity to take the additional courses to enhance your degree outside of the required courses.

Some students use them to take some to explore things that might be of interest like yoga, personal finance, or an additional literature course.



The bucket for transfer students...

As a transfer student, you already have courses in your bucket.

- We will want to meet during the first few weeks of school to make sure you have a good understanding of how your bucket is filled and what is required to earn your degree.
- Your last 60 credit hours must come from a four-year college or university. No more than 64 credits will transfer from two-year institutions.
- You must earn a minimum of 32 credits at McPherson College.



Completed Registration

Just a reminder that once you have completed pre-registration with an admissions counselor we will begin working on your schedule.

Please allow 2 weeks for your schedule to be available.

In order to check your schedule on Bulldog Connect, we have provided a tutorial on “How to check your schedule”. Once your schedule is complete, if you have any questions or concerns, contact registrar@mcpherson.edu so we can assist you prior to your arrival.

