

UMass Amherst Graduation with Honors: 45 Graded Residence Credits Minimum

Any UMass Amherst student (Commonwealth College member or not) who matriculated to the University prior to Fall 2009 and wishes to graduate with Latin honors must earn **45 graded residence credits**.

This requirement is stated in the University's *Guide to Undergraduate Programs* and the Commonwealth College *Contract*. Please carefully review the following guidelines which explain graded, residence, and transfer credits.

If you have any questions regarding this requirement, do not wait until your senior year to ask; meet with a ComCol advisor immediately.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFICE: IPO, 467 Hills South, 545-2710.

- **Graded residence credit** awarded for IPO programs that have a UMass resident director. Programs include: Angers, France; Siena, Italy; Dijon, France; Rouen, France; Salamanca, Spain; Oxford, England; Freiburg/Baden-Wurtemberg, Germany; and ICHA-Brig/HRTA, Switzerland.
- **Graded residence credit** awarded, ***subject to approval***, for IPO programs that do not have a UMass resident director.
Commonwealth College may request IPO to authorize that grades achieved abroad be calculated in the student's cumulative GPA. ***If approved***, all courses and grades are recorded on the student's transcript and credits are regarded as graded residence credits.
- **Transfer credit** (not residence, not graded) awarded for study abroad in a non-IPO program.

FIVE COLLEGE INTERCHANGE: **graded residence credit** awarded.

DOMESTIC EXCHANGE: **residence credit** (not graded) awarded.

GENERAL TRANSFER coursework: **transfer credit** (not residence, not graded) awarded.
(e.g., MA community and state colleges; 4-year colleges or universities in the U.S.; or foreign institutions)

UMASS AMHERST CONTINUING EDUCATION:

- credits completed *prior* to matriculation as a full time student in a UMass Amherst degree program: **transfer credit** (not residence, not graded) awarded.
- credits completed *post*-matriculation as a full time student in a UMass Amherst degree program: **graded residence credit** awarded.

Additional Information. Please read.

- Courses taken under the pass/fail option do not earn graded credit.
- University internship/practicum pass/fail credit will earn residence credits only, unless registered through a department that allows graded practica. Ask a ComCol advisor when initiating this kind of work.
- The University's *Undergraduate Rights & Responsibilities* states:
"A student must successfully complete a minimum of 45 credits in residence." These are defined as being credits earned for work done while registered on the Amherst campus of the University of Massachusetts or while enrolled in one of the University's formal exchange programs. These are the University's minimum *residence* credits required for a Bachelor's degree. **Latin honors and Commonwealth College require 45 graded residence credits, as explained above.**