

## Key Advising Terms

It is often said that academicians speak a different language. In many ways this is true. There are a variety of academic terms that you may hear but are not yet familiar to you. This glossary serves as an introduction to some of these terms.

**Closed course** - a course that is filled to capacity. Look for an alternate and keep looking at Student Planning for openings.

**Corequisites** - two courses that must be taken simultaneously. For example, CHEM 105 (lecture) must be taken with CHEM 106 (lab).

**Credits** - the means by which your academic progress is measured. Typically they represent the number of hours spent in a particular class each week. For example, an accounting class that meets three hours per week would be considered a three credit course and a math class that meets four hours per week is a four credit course. This is not always the case as some classes will meet more hours each week than the number of credits they are worth. Physical education courses are 0.5 credits and Pass/No Pass. In addition, if you complete a season of a varsity sport, you may receive one credit for Physical Education. You must register for PE 200 for the semester your sport ends. Undergraduate degree programs at Widener require 120-137 credits.

**Drop/add** - the process of dropping one course and adding another. During the first week of each semester, you have the ability to drop a course or section online and try to add another course or section. It is important to make sure you can add a course before dropping one to keep the correct amount of credits. Also, if you do make changes to your courses online be sure to discuss these change with your advisor.

**G.P.A.** - Grade Point Average - a numerical means of calculating the composite of all of your grades. Widener uses a 4.0 scale. Referring to your Undergraduate Catalog, what are the numerical values of the following grades?

A \_\_\_\_\_ A- \_\_\_\_\_ B+ \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_ B- \_\_\_\_\_  
C+ \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ C- \_\_\_\_\_ D+ \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_

**Prerequisite** - a course that must be taken before you can take another; for example, PSY 105 is a prerequisite for all other psychology courses. This means that you must successfully master the material in PSY 105 before you are allowed to move on to the material in other psychology courses. Pay close attention for specific prerequisites for each course that you want to register.

**Registration form** – form needed when you are repeating a course, or are unable to register online. Various signatures are needed. When this form has been processed at Enrollment Services to repeat a course, your most current grade will be reflected in your GPA and your first grade will no longer have weight in your GPA but will always remain on your transcript.

**Withdraw** – as compared to courses that you drop that do not have a permanent record, courses that you withdraw from stay on your academic record. Please note the deadline for class withdrawal without academic penalty each semester as listed on the academic calendar.