

Department of Political Science

Assistance and Information for Students on Probation

All students want to achieve the highest possible GPA. However, at a minimum, a student should maintain a GPA at or above 2.0 (overall and within their major). If this minimum GPA does become a problem, a student should be aware of the Academic Regulations involving probation and the various message codes. Information is available from your advisor and on-line at

- [Undergraduate Catalog, Academic Regulations, scroll down to Academic Probation & Dismissal](#); and
- [Advisor Handbook](#).

Grade Point Deficiency (GPD) is the principal indicator of the challenge facing a student on probation.

- Specifically, the GPD is defined as the number of credit hours with a grade of B necessary to raise your GPA to a 2.0. The Grade Point Deficiency is equal to [the product of your Total Hours Attempted (THA) multiplied by 2] minus [your Current Total Grade Points(CTGP)]. Or, symbolically, it is $(THA * 2) - CTGP$.
- For example, if your GPA were 1.903, with 59 current total grade points and 31 total hours attempted, your GPD would be $(31 * 2) - 59$, or 3. Thus, you would 3 hours with a grade of B to raise your overall GPA to 2.0.
- If the Department is asked to recommend a student for re-admission, we will do so only if the GPD is 12 or less. Any student who has a GPD greater than 12 is at considerable risk of not being able to graduate.

Support Services. The University has a wide of variety of support services for students at risk (or even for students not on probation but feel they need additional help). Most of these can be found at the following link to the University web site: [Academic Support](#). However, a student should always recognize that the primary responsibility for their academic success will depend on their own effort. While others can provide assistance, the only true guarantee for academic success is the student's own preparation and effort. Also, a student should first and foremost rely upon their individual instructors for assistance. In addition to their willingness to address questions and provide assistance during class-time, all faculty will have office hours for individual tutoring.