



Southwestern Summer Courses and January Intersession

Faculty policy. Effective immediately.

Revision history: Formerly a part of the annually revised Student Handbook; established as part of the Academic Policies and Procedures standalone policy in August 2022; established as a standalone policy in August 2023.

Related policies: SCALE Program Policies; Registration Policies and Procedures; Student's Right to Cancel and Tuition Refund Policy; Student Tuition Recovery Fund

Scheduled Review Date: July 2025 (Student Services Office)

A. Summer Courses

Southwestern offers extensive summer programs comprising in-class courses during summer sessions and externships. Current Southwestern students, in addition to law students who have completed at least one year of law school and are currently in good standing at an ABA-approved or state-accredited law school, may enroll in summer courses at Southwestern. While full-time students in the full-time program are not required to attend summer sessions, part-time students must attend at least two summer sessions to graduate within four years. SCALE students may select the on-campus summer session as a SCALE summer session option. (See the *SCALE Program Policies* for more information.)

1. Computation of GPA for non-SCALE students

For purposes of computing the GPA, units earned in the summer session are used to compute a student's cumulative GPA. Grades earned in the summer session are not averaged with fall or spring semester grades. Units earned in summer sessions do not count toward determining academic disqualification based on a minimum GPA in two consecutive evaluation periods.

2. Academic disqualification

An academically disqualified student enrolled in a summer session may continue attending classes until notified by the Academic Standards Committee of its action on their petition. If the petition is approved, credit will be granted for completed summer session work. If the petition is denied, no credit will be allowed, and no grades for summer session courses will be recorded. In the event of a denial, Southwestern automatically will process a full refund for 100% of summer session tuition and fees, but cannot refund any Student Tuition Recovery Fund assessment, pursuant to California statute, or nonrefundable convenience fees.

3. Adding and dropping courses

For guidance on adding and dropping courses during a summer session, review the *Registration Policies and Procedures* on the Institutional Policies webpage.

4. Prerequisites

Each student is responsible for completing the course prerequisites listed in the registration materials and online through Self-Service and the Southwestern website. Course credit will be denied to any student enrolled without the proper prerequisite(s) unless waived by the Associate Dean for Student Services. All students should consult the summer schedule online through Self-Service and registration materials to see which courses are open.

B. January Intersession

The January intersession is held for one week each year following the fall semester's conclusion and before the spring semester's commencement. The intersession provides opportunities for students to enroll in skills-based and other courses. Only upper-division students may enroll in the January intersession. Students must attend all class meetings to receive unit credit. Eligible students are permitted to enroll in one course per intersession.

1. Computation of GPA for non-SCALE students

For purposes of computing the GPA, units earned in the January intersession are used to compute the cumulative GPA. Grades earned in the intersession are not averaged with fall or spring semester grades. Units earned in the intersession do not count toward determining academic disqualification based on a minimum GPA in two consecutive evaluation periods.

2. Academic disqualification

Grades earned in the intersession will remain on the transcript of an academically disqualified student regardless of the decision from the Academic Standards Committee.

3. Adding courses and schedule changes.

January intersession courses may be added up to the first class meeting. Course schedule changes must be made online through Self-Service unless after the drop deadline for the January intersession. For guidance on adding and dropping courses during a summer session, review the *Registration Policies and Procedures* on the Institutional Policies webpage.

4. Prerequisites

Each student is responsible for completing the course prerequisites listed in the registration materials and online through Self-Service and the Southwestern website. Course credit will be denied to any student enrolled without the proper prerequisite(s). Students should consult the January intersession schedule online through Self-Service and the registration materials to see which courses are open.