College of Health Professions
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
For Parents

Q: My student took an AP course or course for college credit in high school. Will those credits transfer to SHU?

A: AP scores of 4 or 5 are accepted. The scores must be sent to Sacred Heart directly. Courses from other universities will be evaluated by the Registrar. Students must submit an official transcript from each institution to Sacred Heart, Registrar’s office.

Q: How many credits should my student be taking during their first semester?

A: A full time course load is 12 credits. Most students in the College of Health Professions take 15-17 credits per semester. Every student is required to complete 120 credits to graduate. A student may not take more than 18 credits in a semester without approval from their academic advisor.

Have more questions?
Join us at 11:00 for a message from the Dean of the College of Health Professions, discussion points to review with your student and a Q&A with the Associate Dean & Director of Student Experience.

Follow us on Instagram! @SHU_CHPStudentExperience
Q: My student intends to be a varsity athlete. How does this impact their schedule?
A: Division I athletes must maintain a full-time course load (a minimum of 12 credits). Students will work with their academic advisor to schedule appropriate coursework. Incoming student schedules are made with their team's practice schedule in mind.

Q: My student is considering an accelerated program. What will their course load look like?
A: Accelerated programs fit four years of undergraduate academic coursework into three years – that means your student will most likely need to take winter and summer courses in order to fulfill degree requirements. Students work closely with their academic advisor to create their plan of study.

Q: If my student is having academic difficulty, what should I do?
A: We recommend that you direct your student to their academic advisor, professor, and the Student Success Center. As a reminder, we respect our students’ privacy and there are some things we are legally required not to share about your student’s experience unless we receive their approval.

Q: When does my student declare their major?
A: Each of the three undergraduate programs in the College of Health Professions (Communication Disorders, Exercise Science, and Health Science) have specific requirements for students to meet before they are able to declare their major. Individual program requirements can be found on the department websites. Some students are provisionally accepted into graduate programs in CHP. Students will work with their academic advisor to ensure prerequisites are met.