This minimum period shall be determined by the department or other degree-program unit, subject to the following two constraints. First, the minimum period prescribed by the department may not exceed the standard Graduate School limitation that credit applied toward fulfillment of requirements for the master’s degree must have been earned within a six-year period preceding the completion of the degree, and that doctoral students must complete degree requirements within five years after admission to candidacy. Second, the minimum period shall encompass no less than two years for master’s degree students and three years for doctoral students, with the exception that students in the last stage of their degree work when requirements change (a master’s student who has completed all requirements except the thesis or research report and the final examination or a doctoral student who has been admitted to Ph.D. candidacy) shall not be subject to the new requirements but may complete their degrees within the standard Graduate School limitations stated above. Students who elect to follow old requirements, but do not complete their work within the minimum period prescribed by the department, shall, unless they were in the last stage of their degree work when requirements changed, be subject to requirements in force at the time they complete their degrees, and shall be subject to the standard Graduate School limitations described above. The University reserves the right to change information contained herein on matters other than curricular requirements without notice when circumstances warrant such action.

Affirmative Action Policy

It is the policy of Southern Illinois University Carbondale to provide equal employment and educational opportunities for all qualified persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, status as a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam era, sexual orientation, or marital status. The University is committed to the principles of equal employment opportunity and affirmative action and will continue to conduct all personnel actions in accordance with the letter and spirit of applicable state and federal statutes and regulations, including Executive Order 11246 as amended. Personnel actions include, but are not limited to, recruitment, hiring, position assignments, compensation, training, promotion, tenure considerations and award, retention, lay-off, termination, and benefits.

The University recognizes that the barriers of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, status as a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam era, sexual orientation, or marital status of some individuals have resulted in their denial of full participation in all societal functions and is, therefore, committed to taking affirmative steps aimed at overcoming such historical patterns of discrimination in our society. The University’s affirmative action program identifies special actions intended to bring such groups into full participation in all aspects of university life. Through its affirmative action program, Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to: (1) increased numbers of minorities and females in all aspects of SIU Carbondale employment practices with special procedures applicable to those positions determined to be underutilized for minorities and females; (2) cultural and educational diversity in the curricula and environment of the University; (3) removal of barriers to the disabled; and (4) encouraged support of the principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action in an effort to redress the consequences of past societal discrimination and to maintain a positive non-discriminatory educational environment.

The responsibility for coordinating and monitoring compliance with the University’s equal employment opportunity/affirmative action policies is assigned to the Affirmative Action Office. Implementing and assuring compliance with these policies is the responsibility of the Associate Chancellor for Institutional Diversity and each Vice Chancellor. In addition, each dean, director, or other staff involved in the recruitment and hiring process must ensure compliance with the spirit as well as letter of the policies and procedures. Many involved in the staff selection process assume that others are responsible for the success of the affirmative action program. It is a basic assumption of SIU Carbondale’s Affirmative Action Offices in Carbondale and Springfield (AAO) that all administrative levels and especially deans, directors, chairs, faculty and all hiring administrators are responsible for fostering and enhancing institutional diversity. The initiating hiring officer has the primary responsibility for maintaining the integrity of these affirmative action policies and procedures and is ultimately accountable for attaining diversity within his or her staff.

The University’s ADA, §504, Title IX and Sexual Harassment coordinator is Linda McCabe Smith, Associate Chancellor for Institutional Diversity, 110 Anthony Hall, Mail Code 4341, Southern Illinois University, 1265 Lincoln Drive, Carbondale, IL 62901. Phone (618) 453-1186.
The University

Southern Illinois University

Southern Illinois University has entered its second hundred years of teaching, research, and service. At the outset of the 1970’s, Southern Illinois University became a single state system with two universities: Southern Illinois University Carbondale and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Southern Illinois University Carbondale also has a medical school campus at Springfield.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIU) first operated as a two-year normal school but in 1904 became a four-year, degree-granting institution. In 1943 SIU was transformed from a teacher-training institution into a university, thus giving official recognition to the area’s demand for diversified training and service. Graduate work was instituted in 1943, with the first doctoral degrees granted in 1959. There has been diversification and expansion of graduate programs across the University through the Colleges of Agricultural Sciences, Applied Sciences and Arts, Business, Education and Human Services, Engineering, Graduate School, Law School, Liberal Arts, Mass Communication and Media Arts, Science, and the School of Medicine. Combined, these colleges presently offer over 90 graduate degree programs.

In keeping with the state’s master plan, and with a commitment to enhance its Carnegie Doctoral/Research-Extensive University status, the University’s objective is to provide a comprehensive educational program meeting as many individual student needs as possible. While providing excellent instruction in a broad range of traditional programs, it also helps individual students design special programs when their interests are directed toward more individualized curricula. The University comprises a faculty and the facilities to offer general and professional training ranging from two-year associate degrees to doctoral programs, as well as certificate and non-degree programs meeting the needs of persons not interested in degree education.

Enrollment

In fall semester 2013, out of a total enrollment of 17,964 SIU had 3978 and 635 registered graduate and professional students respectively.

Location

Carbondale is approximately 100 miles southeast of St. Louis, Missouri. Immediately south of Carbondale begins some of the most rugged and picturesque terrain in Illinois. Sixty miles to the south is the historic confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, the two forming the border of the southern tip of Little Egypt, the fourteen southernmost counties in Illinois. Within ten miles of the campus are located two state parks and four recreational lakes and much of the area is a part of the 263,000 acre Shawnee National Forest.

Campus

The Carbondale campus, comprising more than 3,290 acres, has developed a 981 acre portion with woods and a lake as a site for its academic buildings and residence halls. The buildings are located in wooded tracts along two circular shaped campus drives, named for Lincoln and Douglas.

The Graduate School

The primary concerns of the Graduate School are graduate instruction and research. The Graduate School therefore plays an essential role in development of instructional and research programs, in acquisition of funds, and in procurement of facilities necessary to encourage and support research by members of its scholarly community. Through faculty, staff, and students the Graduate School makes its contribution to the public welfare of the region, state, nation, and international community.

The Graduate School offers master’s degrees in over sixty programs and the doctoral degree in over thirty programs. Graduate students pursue advanced study and research under the leadership of a graduate faculty of over 900 members. In addition, the Schools of Law and Medicine provide graduate students with additional opportunities in instruction and research. The Graduate School administers programs in the Colleges of Agricultural Sciences, Applied Sciences and Arts, Business, Education and Human Services, Engineering, Graduate School, Law School, Liberal Arts, Mass Communication and Media Arts, Science, and the School of Medicine.

Within these colleges and schools are departments whose distinguished faculty offer inspired teaching, conduct innovative research, and facilitate student services from admission to placement. The University has an excellent library and has a very good computing facility. For further information, see Academic Resources elsewhere in this chapter. In addition to the excellent research conducted in the colleges and schools, SIU operates a number of research and service centers, most of which have been established with the aid of outside funding. These centers also are described under Academic Resources.
All breaks officially begin at 10:00 o'clock the night before, and end at 7:30 the morning after, the respective beginning and ending dates listed unless otherwise noted.

Summer Session 2014
- Eight-Week Session Begins: Monday, June 9
- Deadline to Apply for Graduation: Monday, July 7
- Deadline to Drop an 8-Week Class and Receive a Refund: Sunday, June 22
- Independence Day Holiday: Friday, July 4
- Deadline to Drop an 8-Week Class: Friday, July 13
- Deadline to Turn in Research Papers, Theses, Dissertations: Thursday, July 3
- Final Examinations: Thursday/Friday, July 31 & August 1

Fall Semester 2014
- Semester Classes Begin: Monday, August 18
- Deadline to Apply for Graduation: Friday, September 12
- Deadline to Drop a Class and Receive a Refund: Sunday, August 31
- Labor Day Holiday: Monday, September 1
- Fall Break: Noon Saturday–Tuesday, October 11-14
- Deadline to Drop a Class: Sunday, October 26
- Deadline to Turn in Research Papers, Theses, Dissertations: Friday, November 7
- Thanksgiving Vacation: Wednesday–Sunday, November 26-November 30
- Final Examinations: Monday–Friday, December 8-12
- Commencement: Saturday, December 13

Spring Semester 2015
- Semester Classes Begin: Tuesday, January 20
- Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday Holiday: Monday, January 19
- Deadline to Apply for Graduation: Friday, February 13
- Deadline to Drop a Class and Receive a Refund: Sunday, February 1
- Deadline to Drop a Class: Sunday, March 29
- Spring Vacation: Noon Saturday, March 7
- Through Sunday, March 15
- Deadline to Turn in Research Papers, Theses, Dissertations: Friday, April 17
- Final Examinations: Monday–Friday, May 11-15
- Commencement: Saturday, May 16

Excused Absences for Religious Holidays. Students absent from classes because of required observances of major religious holidays will be excused. It is the student’s responsibility to notify in advance the instructor of each class that will be missed. Students must also take the responsibility for making up work missed.
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