Recommendation for Reduced Course Load (RCL)

This form should be completed if you need to drop a course due to academic difficulties. Please note, reduced course loads may only be approved under the following circumstances:

- Improper course placement (e.g. you registered for a course and then you and/or the professor discover that a prerequisite requirement is needed)
- Unfamiliarity with American teaching methods
- Initial difficulty with English language
- Initial difficulty with reading requirements

Important Information:

- Under SEVIS regulations, F-1 students must be enrolled full-time, even if courses that are required for the degree program are not available. The only exception to this requirement is during an F-1 student’s last term, when they may fall below full-time enrollment if a full-time course load is not needed to complete their program of study.
- Students cannot take only online courses, even in their last academic term. Students in the College of Professional Studies (CPS) must have on-ground courses throughout the academic term (you cannot have only online courses in either Session A or Session B of the academic term).
- Each semester, students must carry at least half of a full-time course load of on-ground coursework, even when approved for a reduced course load.
- Graduate and CPS international students approved for a reduced load will have charges reversed for the tuition of the class if the class is dropped before the last day to drop without a W. After the last day to drop without a W, students are not eligible for prorated tuition unless a student withdraws from all classes within the timeline specified under the Refunds for Withdrawals section on the Student Financial Services Policies and Procedures page.
- Undergraduate international students who drop below 12 credits are not eligible for a reduced load tuition reduction through the Office of the Registrar unless they meet one of the criteria outlined under "Course Overloads and Reduced Loads", please see page.
- Students are still financially responsible for any courses dropped after the last day to drop without a “W” grade.
- A reduced course load may only be approved once during each degree level and must be approved prior to the start of the semester/term.
- The minimum full-time course load for international students is 12 credits (undergraduate), 8 credits (graduate), or 6 credits (graduate – SGA).

Once you have completed this form, you must log into the myOGS Reduced Course Load Request e-form and upload your completed Recommendation for Reduced Course Load (RCL) form.
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**Instructions:** Please complete Part I and have your academic advisor/SEVIS contact complete Part II. Once this form is completed and signed, you must log into the myOGS e-form to upload and submit your completed Recommendation for Reduced Course Load (RCL) form and other applicable documents. OGS requires 10 business days to process a Reduced Course Load request.

**Part I: To be completed by the student**

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Northeastern ID: ______________________________

I request a RCL for: [ ] Fall  [ ] Winter  [ ] Spring  [ ] Summer (I/II/Full)  Academic Semester: 20_____

Course(s) I intend to drop: __________________________________________

Course(s) I intend to retain: __________________________________________

Student’s Signature: ____________________________________________ Date: ______________________

**Part II: To be completed by your designated college/graduate school official or SEVIS contact**

Requested term: [ ] Fall  [ ] Winter  [ ] Spring  [ ] Summer (I/II/Full)  Academic Semester: 20_____

Number of credits to be registered after RCL approval: ________ credits - ________ credits = ________ credits

Reason for Reduced Course Load (please check one):

[ ] Improper course level placement (e.g. course(s) were found to be at an incorrect level)
  Please explain: __________________________________________________________

[ ] Unfamiliarity with American teaching methods

[ ] Initial difficulty with English language

[ ] Initial difficulty with reading requirements

Name of Academic Advisor/SEVIS contact (please print): ________________________________

Signature: ____________________________________________ Date: ______________________

**Part II: Submit your completed e-form via myOGS (to be completed by student)**

Once you have completed this form, you must log into the myOGS Reduced Course Load Request e-form and upload your completed Recommendation for Reduced Course Load (RCL) form.