

# Academic Load Report

*Academic Load Survey*

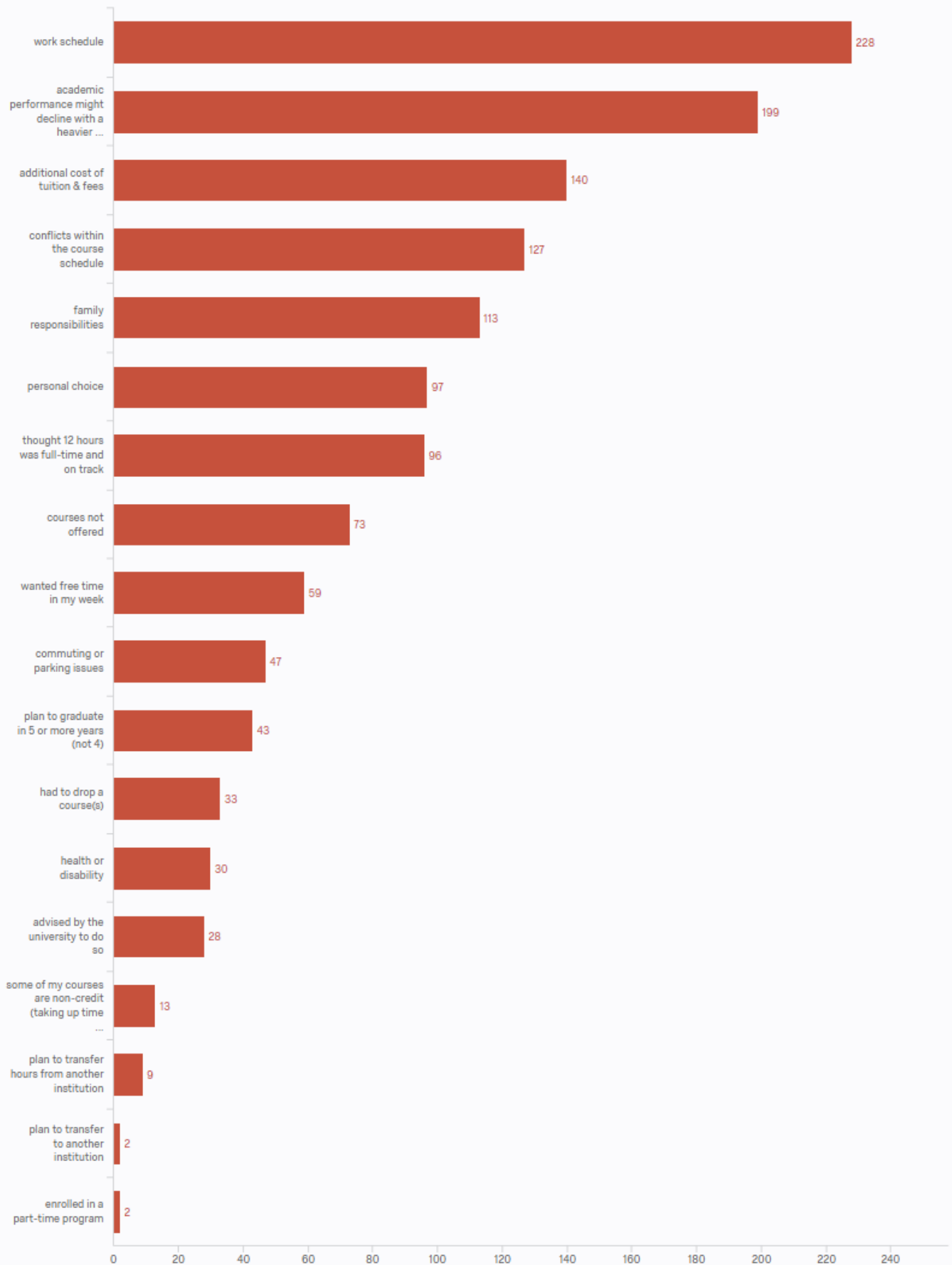
July 25th 2018, 10:56 am MDT

N = 1765; Response Rate = 22%

Survey administered to undergraduate students enrolled for 8 – 14 hours per term in Spring 2018 and Fall 2018 as of survey date.

**Please mark any reasons you have had for taking less than 15 hours per semester.**

Answer	%	Count
work schedule	17.03%	228
academic performance might decline with a heavier load	14.86%	199
additional cost of tuition & fees	10.46%	140
conflicts within the course schedule	9.48%	127
family responsibilities	8.44%	113
personal choice	7.24%	97
thought 12 hours was full-time and on track	7.17%	96
courses not offered	5.45%	73
wanted free time in my week	4.41%	59
commuting or parking issues	3.51%	47
plan to graduate in 5 or more years (not 4)	3.21%	43
had to drop a course(s)	2.46%	33
health or disability	2.24%	30
advised by the university to do so	2.09%	28
some of my courses are non-credit (taking up time but not increasing my credit hours)	0.97%	13
plan to transfer hours from another institution	0.67%	9
plan to transfer to another institution	0.15%	2
enrolled in a part-time program	0.15%	2
Total	100%	1339



## Sometimes, multiple choices do not paint the full picture. Please explain in your own words why you have registered for less than 15 hours per term.

Color coded themes: **Work-related**, **Performance/Devotion**, **Cost/Affordability**, **Course Schedule/Program Requirements**, **Family**, **Quality of Life**

Sometimes, multiple choices do not paint the full picture. Please explain in your own words why you have registered for less than 15 hours per term.

Classes that are within my specified degree plan do not have a plethora of available class times and many are **scheduled** during times when I pick up my child from school or otherwise interfere with **family responsibilities**. This semester in particular my required math courses are held at the same time as other required M.E. courses. This results in me having to either find some other way to have my child looked after go part time for the semester and that's only going for 12-13 hours this semester...

I have a **wife, two kids**, and two dogs. I am also active member of the Green Action Fund. There is not enough time in a day for me to **give fair devotion** to everything deserving of it. I am in school to learn, this means putting myself in a position to do the best I can, even if it takes me a little longer then "normal" to graduate.

For me personally, I needed time to balance school, **work**, and **family**. I like to have a fair amount of balance with everything, work enough to cover my expenses, in class enough to be full time and complete assignments, as well as have freetime/family time. Balancing 3 jobs, class, and trying to **give myself some sort of break** is my goal. At the end of the day, **going an extra semester** doesn't really change much outside of when I start repaying student loans and have to find a professional job.

I transferred to UCCS last semester and only have a few classes to take before applying to the nursing program at BethEl. I **can't take anatomy and physiology in the same semester** or I would have!

I, like many students I am a little older and I have a lot more bills to pay. It's hard to **work**, raise **children**, maintain a relationship with my wife and take four classes a semester. The **ungodly Tuition rates** are also part of the reason. If I quit working I would have to borrow even more money.

12 hours gives me more **time to focus on harder classes**. 15 was fine my freshmen year but as classes got harder I needed more time to work on them. 12 also frees up my schedule to **work** a bit more. It is **also less money** per semester.

15 hours and more leads to more **stressful** weeks, on top of **work** stress. I **commute** over a hour to campus then again back home, costs too much in gas. Next term, plan on moving and don't know when.

A common occurrence on the first day of the semester includes a professor informing students "To be successful, plan on spending at least 15 hours a week \*outside of attending class\* ." Sometimes these claims are exaggerated, but many times not. When planning a semester of classes, I try to account for the number of classes that are likely to say something like that on the first day and balance those with classes that will not. Three of these heavy load courses would ask for 45+ hrs a week and that wouldn't be considered full time yet. **Time invested in classes can differ wildly from stated credit hours**.

A lot of my electrical engineering classes (as well as other classes such as math and physics) can be challenging for me, and I want to make sure I have lots of **time during my semester to do the course work required** for the classes.

A lot of the classes I wanted to take had **overlapping times**. As well, I **work** and do not have all the time in the world to take 15 credits or more without risking the **possibility of performing poorly** and failing my classes.

A lot of the courses I am needing are not meeting my **time frames** that I am available.

Academic performance and being able to comprehend and **learn the offered material** are important factors in my decision. Also I am a **mother** of two and I believe in order to raise children who will become responsible and productive members of society, I have to dedicate time to supervise them and spend sufficient amount time with them. This leaves me with limited time for school work.

Also in **Athletics** so I'm gone out of town a lot and miss classes.

As a military veteran, 12 credit hours are required to be paid full-time. I also take 2 classes during the summer. I am on track to graduate on time and be full-time for every semester. Plus, the **workload** is more manageable and not overbearing. I set it up to where I am in class no more than M-Th and have 3 day weekends with my **family**.

As a science major, a large portion of my **classes are very demanding**. Enrolling in more than 4 classes a term becomes very difficult to manage as a large amount of **classes overlap**.

As a student-**athlete**, taking 15 credit hours in an engineering program during our main season where we travel every other weekend and miss significant amounts of class, this would be quite difficult to manage. The only way to do so would be to sacrifice absolutely every amount of free time, which in turn leads to an imbalanced unhappy **lifestyle**.

As an out of state student, it is **difficult for me to pay** for anything above 12 hours.

As I a VA student who nears graduation there is a **limited amount of courses** I can take that the **VA will pay for**. The VA has a new policy that they stop monthly pay anytime there is a schedule change. So if a course is on a waitlist and I list myself as wanting into that class and I happen to get in. Then the VA will stop my monthly housing allowance while the change is investigated so even if I am adding a course which is next to impossible because of my own **family obligations** and limited offerings at this University I may not get paid and I can not afford to take the chance, that pay stop will last anywhere from two weeks to several months. I have school aged children and finding classes that don't begin before I can drop them at school or end before the school day 3:15 (most classes end around 4 to 4:20 is virtually impossible. I find myself taking classes I am not interested in and that do not further my goal of graduation in order to meet the criteria to collect my BHA which I need for living expenses. I transferred last spring and have been disappointed in the thought process surrounding non traditional students like myself.

As of this fall, my final semester, I only need 9 more credit hours to graduate. I **do not want to pay for extra classes** that are not required. But in the past, it has been for **work scheduling**.

Because almost **every teacher acts like their class is the only one being taken that semester**, so they pile up a lot of work not leaving time for more classes. Also, a lot of the higher level computer science electives are offered only in certain semesters, not to mention that a lot of them **conflict in their schedules**. Lastly, I have been able to catch up in the summer **without having to kill myself to pass my classes** in the regular semester.

**Because I am a Mother**. I have **ADHD and don't take medicine**. So much of my time is dedicated to studying and my daughter. If I was single, I would push for 18 credit hours. I did this successfully at NOVA with a 3.6 graduating GPA.

Because I am in the nursing program and we have **specific classes** we must take every semester and that only totalled out to 11 credits for me this fall semester.

Because I am **on my own for paying for college**, I must have a **part time job** on top of a full time class schedule. It is almost impossible to work and take 15 credit hours or more on top of having a healthy **relationship**, and keeping my **physical and mental health stable**.

**Because I have a husband and a child at home**

Because I **only need a select amount of classes** and I'm tired of being dicked around by every college I've attended. Also because I make less than dick for money and **there's only so much I can afford**.

Because **if I have too much of a work load my grades go down, I rather be taking 12 credits with a good GPA than 15 with a bad one**.

Because my **requirements for my program** don't require me too and my **GI bill doesnt increase**, as long as its 12 its 12 and i cant take extra classes

Because taking 5 or more classes are **way too much for me**. I barely have enough time to do my homework for 4 classes; **if I add another class, I wouldn't be able to pass them**.

Because **that's what the school nursing assigns** for every traditional student

Because the work load is heavy and **i have taken a heavy load before and I just about cried every day. I am not going to set myself up for failure and go at my own pace**.

Being a student it's hard to find jobs that pay more than minimum wage that are part time. **Work** gets a roof over my head and food in my belly. So **work is more of a priority** most of the time. I'm not able to not work because then I would be homeless.

Being on an athletic team allowed me to take less than 15 credits. My athletic career allowed me to stretch my education into 5 years instead of four. Because it's my last year, I need 18 credits left. I have to take 12 credit hours to stay eligible to play in the fall but can take less in the spring.

Besides the options chosen above, I am currently in the MAE program and the courses are very difficult and time-consuming. **Other people in our program may be able to take 18 credit hours but I simply cannot handle that amount of work.**

Between **work** and school, a **5th class would be too much and I'm afraid my grades would suffer.**

Came into UCCS from high school with some credits. Also, with the PGM program I have to take summer classes which puts me a 9 semesters of 12 or more credits. I'm **going to run out of classes to take.**

**Can not afford the college tuition for more courses.**

**Can't afford**

**Classes are ridiculously and relentlessly hard and professors are unreasonable. Taking more classes is nearly impossible.**

Classes that are needed are **not offered outside of my work schedule.**

**Conflicts with the course schedule** and **costs too high**

Currently, I am in my Professional Year, and during this time I will be **working** in a middle school and high school alongside attending classes at UCCS. I cannot take anymore classes during this semester with that schedule and my limited time.

**Depression** makes it difficult for me to manage more than 12 credit hours.

Due to the higher of each class, I am **unable to afford more than the bare minimum** in full time classes. I can barely maintain **wprkong** enough hours to pay my bills let alone work enough to pay for extra tuition if I could take more classes.

During summer, classes can be overwhelmingly fast paced **so I made the choice to take classes part time so that I can continue to do well.** Next fall I **could not find classes that worked** with my **work** schedule so I had to take time off.

During the last three semesters, I had less than 15 hours per term because I came to UCCS with transfer credits. I had all of my general education credits completed. I just had to complete the prerequisite science and psychology classes for the nursing program.

Each class takes a lot of time and work to succeed and **taking more classes will make your grades suffer.** As well as the stress of tests and papers and projects piling up **takes a toll on you mentally, physically, and emotionally.**

Each course is only **offered at certain times.** It's hard to coordinate just the four classes I am taking let alone another one with my **home life** schedule.

First, I was undecided and it was my first year at any college. I wanted to take a few classes to see what subject motivates me and decided to land on nursing after a full year of being undecided.

For me, I find that **the more classes I take, the less successful I am** in those classes. Taking less than 15 hours allows me to focus more on the classes I am taking in order to succeed.

For the summer only I enrolled in less than 15 hours because I am balancing **three jobs** and school. Unfortunately, I live on my own so quitting one of my jobs isn't an option, and I won't even think about dropping out of college. I mainly needed this extra semester of credits (normally I wouldn't take summer classes) **to be eligible for social security benefits since my mother passed away in January.**

For this coming semester, Fall 2018, I am enrolled in fewer than 15 hours. This is because I am having some **health troubles.** Namely, I have an eating disorder. For me, this means that I am not able to handle high levels of stress. Also, a large chunk of my time needs to be designated for doctor's appointments, therapy groups, and healing.

From starting college I have **worked 40/50+ hours each week.** I have taken as many classes online as possible, including PCC transfer hours. I work a typical 8-5 so **midday classes are sometimes hard to fit in.** I am a finance major in the college of business. If all classes (including the emphasis specific classes) were offered online, I would

do 15 credits each semester. I have been scheduling classes around my work schedule and trying to limit time taken from work, so 1-2 on campus classes each semester has drawn out my time at UCCS. Going in to the 2018-2019 school year I only need 7 classes, so it will be 9 credits in the fall and 12 in the spring. **I don't want to spend money on an full load if I don't need the courses to graduate :)**

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**Hard to get a good gpa** and **work** and do school all within 4 years

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I actually started to enroll in 15 credit hours to graduate on track

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I already have 18 credits from high school, so I can take a lighter load and still graduate in 4 years. I'm also a professional triathlete so **I want to have as light a course load as possible so I can have more time to train.**

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I also enroll in less than 15 hours if I able to take summer classes to make up less hours.

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I also take summer classes to **balance the work load** so that I can graduate on time, or close to one time.

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I am a disabled veteran, with a **family**, and I live in Peyton. The time I devote to 12-13 credits is similar to a full time job. I don't have a personal life during semesters because of the work load and additional responsibilities. At a 15 credit work load **I would not be learning at all. Just cramming and trying to keep up. It is absurd that this has become the standard to graduate on time.** 12-13 credits is difficult by itself, and still feel as though I haven't absorbed course material. Rather, it's crammed just to complete the courses and move on. **Higher education shouldn't be like this.**

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I am a five year nursing student that only has twenty-four credits remaining in order to graduate. I am not interested in taking any non-credit classes due to financial reasons. I am unable to take more than 12 hours this semester and next due to **the way that the program is structured.**

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I am a mathematics major and it is almost **impossible for me to be academically successful with taking more than 12** credit hours while enrolled in difficult math classes. Also I have struggled with some **health issues** over the past few years which affect my academic performance. I used to have a **job** that forced me to enroll in even fewer credit hours but I quit so I could enroll in more hours. I want to graduate sooner but **I don't want my GPA to suffer** because I'm taking too many classes and **I don't want to be overly stressed.**

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I am a military spouse and my schedule is the one that has to be flexible to care for my **family** and their activities. Also the actual **times the classes run** are not feasible for my schedule.

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I am a **mother of three children** and **work**. Additionally since I am a transfer student and planning on getting my teaching degree taking more than 15 but less than 18 credit hours **would not get me my degree any faster.**

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I am a new Veteran returning to school for the first time in 10 years. My first semester back I took anatomy & physiology, chemistry 1201, (both VERY challenging courses with fantastic professors) and 2 online classes. Even though it was only 4 classes, it also had 2 labs. **This is a large work load and I didn't want to overload myself, do bad academically and let my family suffer as a result.**

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I am a non traditional student. When I started at UCCS. I had a **full time job**. I did not have the time to study and do homework for 15 credit hours **and keep a good gpa.** I find college to be very **stressful and in order to do well** and finish I find it necessary to only take 12 or so credit hours.

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I am a non-traditional student (26 years old) and have a house, car, cellphone, and insurance payments. I do not live with my parents and **do not get things paid for.**

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I am a non-traditional student with a **full-time job** and **kids in high school**. However, the factor that carries the most weight in my decision to take no more than 13 credits a semester is that I find UCCS's course offerings to be **unaccommodating for students who work traditional 40/week work schedules** (7-3, 8-4 or 9-5). That being said, I have taken many classes with professors who think their course is the only responsibility we have as students. I am not adverse to being challenged and working hard. However, as a 48-year-old with prior college experience, my needs as a student differ from those of traditional students yet UCCS does a less-than-optimal job of providing what I need.

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I am a non-traditional, veteran student. I transferred credits from my military career and earned Associate's Degree in Applied Science, Intelligence Studies. Based on my self-knowledge, and the fact I had not been in a traditional classroom setting for many years, **I assessed my comfort-level.** My determination was that, in light of a move across the country, adjusting to retiring from the military, and starting school full-time (the only time in my adult life I have not been actively earning money) was a lot to take on. 12-13 credits fit my lifestyle at this time considering my

adjustment. In the future I plan on taking more classes, **as long as they do not conflict** and I can stick to my day-time, in-class needs. I learned early on in my military life that I do not learn well on-line, nor at night. I am also enrolled in the peer mentor program this semester as well as active in my local American Legion Post and with Honor Flight of Southern Colorado, which fulfill my **personal goals of being active in my community and mentoring youth**. I make the time for these programs because they are meaningful to me, both a duty and a joy...they keep me centered.

I am a senior so my **classes now are naturally harder and require more time to digest the material**. Additionally, **some of the classes I need to graduate are only offered in the fall** so I had to extend my schedule to accommodate those classes.

I am a **single mother** who has up and moved from Denver to start fresh down in Colorado Springs. Because I **work** full time, I have put my child into home schooling to make it easy for me to get to and from work and school without altering her education. I only made that choice because **I cant afford to pay for daycare and dont have help getting her to and from school**.

I am a stay at home mom and online classes are the **best option for my family**. There are only so many online **courses available** each semester and I am taking as many as I can.

I am a young **single mother** to a 3 year old. I take on as many classes as I can.

I am also **working full time** and choose not to take more than 12. I want to **make sure that I will have time in my week to do homework**.

I am currently in my **second trimester of pregnancy** and due during this coming fall semester.

I am currently married to a soldier and have two puppies at home. My **husband is currently deployed** right now so I **do not want to have too much on my plate**.

I am doing a **Peer leadership with GPS and that will sick down a lot of time**. I also **have 5 kids** and am 48... I have to time manage.

I am enrolled in 14 credit hours and would have to be closer to 18 if I enrolled in another class that is actually important to my degree program. I thought about taking physics or my second biology class this semester but since we are required to hand write the lab reports for the labs for those **classes they take up a lot of time on top of being generally difficult courses**. I also **work 40-60 hours a week** outside of school and **homeschool two of my brothers**, as well as helping **take care of some of my other siblings since they are disabled**.

I am enrolled in the **5 year nursing program, so classes are divided** into 5 years instead of 4.

I am enrolled in the rest of my pre-requisites, the **other classes I need are not offered** until spring semester.

I am going on track to graduate in the fall. The opportunity to take two summer classes would guarantee that spot and keep me on track.

I am in a **lot of school debt with not much help from financial aid and no help from family**. It is extremely hard.

I am part of the AFROTC program at UCCS and hold a high-level leadership position in the program. The combination of a 15+ credit hour load and my responsibilities as a cadet **would cause a decline in my academic performance**.

I am pursuing my degree in order to obtain higher paying jobs in my current work field, but I also want to accept more responsibility at work while I study. **Taking a lighter course load allows me to work towards my degree and still "climb the ladder" at work**. I also do not enjoy the purely online classes as much as traditional lecture, I like to be present and ask questions when I need to, and I can only make so much room in my schedule to do this.

I am registered in less than 15 hours because the classes that I am taking now are the last ones I need to take in order to graduate this December, so there is no reason for me to take more than that. I have taken 15 all my time at UCCS I believe, but because I was a transfer student the credit hours must not have lined up. That is the only reason I am taking less than 15 hours.

I am registered to participate in the College of Education TELP program which requires me to start **working** part-time in a High School for student teaching. This will be a lot of work and so the **program only has me register for a few courses**.

I am studying chemistry and **upper division classes are very challenging**. I knew this coming into the program, so I **loaded my first two years with 16+ credit hours, so o only needed 12-13 my last two years to stay on track**.

I am taking 5 classes but 1 one them is only 1 credit but the course is required for my minor in performing arts.

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I am taking three very **intense science classes** and **I don't want to have my grades suffer because** I am packing my schedule too much. Good grades are the most important even if I have to be here for another year

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I am **waitlisted in two courses** that I hope and plan to be enrolled in, as I am #1 on both waitlists.

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I at least 30 hours a week between **3 jobs**. **I am putting myself through college and cannot afford more than \$5k/semester for tuition.**

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I began college with 12 credit hours because it was advised as a freshman. I got used to the course load and when I **tried to increase it I found my academics declining**. Then I was **diagnosed with bipolar disorder** and my academics took a back seat momentarily. 12 hours was the most I could handle with a **full time job** and mental health issues. I **also could not afford to take more than 12 credit hours**.

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I believed the 12 hours to 14 hours was a normal course load as advised by academic counselors. Also, was advised that I couldn't take more than that over the summer. I am **taking summer classes in order to stay on track** as well.

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I came I'm with so many credits I **do not need to take 15 credits** a semester. With 12, I am still on track to graduate within 4 years. I do not want to graduate early due to my intention of participating in the Frankfurt program. Alongside that, **costs are also preventing me from taking extra classes**.

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I came in with many credits and being apart of the UCCS **track team** takes up a lot of time in my day.

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I can **only take what is offered** for my major or minors **using the gi bill**. So, I'm limited in what fits with my nursing degree schedule. I wish we had traditional nursing courses offered over the summer.

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I choose to take less than 15 hours per term because **my academic advisor has a career path specifically laid out for nursing students** and I came into UCCS with 13 transfer credit which put me a semester ahead of the 5 year nursing program but she would not let me switch onto the 4 Year nursing program so I had to spread of classes out. Plus I **work a job** to pay for everything.

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I chose to take less than 15 credit hours **because that is more than I believe I could manage**. I normally take 12 credit hours per semester and I am often busy with class Monday through Friday and often have a lot of homework for each course as well.

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I commute from Divide (1 hour each way) and have **children**. The parking situation requires at least another half hour of time to deal with. My **required courses are also only offered** specific semesters with only 1 offering available. It is hard to justify driving 2 hours and dealing with parking for another hour to attend only 1 class on a given day. I try to stack my classes on similar days. If there were more offerings of the classes I am required to take, I would have more options.

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I commute from Woodland Park. Also, I **tend to get overwhelmed easily but hold myself to high academic standards and didn't want my grades to suffer from overloading myself**.

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I currently **work a full time job** and figured **that taking anymore than 12 hours would be truly burdensome!**

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I currently **work as many hours as I can** to **pay for tuition that is not paid for by fafsa**. Time commitment for taking more classes and working will not help me with **studying and performing well in the class**. **With low grades, I may not be able to have fafsa and won't be able to go to school**.

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I **did not have enough money to pay for another class**. My financial aid only covers 12 credit hours.

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I did not know that 15 hours was full time but even then it was **hard to arrange a schedule** in order to get the classes that I need and still have time to do work and homework. Most students **have to work** while attending college and between the reading, writing, research, and homework, there is barely time to sleep.

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I **didn't want to over do myself** during the year and I didn't need to take 15 credits

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I didn't have a choice.

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I **do better in my courses when I take 12 instead of 15**. I will also graduate on time due to planning and **summer courses**.

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I do **have a disability** and therefore have to be very proactive with my time. Therefore balancing school and health as well as work is vital for my success in all of those areas. The **financial aspect is also a deciding factor** in how many



hours I register for. I know that not taking 15 hours a semester means possibly not graduating in 4 years, but I am willing to take the extra year **to be healthy and not in debt**.

I do not believe that I can **achieve the high grades** I already have while also working and taking the level of math and physics intensive courses. Each course requires hours of extra study and I do not have the time to focus on all of them **along with work**.

I do not get a lot of financial aid and I **could by afford** to go full time and **work** so I had to make a choice.

I **do not have the availability** to have 15 contact hours in a classroom, online or in-person.

I **do not want to overwhelm myself with school work** and be able to **maintain good grades** with little stress and still have time for friends and **family**.

I don't have any more classes to take. I added another minor to stay for soccer and **simply don't have more credits** to take

I don't know how difficult the classes will be until after the semester has already started so **its a gamble on my entire GPA or on how messed up my financial transactions will be for the next few following months if I attempt to do more than I have to**.

I enrolled in 12 credit hours each semester based on what I felt comfortable taking. **I rather take 12 credit hours and do extremely well in those courses, than take more and do just okay**. I retain information better when I am taking 12 credit hours. I **also work part-time** on campus and I am involved in greek life. I am involved in student life which has a heavy influence on my spare time. I also enjoy having a day off for myself if possible. **It is all about balance and 12 credit hours a semester allows me to feel balanced** as opposed to 15 credit hours (which I took my freshman year). To compensate, I **took several summer classes** and pre-term courses throughout my first three years. For example; I took one winter pre-term, then 12 credit hours during the spring semester, then one summer course (usually a one week intensive course). I strategically chose to add an extra semester to my graduation date because I had great opportunities offered to me during my last semester of college. Due to the opportunities it would have been impossible for me to be involved, have straight A's, and search for jobs at the same time. Also, UCCS added a minor during my senior year that I wanted to pick up. I have also had employees, staff, and coworkers, inform me that I know how to balance myself which is why I am not overly stressed, I do not get sick when finals come around, and I am involved which ties in with balance. Higher education is not just about academics.

I feel as though if I take any more than 4 classes a semester, **I do not fully learn the material** in those classes, therefore I **would rather graduate a year later and have full mastery over the material than to graduate in 4 years and not be as good of an engineer**. I also learn very slowly and need more time to focus on my coursework. A lighter load helps with that. I **work as well at least 15 hours a week** during the semester and need to accommodate that.

I find my compute science courses pretty challenging and would rather enroll in fewer credits per semester to make sure I have ample time for each course. **I would rather take longer to graduate than risk lowering my GPA**.

I got ahead in school my freshman and sophomore year--originally with the intention to graduate early. Have **decided to do 4 years so now my schedule is lighter**.

I had 15 hours originally, but **one of my classes has been taken down** for unknown reasons.

I had a bunch of dual enrollment courses from high school so I am ahead.

I had taken more each year and could afford to take less credit hours.

I have **2 small children** that do not have care after 6pm. I am an assistant director at a school age center, so my work load is heavier than my course work. I also work split shifts from 515a- 1015 a and then 130-430 so it is hard to find class schedules between those hours.

I have 24 credit hours left until I graduate.  $24/2=12$  quick mafs.

I have a **family** and need to ensure that I am available for them.

I have a **family**. And a home. Having 5 courses is not what discouraged me, **it's having to do homework for all 5 classes when homework usually takes 2-4 hours per assignment**.

I have a few reasons that I am unable to take 15 hours per semester. The first is that classes are often offered during **conflicting times**. As I found this semester, most of the classes I needed to take were offered on T/R mornings from 8-10:40 am. This caused obvious conflict, it also resulted in me enrolling in online classes, which I will pay more for. I also find it frustrating that to obtain my degree I have to take so many classes that do not apply to my major. I came to college to specialize in communications, however I have taken the majority of my classes for the degree requirement and now have to take "elective" and general education classes. My only issue with this, is as mentioned above, I am **either in a conflict with class times** or **will pay additional** to take them online to complete a 15 hour semester. Depending on the class, the **course load can be a lot, especially when it is not something you have background knowledge of or no interest in. This takes away time from my other classes.**

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I have always been told 12 hours is a full time student and with **such high bills every year** due to classes and other additional fees **I have to work**, therefore 15 credits is way too heavy of a load

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I have an **adult (19yo) daughter with special needs**. She can not be left alone, so I need to plan my class schedule around when I have care available for her. Some teachers allow me to bring her to class with me, which is wonderful! She is very quiet (in THIS situation! Not so much with her peer group...) and being in an environment where adults are polite and engaged is a huge help to her. She doesn't get bored; she's absolutely fascinated by a group of students sitting, listening, and having discussions in a polite and engaging manner. Through high school, she never saw anything like that. I also have a 5th grader, but her care is much simpler.

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I have been enrolled in less than 15 credit hours my last three semesters. So far this has worked well for me. I'm sure that I could handle the extra load of more classes, but I also **believe that my academic performance in each would decline considerably**. My current GPA is above a 3.75. **I feel like I finish each class with a full comprehension of the course, which is my main goal through college.**

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I have been on schedule to graduate and apply for grad school within the correct time frame by taking less than 15 hours. Also, due to my degree being Biomedical Science, the **course work may be too much to maintain a high GPA**. I have to balance research, **work, and military duties** as well. I am definitely up for the challenge of 15+ credit hours, but if there is not a need to then **I would rather keep stress levels down**.

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I have chosen to **follow an academic plan provided by my academic advisor** which only requires me to take 12 credit hours most semesters.

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I have enrolled in less than 15 hours **because I work full time** and I cannot miss that much work. Online classes are more expensive, **I can only afford so much**.

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I have **health issues** that preclude me from taking a full load and performing well in all the classes. **Course costs** and **family time** also plays a part in my decision. The last two semesters I have taken 12 hours and have spent 40 hours a week in class or working on homework and this leaves little time to spend time with my family and fulfill all my family responsibilities.

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I have **limited course options** that are relevant and apply to my degree.

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I have **many mental health problems** which can affect my work if I take too many classes at once. I would personally **like to do better at the few classes I have chosen rather than do terrible at many**.

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I have registered for fewer classes because they are **either not offered, the time does not work, or I am working**.

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I have registered for fewer credits because the 13 I am taking are **very challenging and I need to put my full effort into them**.

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I have registered for less than 15 credit hours **due to funds**. **As of now I no longer receive financial aid because I'm 23 and been going for a four year degree too long as I was told by the financial aid office**. Even when I was getting financial aid the loans that were offered were not a lot, along with the grants.

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I have registered for less than 15 hours per term because **I know that if I have too much of a work load, my semester GPA will suffer, therefore my overall GPA will also suffer**. I was recently accepted into the Beth El College of Nursing starting in the fall. Previous to my acceptance into the program, I was applying to lots of other nursing programs in the state. GPA is a major deciding factor for many programs, therefore I needed my GPA to be as high as I could possible get it.

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I have registered in less than 15 hours per term **because I don't want to overwork myself to the point where I can become ill**, and because I **have family responsibilities**.

I have registered to take less than 15 credit hours per semester mainly **due to cost**. I am trying to pay out of pocket for school and take out the least amount of loans possible. Sometimes when I did not have enough money, I would enroll in less than 15 credit hours. After a while I had to go to school part time and **work full time** to pay everything.

I have **spoken to my advisor**, and I have credits brought over from high school.

**I have to work a full time** while taking classes to support myself.

**I have to work** along with taking 14 credits. If I didn't have bills/rent to pay I could take as many classes as I could

**I have to work** at least three full days per week. Also, I'm a member of the National Guard which takes up time, and when I get put on training orders (such as a two week trip last semester and a one week trip the semester before that) it can be somewhat difficult to keep up.

**I have to work full time** during the school year and **I won't be able to get good grades** and work full time while signed up for 15 credit hours.

**I have to work** to afford food and a place to stay

**I have to work** to support myself financially, and it was **too hard to balance 15 hours of school and my job**.

I have **two elementary aged children** and cannot afford childcare. I have to be able to both do my homework and care for my children when they are not in school or not being cared for by their father. Increasing my credit load, and therefore my homework load, makes it more difficult to be a present and responsible parent. I also cannot **afford to pay** a thousand or more dollars in tuition each semester, which may happen if the cost of taking 15 credits exceeds the money I receive in financial aid and scholarships. **As loans become more and more predatory and financially irresponsible, I would choose to quit school and work for a while before taking a loan.** Either way--taking 12 credits, or taking a year off to work--graduation is delayed. Additionally, I take high-effort classes, such as chemistry, **which I enjoy and want to do well in**. I enjoy and want to do well in all my classes and I would not be able to do that if I were to take 15 credits or more. Honestly, I would prefer to take 10 credits per semester, as this would allow me to really dig in and absorb what I'm learning to the fullest, but this isn't allowed by my scholarship and it would delay graduation for too long. I don't appreciate feeling like I must rush through information and only partially absorb it before regurgitating it on a test and then quickly moving on. **Also, a one credit lab is the same workload as many 3-4 credit classes, it just won't show up on paper.** If labs are already in the mix, adding another 3 credit class to take a person from 12 to 15 credits on paper is equivalent from going from 15 to 18 credits in effort. That is not a sustainable amount of effort long-term. I do not suggest decreasing the workload of labs as I feel it is still valuable, good work. It just doesn't show on paper.

I knew that it was possible to take more than 12 hours except in the summer. But I wasn't aware that 12 was not the standard for full enrollment. I started my college careers and learned how to balance responsibilities, due dates, and **work** under a 12 hour load on average. **Assuming another class on top of that now seems insurmountable as far as a challenge goes.** It would impact what I've planned for and how I budget my time. My success so far relies on how I have managed to make 12 hours work and I'm worried about my academic achievement if that were to be disrupted.

I live an hour away from campus and have spotty internet. It is in the best interests of my **family** and myself that I find classes that allow me minimal driving time while achieving academic success. I have found that more credits **creates additional stress** due to work load and causes something important to me to not receive adequate attention.

I love the ability to stay full time. 12 credits is more than enough to keep on the right track to graduation. Sure, I want to do more credits but I **can't seem to get a scholarship**.

**I manage a company** in Colorado Springs. My goal to get a degree is personal but I still owe it to my patrons to provide great service. The service declines when I don't have the time to get the job done.

I mostly chose to do this so that I wouldn't be overworked with my **athletics** and my academics. I wanted to make sure I could excel in both.

I mostly take this amount credit hours due to travel limitations such the fact that I do not drive and live in Ellicott Colorado which takes about 50 to 45 minutes one way to get to UCCS. Another factor is that I also care for **both my elderly slightly ailing parents**. While they are not that sick they do require a not insignificant amount of my

time. I also have to work to support myself and help my parents which does not hit as hard as it could since I have a student position at UCCS. I also would probably not be able to pay for the additional credit hours. Finally, I know my capabilities and while I am not incapable of doing well at 15+ credit hours I rather deal with less stress about doing well in all my classes. This has worked out fairly well for me so far and I have no desire to alter what works.

I need a job to pay for my bills and cannot afford to work less than I already am with classes everyday. Also film classes are long and with multiple of them, the paper load around mid term and finals is already difficult to balance. My language course takes up the rest of my study time. This is the amount taken to successful pass and enjoy my courses while working enough to pay tuition etc.

I need classes offered at less traditional times, such as after 6pm or online or weekends since I work M-F 9-5pm. Also, I am entering my senior year, and the classes I need to take aren't offered during these times.

I need these four courses to graduate, and I should be done.

I need to be able to have a healthy work schedule in order to provide for myself financially while going to school. With work loads more than 12 hours, I find my energy, performance, and overall pace are adversely impacted. I have considered taking 15 credit hours per semester, but even at the times I thought that course of action was wise, UCCS did not have competitive class times to accommodate my needs. There are barely weekend classes available - so going to school during the week and going to work is overwhelming and affects my ability to participate in community, academic, and work activities.

I need to be full time in order to stay on my parents insurance.

I need to work and therefore have to balance it with school. I cannot take on a full time class schedule per term/semester without compromising the quality of my school work and grades due to my limited time outside of work. I am well aware, prepared, and have long accepted that I will not complete my Bachelor's degree in 4 years the moment I was able to and made the conscious decision to go back to school because I need to work while I complete my studies.

I need to work enough hours in conjunction VA benefit in order to maintain my standard of living. I get full VA benefits between 12 and 15 hours so this works.

I needed time in between classes to have meals and a social life so that the work wouldn't be overbearing and mess with my mental health.

I needed to have available time for work.

I only need 16 credits to graduate and I plan to graduate in May due to being in the Honors Psychology Program. That means I have to spread those 16 credits out between two semesters.

I only need two courses to graduate. I did not want to spend the extra money for more courses I don't need

I personally feel that more than 15 credit hours is too heavy of a workload for me. I understand that some people are more than willing to take more than 20 credit hours in a semester, and I applaud that effort! However, I just feel that it would drag me down academically, especially since I am trying to recover my GPA.

I really don't think I needed to enroll in more than 12 in order to graduate on time. This way I am able to keep my full time status but also have time for work and the homework required for certain classes.

I REGISTERED FOR LESS THAN 15 HRS BECAUSE THE WORKLOAD IS TOO MUCH TO DO ALL ON CAMPUS AND UCCS DOES NOT OFFER ENOUGH ONLINE CLASSES FOR THEIR PROGRAMS. THERE ARE A LOT OF UPPER LEVEL CLASSES THAT ARE ONLY TAUGHT ONE SEMESTER A YEAR AND BY ONE INSTRUCTOR. THIS HAS ACTUALLY CAUSED ME TO HAVE TO PUSH MY GRADUATION INTO FALL OF 2018 AS OPPOSED TO SPRING 2018. IT ALSO AFFECTED MY VETERAN BENEFIT AS MY BENEFITS WERE ONLY GOOD UNTIL SPRING OF 2018.

I registered for 14 hours, which is very close to 15. One of the courses I took is only 1 credit, otherwise I would have taken another course to bump me over 15 credit hours.

I registered for 14 instead of 15 because while 1 credit hour seems like an insignificant amount it makes my course load more manageable in order to get As and Bs

I registered for less than 15 because the nursing curriculum instructed me to

I registered for less than 15 hours this semester because it is the summer semester. The full-time load for the summer is 6 credits for the VA and I am currently enrolled in 9.

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I registered too late for class...

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I require a prerequisite which i am currently taking before i can enroll in my final program

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I signed up for a preterm class and was waitlisted. But I can't register for any additional classes because it will exceed the allowed 18 credits. Also, I don't need any more credits I'm ahead in my program and will already be done with all my electives other than the one I'm waitlisted for.

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I started college with 12 transfer credits from A.P and Concurrent Enrollment classes. This made it possible for me to only need 12-15 credits per semester instead of 15 credits per semester.

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I struggled to pay for four credit hours this summer. Even with a full time job, I usually go two or three days in a row without eating in order to pay for school. Since engineering degrees require fifteen to twenty-four credit hours per semester, imagine what I would have to sacrifice in order to pay six times the amount of money that I had to pay this summer. last spring I tried to take fourteen credit hours. Between work, taking care of family issues I had little to no time to study; I ended up failing three classes causing a substantial hit to my gpa. Since I cannot afford a car, the hour and a half long buss ride to and from campus sometimes causes problems. Another problem is that most of the entry level classes are hard to get into. MAE 1503 in particular, though there are many other similar examples, is a class which all engineering students, regardless of engineering discipline, are required to take as a second semester class. this class is a pre-requisite for most of the engineering degree plan. the class only has one section each semester, and since some people have later enrollment dates than others, many students do not even have the opportunity to sign up for the class without going straight to waitlist.

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I switched my major in the second semester of my freshman year so now I am a year behind making up credits because I didn't want to overload myself and take 19-20 each semester just to graduate on time

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I think general pre-med classes should be offered every semester. Physics 2 is not offered in the fall.

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I thought 12 was full-time but also I'm hella bipolar and I couldn't handle more anyway.

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i thought that 12 hours as an average amount of classes and that taking any more was just an unnecessary risk to getting lower grades.

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I took less than 15 hours per term because I am on the track team, and the advisor told me that those classes would be enough and they wouldn't want me to be too busy. My major is nursing and there are some challenging classes and with track practice right after class the free time to study everyday is limited and I had to find ways inbetween to prepare myself the best. Also with the nursing program she said I would be looking into graduating in 5 years, so I have no choice.

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I took several classes over my first 2 years at PPCC to get some of my cores done cheaper. Also, I work 50+ hours per week and have children. There is not enough time in the day to go to school, go to work and spend time with my family and still get my homework and studying done. These conflicts are have already affected my GPA negatively.

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I took summer classes, allowing me to take less classes during fall and spring semesters

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I transferred in with a 4 year degree, so humanities etc are taken care of.

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I tried taking more than 12 hours during my first year and it ended up with me having a full on anxiety attack in front of one of my teachers. So for my mental health (and others), I would rather take 12 credit hours. Plus it works with my work schedule and taking care of my brother.

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I used to take 15 - 18 credit hours in community college and still be able to pass with high grades. However, with university work, it is unrealistic of higher division courses to ask students who need to work, sleep and maintain relationships to take 15 credit hours vs. 12 credit hours. Furthermore, if students are meant to treat their academics like a job, and you are meant to spend anywhere from 2 to 4 hours per week for each class outside of the class, then the time spent outside of class can be much more time then an average work week, which is physically and emotionally exhausting. This in addition to the financial strains of university makes 15 credit hours more work then they're worth.

I usually aim for 12 or 13 credits. I work full time, and I cannot keep up with the course load if it is more than 13 credits.

I value the quality of my work. I want to make sure that I maintain a certain level of production. While balancing work and school, I need to make sure I am setting myself up for success.

I wake up 4am I personal train at Lifetime Fitness from 5am-1pm School starts from 1:40-4:20 (sometimes longer) Then I must make a decision to either workout or study and do home work, on top of programming and lead generating for my PT business

I want straight A's and when I take less than 15 hours I can pretty much always get the grade I want. Its not about getting it done fast it is about getting it done the way I want.

I want to be able to have more time with my wife and kids. Also, I feel 15 credit hours might be pushing it a little and I would not be able to have enough time to get the grades that I would prefer on my courses. Many of my courses are science based classes which may be more involved than some of the courses which is another reason that it would be a struggle to accomplish 15 credit hours.

I want to do well in all of my classes and many of them have a heavy homework load so if I take less classes then I feel that I will do better in all of them.

I want to immerse myself in the subjects I study. With work(25-30hrs/week) and personal responsibilities, I would be unable to succeed taking more than 12-13 hours per semester.

I wanted a minor that required fall-spring-fall attendance (didn't know about it until a spring semester), so I had to slow down

I was a dually-enrolled nursing students. So, I was taking 9-13 credits/semester at PPCC for nursing and 6-9 credits at UCCS. Together, I was full time. Now, I have a full time job as a nurse and cannot take more than 9 credits/semester.

I was dropped from a course because I was on the waitlist. I thought it was too late to try to register for another class. Tuition was a little bit more than I was looking to pay so it ended up helping me financially.

I was enrolled in 14 credit hours. My previous semester I took 16 credit hours, so I still completed 30 credit hours last year. I just didn't want to add another class because I felt like 18 credit hours would be overwhelming. I'm also almost halfway completed with my program already, so I know I will be graduating on time.

I was fortunate enough to transfer in many credits from my concurrent enrollment opportunity in high school, so was able to have a lighter class load each semester and still graduate early.

I was held back by pre reqs. Made up with summer classes. Now I'll only have 12-13 per semester until I graduate. The timing is weird. Oh well

I was worried about taking too many classes and not being able to pass them. I also wanted to keep my job and be able to advance in the field. Also living at home and commuting makes it difficult to be on campus for more than 2 days a week. With costs of courses and homes, I am trying to save as much money as possible. I am also not worried or in any rush to graduate in 4 years. I feel the stress of trying to learn and cram things in. I enjoy taking 12 hours.

I will be taking very difficult courses and would like to have the time to learn the material. Unfortunately I already feel that I will barely have enough time to do so this semester... I am kind of shocked that we are expected to take 15 credit hours to stay on track. I only have science courses left and although I would be able to pass the classes if I took 15 credit hours I would definitely not have enough time to thoroughly understand the material presented.

I work 2 jobs and go to school I over load my self!

I work 30+ hours per week to pay my bills and I can't afford to work less. I also need to stay full time (or as close to full time) with classes to receive VA benefits in school. I need time to dedicate to homework as well as work, health, and taking care of myself (meal prepping, chores, etc).

I work 40 hours a week and have a 10 year old. Plus, I thought 12 hours was full time?

I work 40-50 hours per week & commute

I work 60+ hours a week to pay tuition

I work a full time job with an odd schedule, I work from 11:45am-8:45pm so that's the majority of my day and it

creates a very **limited window for me to take more classes**. If I could have a job where I could work less hours and be able to take care classes I would. Unfortunately, I would also need the amount of money I'm making at my current job in order to maintain my living conditions.

I **work a full time job**, so there isn't enough time for me to take in the full academic load.

I **work a regular full time job**. I already have a difficult time fitting 4 courses into my work week. I would be much more likely to increase my load **if there were more online courses available so I don't have to keep taking time off** of work.

I **work and have a family**. I can't spend hours upon hours doing homework. I have way too many other responsibilities. The amount of work involved with a 12 credit hour semester already takes a large amount of my time to complete.

I **work at least 40 hours** a week in a fast paced bar/management position. I still take 4 classes, since my classes don't have labs accompanying them they're not at 15. I **strive for good grades** and 4 classes, as well as my work schedule, is **just enough on my plate that I don't lost my mind for 16 weeks**

I **work full time** at a pretty intensive job and getting more than 13 credit hours as a chemistry major is pretty difficult

I **work full time** in a fairly demanding job. I am also a **single mom of a special needs child**.

I **work full time** in order to pay my bills. I don't have the time to do 15 credit hours, keep up studying for the classes, and continue working.

I **work full time**, and my boss does let me leave to attend a class or two. A problem with this upcoming Fall semester are the **times that are offered with classes**. I would love to take more classes in a semester but the times do not work with my work schedule **or they interfere with a class I absolutely need to take** that semester.

I **work two jobs** and have found taking 12 credit hours to **be a lot easier for me in order to be successful**. Taking a heavy course load is **too much for me mentally** and affects my school work.

I would have liked to enroll in 15 credit hours, I'm in 5 classes with a lab. **But some of those classes give me less credits for the same amount of effort in the classes that are worth more credit**.

I'm pursuing my bachelor's in chemistry, **which means that the courses are brutally hard with a work load that is not accurately reflected in the number of credit hours**. For instance, the organic chemistry for majors sequence is 5 credits between lab and lecture plus a non credit lab- lecture portion. Students spend 14 contact hours a week in the cartoon and in the lab before homework, lab reports, studying and reading. **I want to understand the material, not simply pass the course**, so i need to carve out large amounts of time for my required courses while still struggling to remain a full time student.

I'm a nursing-intent, **they suggest to take it slow and graduate in 5 years**.

I'm a **single father**. I took **15 credits for two semesters in a row and failed my math class the first semester and barley passed it the second semester**. I don't feel like I learned much or got as much out of my other classes I took because it was such a heavy load. I also do volunteer work to help balance out my life. **I'm not learning anything at 15 credits. I'm taking the joy out of my life, taking time away from my child, stressing myself out, and not learning anything because I'm just trying to get through it by struggling to tread water.**

I'm a **single mother with 3 young kids**. The load I'm taking now is the most I can reasonably do and still work and be a parent and fulfill my obligations at my children's two schools.

I'm a transfer student and the CS and DASE **programs are not flexible at all. You have to go in order and some classes I don't have to take because I had them transferred. While the classes I have to take most can't be taken together. One has to follow the other in order. Therefore, I have to find fillers but I don't want to take classes I don't need. 15 credit hours is doable if you don't have all the general education done.**

I'm an older student with **2 school aged children**.

I'm **using my GI bill** to take refresher classes in order to get into an internship. I don't need another degree (unless it's another masters). I have my bachelors and masters so the classes I'm enrolled in are simply to brush up on the information I've forgotten through the years.

I've found that taking 15 credit hours per term was too much for me. I felt extremely overwhelmed and it negatively impacted my health. While 15 credit hours per term is considered "normal" I could not handle the workload easily and I opted for taking my remaining credits for a year during the summer, so I don't overwhelm myself.

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If I take too many classes at one time, I know I won't do as well in each of them—so I would rather go more slowly and do well overall than take more classes than I can handle, and end up failing one and/or doing poorly in all of them. I figure I can make up the extra 2 classes/year with some summer school and/or an extra semester. I think it would be counterproductive to create a system that penalizes students financially for taking longer to graduate. If anything, it seems to me that you would have a better retention rate and more school loyalty if you locked-in a tuition rate for students who attend continuously—more incentive to stick with it then.

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If you are on the UCCS 5 year Nursing Program, they only let you take 12-13 credits per semester.

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Im a retired Army SGT, with a wife and a daughter. I also have severe PTSD and a TBI which slows me down. I have taken 15 credits in a semester, and my migraines almost ruined my grades. Im also in all upper division courses which require more time. I do what allows me to take care of myself and my family.

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Im still deciding on my major and 12 credit hours is the minimum to qualify for financial aid.

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In addition to all the choices I selected above, I have chosen to register for less than 15 hours per term because I am in college to learn and only learn. I do not wish to register for 15 hours simply for the sake of a shorter and speedier path to graduation. I enrolled in 15 hours in my first year here at UCCS and I felt as if I did not learn much because I had too many classes. I work and I have other obligations outside of college that I choose to spend my time engaging in. Time is precious and I would rather spend my time learning efficiently and effectively while still having time to appreciate and pursue my life outside of school than rush through both my degree and my life. I want to learn thoroughly during my time here in order to apply what I have learned and make a difference. I can not make a difference if I do not learn anything.

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In order to maintain a high GPA and work part-time, I have to limit myself to 12 or 13 credit hours. More will stress me out and I may end up killing myself. My anxiety doesn't help at all...

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In the Nursing Curriculum for our last year we take 12 credit hours a semester, our required class, plus 2 days of clinical per week. The clinical takes up much of our time.

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It helped me be able to manage my work load better

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It is not necessary for me to take such a course load to graduate within the 4 years. I am also working a part time job on campus that takes hours out of my available time.

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It is too expensive to do so. For the 2019 term, for instance, I did not even qualify for Financial Aid; hence, I will probably take less than 12 credit hours.

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It's difficult to pay out-of-state tuition for 15 credit hrs plus work, take care of family responsibilities, be involved in activities to expand my curriculum for professional school, and take care of responsibilities that come from having scholarships.

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I'm a math major, and all upper division math courses are only three credit hours, despite their difficulty and how time consuming the work is. Thus, it's very difficult to take very many math courses at one time and properly learn and retain the content. Filling the extra credit hours with electives is not possible for me since I'm a transfer student and have fulfilled those requirements. Additionally, work and music (I've played in the UCCS Honors String Quartet the past four semesters) take up time.

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I'm a student who takes care of my ill parents and I have to work to pay bills. 14 credits allows me to be successful. I also transferred in with 70 credits from PPCC and will be completing my degree in the next year so I didn't need to sign up for too many classes to finish my degree. Also this is my 8th year of college so I'm in no rush.

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I'm in the five year nursing program so I am required to take specific classes. The nursing program is highly difficult to get accepted into and I would rather make sure I get the grades and test scores needed by taking less classes, than not doing as well with 15 credit hours.

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I'm not a traditional college student graduating in 4 years. I will be graduating in 5.5 years with my BA. In the past I have taken 5 classes and it was too much of a work load for me. I do much better with 4 classes rather than 5.

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I've registered for only 12 hours because I am a single mother and disabled veteran. Taking the four classes allows



me to still spend time with my child and help him with school work. Also **some of the times are very inconvenient** with daycare schedules.

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Just **working** and doing the hours I already have **will be hard enough on me**.

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Labs require a lot of time but are only worth one credit so I am **inclined to take less so I can work as well as do well in school**

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Less than 15 hours per term was recommended for me by the University and I agree with their choice. I believe that **I can be the best academically as I can to achieve my educational goals with less than 15 hours per term**.

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### Mental health

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most of my **classes in my program (Spanish) are not offered** every semester. when some are offered there is a scheduling conflict. also, my **financial aid would not support** over 12 credit hours per semester.

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Mostly it comes down to **money** and **availability**. Not all courses are available each semester, which can make it difficult to fill all hours, but the biggest thing is money. Frankly classes are expensive, and that's fine because I don't mind paying for a quality education, but I also really nearly 100% on financial aid, and **when that doesn't have enough money to cover even twelve credit hours, then I am pretty limited to what I can afford, and what I can afford is the bare minimum**.

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My biggest issue, other than outside responsibilities, is the way **prerequisites affect what classes** I can take.

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My brother and I own **our own business** and it takes up so much of our time.

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My classes are very hard. I hope **if I take fewer credits I can pass all of them**.

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My **degree program has a set courseload** per semester. Too **many credits means extra tuition costs**, so instead of taking extra credits to make future semesters easier, I follow the set path. Too many credits would also mean heavier workload which would decrease free time, **work availability**, and **might lower grades due to overload**.

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My **loans do not offer enough** to enroll in more classes.

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My main **concern is to have good grades** and be able to complete each course to the best of my abilities. In many cases I feel like taking the bare minimum for full-time credits is the best way to devote enough time to each class. In addition, I **have a part-time job**/research internship through UCCS which also demands my time and attention. I also still live at home, and I feel obligated to help with chores. Finally, I don't mind graduating in 5+ years instead of 4 years, as long as I eventually graduate.

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Need to focus on doing well in my classes this semester **in order to keep my GPA up** and be able to apply to the nursing program.

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**No financial aid.**

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No **other classes offered** within my availability

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Not all the **courses I need to take are being offered**, as well some courses cannot be enrolled into until the **prerequisites** have been met.

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Nursing school **doesn't allow you to take courses when you want to**. You have to take it on their schedule.

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Often times with a **busy work schedule** and bills I don't save up enough money in between semesters, so I have to maintain my hours throughout the semester allowing me to pay my tuition. Cutting hours to attend school tends to force me to take less credit hours **so I can afford school** and bills.

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One of the main reasons for my not taking 15 hours per term was that I could not **maintain my gpa** with that many classes.

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**Paying for 12 hours is hard enough**, I also had all the classes I needed to be on track with 12 credit hours.

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Personnel choice and I don't need to take 15 credits per semester.

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Plan to enroll in more courses shortly according to requirements

Pretty much sums it up.

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Single section **scheduling of a course conflicting** with single section scheduling of another course while both are required for my major. Issues **affording daycare** for more than an hour a few times a week and scheduling conflicts putting classes late in the afternoons. Credit hour cost. Also, at one point, I was taking additional classes at another institution putting me at 21 credit hours. This was to allow me to take classes that wouldn't fit into my UCCS schedule. Recent family emergencies have made it difficult to even take 13 credit hours. **My own mental health**.

---

Some **classes are not offered** to me that I can take that will work with my current school schedule and work schedule. No online classes offered to help me register for more classes either.

---

**Sports** and the traveling that goes along with it takes up a lot of time. The **class I wanted to take** to reach 15 credit hours was full

---

Spring semester was my first semester, taking in-person classes, in 20 years. At the time, I didn't know if I couldn't handle **family responsibilities**, a possible **work schedule** (single parent) as **well as keep my grades up** in multiple classes. Turns out, I could handle everything and keep a 4.0 GPA. Summer semester, I could only reasonably take two classes; back to back. Other classes weren't offered, or clashed with each other. For the Fall semester, I plan on taking 15 credits, or possibly 18.

---

Taking more than 12 hours is too much work for me because I **have a full time job**. I was under the impression that 12 hours was full time as well.

---

The amount of time I need to finish a course assignments will take me a little longer than normally and I try to **complete those assignment to my best of the ability that I have. Plus sometimes I need one-on-one assistance** with some of the assignments. Also I come from a single-partner household that is trying to help me cover to cost of college and let me live there rent free because I **can not afford to live on campus or anywhere near**. Plus I have to commute everyday and that tiring when the drive can sometime take up to 30 minutes to get to the campus and when the weather is bad then its even harder to get to the campus.

---

The **availability of courses** is very poor!!

---

The **classes I am able to take** for my major this semester do not account exceed 15 credits.

---

The classes I've decided to take together this semester have a very heavy load of material. I took a "lighter" semester of credits **because I'd like to be able to dedicate my time and do well** in my classes.

---

The courses I now enroll in require extreme amounts of time, and **my health has degraded** due to the lack of sleep this has entailed. **Acting nearly void of free time and no breaks has driven me a little insane, and I hope to minimize this effect with fewer credit hours per all semesters ahead.**

---

The **courses I wanted to take were either not available, or had pre-requisites that I couldn't take**. There were also many classes in my degree plan that I could not take, since I did not have a pre-requisite.

---

The main reason for only enrolling in 12 credit hours was to maintain my ability to juggle student responsibilities with **family responsibilities**. I have 3 children.

---

The main reason was that I **have two jobs**. School is my priority, but I need to make money for that as well.

---

The multiple-choice options are adequate

---

The **nursing program** some semesters only have 12 credits for you to take.

---

The only semester I took less than 15 hours was this semester and that was because I'm done with all the other classes I needed to do.

---

The other 2 classes I need to take to graduate are **offered only in the spring** and I also can only be in class one day a week in order to be able to **work full time**.

---

The **professional year of the TELP** program only allows 12 credits otherwise I'd take more,

---

They pretty much explained it! I tried taking 15+ but **needing to work full time** complicates this. Plus a few times my **courses have not been available** and I also thought 12 hours was full time- as I was told

---

This is my first semester back in school mode, I **did not want to overload myself** and instead give myself the flexibility to start with lower credits. I though 12 hours was full time, that's what I grew up with in my home state.

My goal, once I am used to the class load I will take more credits.

---

This is my last semester and I only have two classes left to graduate in December.

---

This is the summer semester. Six credit hours is more than enough. VA pays me to go to school.

---

This upcoming semester, it's mainly because I **cannot find any other courses** that I can enroll in. Usually a lot of classes are in the spring semester or vice versa when I want to take that class so I have to wait a whole semester or courses aren't coming consistently offered or just too full. It is also hard for someone who is going for a more difficult degree **to work** as well as go to school. **A lot of the people who I see go through school the quickest have their parents pay for everything and they don't have to work while going to school. Being independent makes it tough to do both in the rate as those who have a support system.**

---

This was to lower my workload for the remains 2 semesters. Usually I take 12 hrs, but by taking these summer courses, it will allow me to be at 12 and 13 for the following semesters respectively..

---

Those were the classes I needed to take for my first semester in the nursing program

---

Was **overwhelmed** with work schedule & first year of school

---

**Well I don't have the funds like most would from their parents help.** I have fafsa paying for my college but sometimes it wont give me enough to work with so I have to resort to **getting a few jobs** for school while i'm in school.

---

Whenever I am not doing homework, I am either **taking care of children** or **working**. Adding another 3 credits would require more time to dedicate, **which I cannot afford**.

---

**Whenever I schedule myself for more courses my academic performance suffers.**

---

With 15 credits plus work, I **would definitely get burned out**. It happened to me before and I struggled in classes. **It's counter-productive to take one more class if I do worse in all of them.**

---

With having to pay for my housing and bills independently I **have to work a full time job** while going to school. I don't have the time to put into a 15 credit hour course load that would **allow me to succeed and maintain my GPA as well as sleep, eat, and spend time with the people I care about**

---

With my VA benefits I can only take classes required within my degree plan. When I enrolled at UCCS I transferred from PPCC and had to catch up on some credits in order to be on track for my degree plan and required classes.

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With summer classes and transferred hours, I will be able to graduate as planned. I do find that most of my classes have required less study time than I expected, but I still feel that **I would not learn as much with a heavier class** schedule. Instead, I would just be working to deadlines for assignments.

---

With **work** and school taking more than 13 leads me to have **more migraines, more anxiety attacks, and more stress**. **I do not take care of myself as much and these chronic issues become worse, making my grades worse**. I also am a commuter student without a car and the bus has a very limited time frame that I am able to get to campus. The cost of what's left over after my finaid at 13 credits is already **so difficult for my dad to pay every term that I can not afford to without getting private loans**. **AT MY LAST TWO COLLEGES 12 CREDITS/TERM WOULD KEEP YOU ON TRACK TO GRADUATE ON TIME SO NOT HAVING THAT IS EXTREMELY FRUSTRATING HERE.**

---

With **work** and the fact that financial aid doesn't offer much or **uccs tuition is expensive**, it is **much less stressful** taking fewer classes.

---

With **worrying about the cost of rent** and living on top of an academic work load is a lot to do day by day each week. On top of unforeseen happenings such as taking an opportunity to take up **more work** for some extra money, or multiple projects being assigned at different times but due on the same week. I like many other people might find this work load manageable with the school load.

---

**Work life balance is more important to me than graduating quickly**. Also I just finished my military career and did about 60 credit hours before attending uccs. I was able to take the classes while I was in the Army so I will graduate in about 2 years while taking slightly smaller coarse load.

---

**Working part time** and living far away drastically effects the time I have to dedicate to my course load. An even worse factor is that UCCS **offers a very limited course selection and no online or hybrid MAE courses**.

Working school balance and having a home life.

---

YOU MAKIN OBSTACLES!!! The amount of assignments in only 4 classes is already overwhelming. I am currently taking a shortened summer class and we are still expected to read 6 books, multiple handouts, write reviews on top of the major 10 page paper and all the assignments attached to it, and still go to a 4 hour lecture on Saturday. We aren't as wealthy as previous generations. We have to find a way to pay y'all and taking out loans is killing my credit, so I have to get a job on top of all this unnecessary homework because of some policy about writing requirements - I just don't have it in me to take 5 classes and get a job.

---

“Core” classes alone like calc chem physics demand Time, and then classes that pretend other classes don't exist and the work load then becomes unhealthy

## Is there anything UCCS can do or change that would enable you to enroll for at least 15 hours per term?

Is there anything UCCS can do or change that would enable you to enroll for at least 15 hours per term?

Not really. I could enroll in 15 credit hours if I wanted to, it would just take time away from one of those other items that I value.

I am going to do 15 hours in spring semester

Offer **more sections** at more times

Reducing **tuition** would be the only thing to increase the amount of hours I take. This would allow me to stop or limit my working hours so I could focus on school.

Sometimes, I avoid taking some classes if they start around 10am-2pm all solely due to limited **parking** spaces. I think opening up parking would make life easier for students.

Have more option for **online classes**. Make more classes available during summer, plus more online summer classes. Have classes not be mandatory as life happens and things may come up.

Offer more **online options** for classes! I commute from monument and I don't base how many hours I sign up for off the drive BUT it would be so helpful.

**Lower the costs** per semester hour so that more people who are not from the rich and crusty of society can afford to go to school.

Make sure that **classes are offered** at a variety of times, and if that is not a possibility, I would suggest limiting or **getting rid of the \$100 fee that is associated with online classes** so students can feel comfortable in enrolling in those as well to increase the enrollment hours. I know that a bachelor's degree requires a certain number of hours to complete, however I feel that after general education requirements are met we should be able to obtain the rest of those hours focusing on our majors compared to so many elective requirements.

Not at the moment.

If somehow UCCS could pay me so I wouldn't have to work so much I would gladly enroll in more courses. However, that's not the case. I will try and enroll in 15 credits once the fall rolls around again.

I think that the science classes would be significantly less time consuming if we were able to type the lab reports. It takes an hour to write a full report as opposed to 20 minutes. I also have issues **scheduling classes** so that they do not interfere with each other or have several hour long gaps between them. I also had a lot of issues with **parking**. If I did not arrive at school by 7:30 I would not be able to find a place to park my car. I work until midnight or later on a lot of nights and would prefer to be able to sleep in a little longer than 6:00 or 6:30am.

Making **parking** cheaper for students

Require **less pre-requisites for courses** and don't lock underclassmen from certain courses for no more reason than being an underclassmen.

My microbiology lab options are all waitlisted or have **schedule conflicts** with a class I have to take. Also, my art class was just canceled without notifying me and the other options are waitlisted.

No, it seems Uccs cannot offer me anything in order for me to take a full load.

Possibly **offer more credits for classes** that are just as demanding as core classes that are worth 4 credits...

Since I will be graduating in December, there is not anything that UCCS so that I can enroll for 15 credit hours per term. However, for future students I would recommend trying to expand the "Fall only" or "Spring only" classes to be available more semesters whether it be during the summer or spring/ fall respectively.

Offer more online courses

I don't think there is much that UCCS can do. It is my personal preference to put less work on my shoulders for my own health reasons.

Offer more online courses and night/weekend slots for required courses. It is frustrating to only have a 9:40 t/th class for a class that is required by my degree program. It is especially frustrating because Uccs advertises its flexibility and online options, but has these major hiccups.

Some classes have more homework than others. If courses were structured to keep in mind students at 15 credit, more would probably enroll in such. Homework load keeps me from enrolling in more than 13. Some instructors give entirely too much, which takes time away from other courses. I won't chance my GPA by enrolling in 15 credits.

More parking!!! Its always hard to find parking in the one parking lot

More weekend classes for the major courses. Having a course only taught during 1 time slot when it's required to graduate is tough.

Provide mor diverse scholarships

Not really

No

Not that I can think of at the moment. Not having to sleep would help. :)

lower the cost!

No. Until my schedule clears up, I am pretty much only about to do part-time school right now.

Having care options for my 6 yr old in the evening so I could take more evening classes.

Creating multiple sections for higher level classes (especially engineering) would make it much easier to enroll in more classes. Currently the school of engineering only offers one section for junior and senior level classes, many of which are scheduled for the same block of time during the day. Creating multiple sections would make it much easier to increase credit load.

I don't see any way that UCCS could change to make 15 hours per term easier. This is from my own experience, however. I feel as if I have been well accomadated academically. I have many resources to help my education, the math center being a primary one.

Had I not come in with transferable credits, I would not have any issue taking 15 credits per semester.

No

Personally I do a work study position at the school. With a possible raise is always beneficaial and will weigh the work to school scale to more school matters.

Course availability. Usually it is a Fall or Spring class that makes me wait until later on to take it. It is really annoying but I just go with the flow and do things that fit into how UCCS runs business.

Not unless tuition was less or they paid me to go to school

I don't feel it has any thing to do with UCCS. It's my personal work life. I own a business and it takes time to delegate the manager duties and let go of that control. I have made it my focus to be ready to give my full time attention to academics within the year. I understand 12 credits a term extends the over all time before graduating. I transferred over a lot of credits and already excepted another 3 years to complete my BA. 15 credits a term might be more realistic as I get closer to seeing a graduation line.

If I received a living stipend while in the TELP program that would greatly help me cover the cost of living. Currently I plan on taking out student loans just to cover the cost of living next year. I am going to have to quit my on-campus job just so that I have enough time to go to my classes and teach in my partnering school. The partnering school does not pay me at all so I will have \$0 monthly income as of this fall which makes living and attending college incredibly difficult. I understand that I am setting myself up for success later in life, but I need to be able to put food

on my table as well.

If more classes were available (I've been on several waitlists all summer) I would be able to take more classes.

Offer better times for Upper Class course work. Many of these classes are offered in the evenings as a single mom of three kids it is extremely difficult to be away from home even one night a week.

Pay me to go to school. Probably. Depending on the pay.

Some of the upper level (substantially more challenging) classes are only 3 credits when they should really be more like 4 or 5. I don't know if it would be possible, but increasing credit value (even slightly) would help me fill the gap by taking a few challenging courses rather than four or five upper level classes.

It'd be great if UCCS could offer more upper-division courses every spring and fall... instead of just every fall or just every spring, or every other fall or spring... (ECE and PES departments especially). This would allow for a more flexible schedule of when we could take what when.

I cannot think of anything. It is my own schedule and decision.

Cheaper classes

Not really. The statement by Dr. Marschke points out that 12 hours means an additional school year. I would like to point out that I'm a junior who has been at UCCS since 2013, with an anticipated graduation date of May 2022. I'm facing upper-division tuition regardless of what I do. In addition to these answers you receive, please take a look at your student demographic. There is a significant population of nontrads who are doing what is reasonable for them to graduate and still fulfill the other obligations in their life. This accelerated path that is being considered may help the younger students, but please don't penalize the rest of us for doing what we can.

N/A

Honestly I have thought about enrolling in more terms but just haven't because of parking issues. I need to be able to access my car quickly so I can get to practice on time.

Enlarge class sizes or provide more sections of certain popular classes to make more room for enrollment

Having more upper level classes offered at more than one time slot

If there were more pre-term course options, it would help because there wouldn't be continuous conflicts with work schedules.

Unless my housing can be paid for no

I have one year left and I only need 12 credits in the Fall and Spring to graduate on time. I do not need 15 credit hours per term.

No 15 credits for me would be incredibly difficult in any situation. The course load for most classes are heavy so it would be overwhelming.

Make more higher level engineering courses available.

Have an affordable rate given that UCCS is a commuter based school. Work is essential while living off campus so therefore many students have to break up their time. Also work load from profesers while take 15 credits lowers the acedemic performance.

What would be helpful is to have more flexibility in the Inclusive education program to take classes online, or classes later down the road earlier so that I don't have to take them during summer and winter breaks

Lessen the work load

Not likely

N/A, plan to enroll in more courses

Nope

If the science classes were a little less intense.

No - My work takes up too much time.

Make availability better and why is every class full all of the time? There should never be a full class, if the class is full then it should be split to make 2 classes so students...who pay A LOT of money, can get the class they need

Make it more affordable and offer higher salary jobs

Offer more mae courses in the early AM, also offer only or hybrid MAE classes

There is nothing UCCS can do. It's my decision to work a full time schedule as a full time student.

No

Nope 15 hours per term is way too much for me. I am also a full-time employee so I have enough on my plate already.

UCCS is doing a great job as is. I had initially had doubts about taking 12 credit hours; the UCCS morale made it possible for me to be able to enroll full-time.

Less textbooks

Have better times and days that classes are offered. Especially the Junior and Senior level classes.

Some of the work load in classes combined make it difficult to work a part time job and take 15 credit hours

Open up more psychology or sociology classes online, that might be helpful.

Lower cost of tuition

Offer more classes each term. I do not have any remaining classes in the biology(my major) department that are available for me to take this term that do not conflict with the classes i am currently signed up for.

No

No, that is not possible. Not only is there time and schedule constraints but I could not afford the additional 3 credit hours.

Make more classes available both semesters, especially electives

If they had more options for dates and times of the classes, that would be helpful.

no

Make more computer science courses available during the summer semester.

No because this is my last semester here at UCCS as I graduate fall 2018.

Do not create so many classes that all run at the same time.

No

Offer more loan money per year.

Depends on the program you are in.

Lower tuition so I don't have to work as much

Change the scheduling for some classes. I am not able to take the ones I want to this semester because of the class time.

Offer more time options for classes



Be more like the Math programs. They are very flexible and you can take one class without having to take all the others if you have up to calculus 3. The less prerequisites required increases flexibility for a class.

No, I only have 2 semesters left and then student teaching and I am on the right path for me.

No

No, it is all personal preference. Below you mention, " And, yet, before implementing programs that encourage a heavier load in order to improve speedier graduation and decrease your costs, we need to know what is going on," I would like to add that higher education is not about finishing faster. It is about the experience and growth. Some students do want to hurry and get their degree, but I feel speediness of college promotes just trying to get through college, when really it should be about the experience and dedicating yourself to learn about topics thoroughly.

Pay for them

Have more courses available on the weekends.

They could add the 6 Summer credits into the professional year, 3 credits per semester.

Offering more classes during the evening or early morning times would be helpful for me, personally, as my work schedule does not allow me to take midday classes.

If I could find more classes online that fit into my desired degree path, I would register for the the full 15 hours.

Make classes easier, offer more on-campus jobs that do not require work study, make classes shorter during the day so students have more time to complete homework and work at a job, offer more times for classes.

No

Probably not.

Making entry level classes more available would certainly help. As a side note, I appreciate this opportunity to provide feedback and criticism.

No, at least not that I can think of.

No, its my own fault that I can't handle such a class load.

I'm really good at teaching myself things so it would be nice if I could do that on my own schedule. I know that's not what's gonna happen but that's what I need.

nope

No

Provide more online courses for psychology

No the limiting factor is my GI bill

Not that I can think of, my circumstances are outside influences.

Some classes are more difficult than others even if it is the same subject, somehow having the same level of difficulty across the board.

I wish UCCS transit routes were more accessible around the campus. With all the empty corners and sidewalks on campus, a bus could just pull up and stop right there and take you to the off campus locations.

I can't see me enrolling in 15 hours. I want to do my best in school so I won't put too much on myself at once.

If organic chemistry lab (which includes a lab and a lecture component) was worth 2 credit hours I may would have been able to take 15 credit hours.

Since the problem, for this semester is an intrinsic problem, there is nothing UCCS can do at this time. However, I am very grateful for the services provided by the Wellness Center. Between the physical and mental health services, I am able to stay enrolled, at all, in school.

I personally chose this, chemistry is just a difficult degree, otherwise I would take 15.

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Allow me to take an independent study course that would normally be allowed to senior/final year students.

---

Offer more times for upper level classes and not necessarily more morning time slots. I feel that morning students are favored given the amount of classes that are heavily offered during the morning. My job specifically requires me to work at 6am, sometimes even 2 or 4am which makes me unable to go to school on a work day if a class I need is not offered in the afternoon or evening.

---

More classes need to be held during "normal" 8-3 hours without the overlap between courses ie... only one engineering mechanics class scheduled and at the same time as required math courses... One other thing that should be addressed is instructor competency. An instructor for discrete mathematics in the spring was particularly inept and apparently the instructor teaching the other class was not much better. Thankfully I did not take differential equations at the time because he would have been my instructor for both and it was bad enough having to teach myself discrete while trying to keep up with my other courses...

---

I do not think there is anything UCCS can do that would enable me to enroll for 15 credit hours. At this point, I only need 6 credits to graduate upon completing fall semester.

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More classes available/ more space in classes

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If there was a financial incentive that could make my tuition more affordable (I am receiving some scholarship help but it doesn't cover most of my expenses) I would consider enrolling in an extra class.

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Offer more upper level courses at different times.

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Possibly have more classes available in different semester then just in one because its harder for me personally to be able complete my degree in 4 years if they were more available. Also having the professor get more office hours because sometimes I am not able to make it to those certain office hours and sometimes when I e-mail those professors they do not truly want to help you out.

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Free tuition.

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Not that I can think of, but UCCS is great; life is just busy.

---

Not really. It's just the type of classes I take I prefer to take less so I do better in them.

---

Offer more classes in the mornings, just because I personally work in the afternoon and that is when I have time to attend classes.

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Lower tuition costs

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Offer online classes

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At this time, I can not make that assessment. I am completely happy with my experience at UCCS, and everyone on the staff has been extremely helpful. When the time is right for me to extend to 15 hours, I will do so, and if I find difficulties, I will work through them with my advisor and communicate those to whomever I need to, with the goal of making it better for others in the future. I appreciate the survey and the opportunity to respond. Thank you.

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No.

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As a nursing student, I will soon be taking around 15 hours or more per term due to the strict term by term schedule of the program.

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teachers have been very understanding of my military schedule, so there's honestly not much that could be done- I just have other responsibilities aside from college.

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Offer more of the classes I need during the fall.

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Reevaluate the number of credits for the classes such as labs.

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For me, I think it's more how I function than anything UCCS could do.

Not unless you are willing to hire everyone who can't afford 15 credit hours

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Count clinicals as credit hours.

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I would more likely do so if I knew the requirements of the classes before I commit to them.

---

Honestly, changing the class schedule. I wanted to take 15 credits this upcoming fall semester. The chemistry class that I need (chem 1211) is only offered MW for lecture, meaning I cannot have any flexibility since that is a core class for me. As a result I can only take 12 of the unit's needed towards my degree at this time.

---

Nah

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No, because I believe it is hard to take 15 hours per semester and fully understand the taught materials. Passing classes with a C indicates lack of learning and a poor work ethics. These low grades might even undermine the reputation of UCCS.

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No

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NO! I have seen what students do during the time in class. Constantly on social media and half don't even seem to have a clue about what each class was about. It takes me longer to complete assignment because I often have to relearn many skills considered basic. As a non traditional student my lower coarse load allows me the time to care for my family and relearn concepts with a manageable amount of stress. While I understand you are looking at a set of numbers I feel the coarse load issue is much broader than you comprehend. Simply look at your parking. Most commute to class. The weather plays a huge role in the ability of most to even make it to a parking lot. Catch a bus and slog through snow and rain to find their class. In my case I bought a house down walking distance from the school. I feel like my life is in danger every time I cross Austin bluffs. So I try to get my classes close together crossing the road as few times a week as possible. Also I would think that classes could be lengthened to allow for more debate and exploration of the local area. Basically look at the Colorado college example of how professors are engaging students by hosting dinners and adventures. Mostly I think it is the intellect and prior family commitments that drive most students to take a more manageable coarse load. On a more personal note this survey was a real disappointment to get in any capacity. I understand the intent. Your survey feels like a more judgemental attack on my ability to complete my degree in the "normal time". It feels more like being asked to hurry up because I'm the last one taking a test. Actually, I am always the last one taking test. Maybe look at systemic issues like the unfettered use of mobile devices in the classroom.

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More engineering classes offered at different times. There are far to many classes in electrical engineering that are offered only at one time that prohibit me from taking desired electives.

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There is nothing UCCS as a whole can do, next semester I will take an average 15 credit hours again.

---

No. I don't want to take on more than I can handle. If the goal in classes was just to learn and not get graded on tedious assignments, I'd definitely enroll in more than 12 hours per term. However, I don't want to hurt my GPA.

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I am fine taking 12 hours.

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I would need all of my classes to somehow fit into the hours of 8/9-3/4, M-F so that I am in school while my children are in school.

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I know that there are a million different ways to make a schedule each semester so the only option would be to offer the same class at different times. Advisors, counselors, and staff need to make it more apparent that in order to graduate in four years, a student needs to take 15 credits per semester. My family has six people going to college and nobody knew this.

---

Lower tuition

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Nothing can change that since tuition costs cannot be lowered and the need to pay bills is high so work is needed.

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Hire instructors that have teaching credentials and not just experience in the field. I would feel more comfortable taking on a heavier course load if I had teachers who planned their lessons and made more of an effort to ensure student success.

I couldn't tell you honestly.

I think a nice incentive would be if they offered a reduced (or even free (i.e. for every two years enrolled)) course in something more relaxing such as Tai Chi or yoga, but as an actual course that would count as credit. Also, making tuition slightly less expensive is always nice, though it's not the most feasible method for the university.

Nope

I've taken 15 credit hours before and thought it went smoothly for me. I had to make sure that I stayed organized and on top of my studies in order to keep everything straight and complete the tasks that were assigned.

Professors at UCCS can be very difficult to work with, leaving me for less time to be at work.

Occasionally there is not enough variety in the times courses are offered, especially degree specific courses.

Offer more higher level computer science classes choices.

If the VA paid me more per class.

An attempt at standardizing expected work load per class would be great. Enrollment in a class shouldn't be a blank check for the hours in your week.

Enable me to not have to work at least full time to be able to exist and live and not fall behind on other responsibilities

No

Make it to where the professional year of the teaching program did not have to begin in a summer semester

Make tuition more affordable or offer better financial aid.

More available classes online

No because I have all my electives completed. I am down to just my core classes for nursing and you can only complete them during certain semesters.

Tell me what classes I can take second semester of first year nursing. Change the curriculum.

Offer more courses online/at night/ on weekends to allow working students more flexibility

UCCS could create a nursing program that allows its students to take 15 credit hours without the failure of many students forcing them to take a 5 year plan.

More evening classes for finance majors! If the finance program was mirrored like the accounting program (offering more 445-720s), it would be more convenient. I am actually going to CU Denver for grad school because of their night class options.

More understanding of chronic pain, tuition costs, etc

No. Unless you can convince the VA to pay me full-time for my last semester with only 2 classes.

Make the portfolio class worth hours.

A lot of schools offer the same tuition cost for 12-18 credits. I'd take 15-18 if that was the case

Make more available classes to avoid schedule conflicts

No. My classes are homework intensive. I would do online courses, but the posting requirements are beyond ridiculous and take up more time than just attending class.

Offer me more financial aid, instead of \$18,000 in a parent plus loan when I'm living on my own and responsible for my own education without financial help from my family.

not now

Make **tuition cheaper** so I don't have to work so much

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Offer **more courses** during the afternoon and evenings to accommodate students with traditional 40/week work schedules. I have tried for three semesters to take courses in the sustainable development minor to no avail. None of the GES courses I needed to fulfill the requirements is available online or later than 3:30 pm. And that's just one content area; I encountered the same problem in other areas as well. This is detrimental to my future job prospects in the Green Collar job industry.

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I am not exactly sure if UCCS can do anything. I evaluate my classes one by one to see if they end up being more time consuming (based on instructor/student feedback) and I base my work loads off of **how many hours per week I would need to put in to a class, and not based solely on the credit hours.**

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If there were a **wide variety of classes offered** in the summer, or on the weekends, UCCS could likely increase the amount of average credit hours its students participate in. I realize UCCS has a compelling interest to ensure this outcome - I just do not believe its realistic considering volunteering, community projects, academic extracurricular programs, etc. would experience a further decrease in participation. Not only that, but more hours are more expensive and college is already too expensive and arguably no longer a relevant or necessary requirement to ensure financial stability and future career success.

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Make life more affordable :) I'm not sure if UCCS does, but they could offer some sort of **housing assistance** (not dorms that require loans and repayment) for students of lower income. Students, like myself, would not need to work as much. I would love to take 16 credits per semester, but there is not enough time in the week. And I would rather keep a roof over my head.

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**Remove the "5 year nursing program"**

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Nothing I can think of.....it is just a matter of having time to handle the course load at this point in my life.

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Affordable, readily available, **daycare** would be the best chance for me to take a larger load. I was halfway through school before a spot finally opened up at the child care center. I know that having kids was my decision, but the college atmosphere doesn't make things easier.

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Make it possible to do well while enrolled in so many credit hours.

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Lower **prices**.. textbooks are overpriced and not needed often times

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**Get rid of Math all together in my degree path.** It is useless. Unless you are going into accounting, there is no reason why a business major needs Algebra or anything higher than that. Seriously, you don't need math to run a business, be an entrepreneur, or invent. "This is the way it's always been done" is not a reason. Lets be more INNOVATIVE with our degree tracks. Do a **trial run with "the block program"** like Colorado College does. I think it might be beneficial to focus on only one class for 3-4 weeks at a time, then move on to the next class, As, oppose to spreading yourself thin on 5 different and unrelated subjects.

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**Offer more** summertime and evening classes.

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No, there is only so much time in a day. I take a bit longer studying and doing homework than most other students so I don't have time for more classes.

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Make it cheaper. Freshmen and sophomores get discounted **tuition** rates, if that was extended to juniors and seniors I would consider taking 15 hours.

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If i was offered in state tuition. I have lived on campus for a year now.

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**More classes** opened and not just one section that can be taken.

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Most of my teachers have been very open to me bringing my 19yo with me to class occasionally, but I understand that it isn't always appropriate or convenient. It would be wonderful if the campus had on-site **daycare**, but asking for care for a 19yo with disabilities is not a very reasonable request.

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It is more personal. Taking more than 15 hours per term would cause me to not be as thorough as I would like to be. Also, I live an hour away so the ability to make a schedule would lessen the driving amount is sometimes hard to do based on the classes I would like to take.

If I would have known....

I'm surprised I didn't get in to the class at this point especially because I have had friends get into the class that were farther down on the waitlist than me. But I'm planning on taking the class next semester at this point.

UCCS could offer on-campus childcare for school-aged children to families who qualify for financial aid. UCCS could also work with local or state donors to increase the amount of financial aid available. UCCS (and other CU and state academic institutions) could work with government and donors to provide "free" i.e. tax-funded higher education for all students below certain income brackets. UCCS could provide more funding to the Excel centers, allowing them to keep more hours, expand their space, and help more students. UCCS could create more evening time slots for core classes, especially during the summer when children aren't in school, but could be cared for by one parent after work while the other parent is in class.

allow me to enroll in the next semester course while i am currently enrolled in that courses prerequisite.

Possibly give out more financial aid, make classes more available,

I would not enroll in that many hours per term because I have no need or desire to.

I'm afraid not. The only change that could be made is for classes to become easier/have a smaller workload, but I don't believe that's a good choice. The classes I'm taking shouldn't be made any easier to pass because they're engineering classes, so people shouldn't be allowed to move on unless if they truly understand the material. I'm currently 4 years into the engineering program, so it's only natural that the classes are time-consuming and demand a lot of effort.

Not that I can think of. I fully understand that college courses are typically going to have large workloads, so requesting a change in the workload is unrealistic. Due to mental health issues, I just can't take the full 15 credits without being seeing negative impacts in my health, and it's mainly just because of the combined workloads of all the classes. While just as unrealistic as changing the workloads for classes, the other change I would recommend is extend the "normal" graduation time. Every student I've spoken to agrees that graduating in a four year period is unrealistic and adds a significant amount of unneeded stress. Just increasing the typical graduation period by one year to equal five could make a huge impact and not cause students to feel so rushed.

Offer classes during both spring and fall semesters and make more of an attempt to let students know that certain classes are not always offered. Offer more evening classes (4:45-7) so that we could still work in the day.

Lowering tuition rates and work loads and offering more interim and summer classes would do much to encourage enrollment in more than 12 hours.

...

Yes. Offer needed classes for summer so those two that were missed during fall/spring can be made up. To help with that do a simple survey to see what classes students are interested in taking over the summer. Also for degree required classes should always have a morning time frame, even if you have to put it on another building.

I know that can be straining for professors, but it would be useful to have more sections of classes available so that schedule conflicts do not occur so often.

Get rid of the 6 month internship in the PGM program.

Not really.

I will be graduating soon so this doesn't really apply to me but if it were more affordable to take those credits in the first years of college. It would also help to have more classes that are transferable between degrees and schools because I changed my mind about my degree several times and ended up going with something just because it fit the credits I had.

Offering more ENGL courses each term required for my PTW degree track

Make less expensive

Lighter work load for students taking more credits at once.

## Freshmen study help

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My classes are limited because I'm taking a lot of ECE classes. I would like more 1-2 week classes that I've heard are offered right before or after semesters so I could stay ahead without relying on the summer. I have to take about 130 credit hours and it is already hard to try to complete this degree in 4 years.

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Fix the Financial Aid. There is no reason I at 26 should be getting less in Pell Grants than an 18 year-old who has no financial obligations.

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No

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I could possibly get the extracurricular classes out of the way, if I take summer classes the next two years, so I can focus on the more challenging classes and have more time to really narrow down the subject and study's specifically for those couple of classes during the semester

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PLEASE OFFER MORE ONLINE CLASSES OR MULTIPLE CLASS OPTIONS IN SPRING AND FALL. ITS DIFFICULT TO ENROLL AND STAY ON TRACK OF THE DEGREE PATH WHEN THE SCHOOL DOES NOT OFFER MORE AVAILABILITY FOR THE CLASSES THE STUDENTS NEED.

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Make tuition more affordable would be a start. Maybe consider having a rest/nap area for commuting students. It's hard traveling to school from a home that's 30 minutes away.

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More scholarship money

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no

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Offer more sections for courses.

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With the spread of other homework systems like my math lab and connect the homework load feels heavier as it is now. If the curriculum was more project/test/paper based I'd have more time to budget my studying between several classes. I'd focus more on absorbing knowledge then trying to fight a clock on when things come due. I'd also feel as though I had more time and availability to take more classes if there was more crossover between in person and online courses. Things like a recorded lecture from the in person class being uploaded for review and for the benefit of online only learners. Having the lectures online would open up the ability to be more flexible with scheduling, enabling an in person learner to skip the live lecture and review the recording at a later time when it's more convenient. Along with that grading based on attendance would also need to go away.

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Let me

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No.

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More classes and variety for the time that courses are offered.

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I plan to enroll in 15 credits during the regular semester. Graduation speed isn't my top priority, either. Passing my difficult classes is.

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My personal situation is complex, just as every students is at UCCS. I would love to graduate in 4 years but it is not realistic for me to do so with needing to work to earn an income, valuing and appreciating life now, health issues, etc etc. Perhaps the issue is not students taking less than 15 hours per term but instead the way we think about college and how it is expected to graduate in 4 years. I noticed the comment below that mentions the possibility of implementing programs to encourage 15 hours in order to improve speedier graduation and reduce costs. Perhaps what needs to be focused on instead is reducing costs for students who wish to take 12 hours instead of 15 and not encouraging students who take 12 hours to take 15 hours. "Speedier graduation" should not be the focus of a university. The focus should be on fostering an environment where learning is paramount. When I graduate I do not take with me the graduation statistics of the university. I take with me the knowledge I have acquired.

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For better or worse I am perfectionist and love getting straight A's. If I were to take 15 hours per term, I would not get as good of grades but this is something I could do to enable me to enroll in more hours each term. If UCCS could do anything it would be to reduce the number of non major classes (like non math classes) required to graduate.

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More class times offered for each class

More online classes would help me take more classes as some of the class times are only offered when I work Monday through Friday 9 to 5 and you do not see these classes at a late time or online!

If we could take out unnecessary fees in our tuition I would in a heart beat. I wish UCCS had a full ride scholarship for people who have current 3.0 gpa and above. I am a very low income student and it's difficult to attend UCCS. I know it's a university but it would be nice to get help.

My first year here, I received more financial aid but since then, some of those grants are only available to Colorado residents which makes paying for school very difficult.

Offer more merit-awards for students that have consistently performed well (at least 2 semesters here at UCCS) especially for transfer students. The reason I went to a community college first was mainly financial. The switch from a CC to a 4-year college can be very heavy financially.

In my situation no, but better parking would be nice because commuting made taking classes difficult.

The tuition fees.

No

Apply for more scholarships or grants to help me pay for school

Make 36 hours in a day?

UCCS can consider that it has a large non-traditional student population who have jobs and families. And lower the homework load responsibly.

No, the classes I need to take just aren't offered at the time I have open

Limit the amount of books that can be assigned in a class or weekly assignments. Last semester the religion philosophy class (a joke to be sure) took up 80 percent of my allotted homework time at first, and when the professor wouldn't budge, I just had to decide what was getting turned in and what would have a zero so as to not fail my other classes. Lower the cost of a semester. If it was more affordable, I wouldn't need a job and I'd be able to spend the necessary time on school work. Stop charging me fees for things I don't use. I have only been to the gym once, on the tour. I used to work out at night back home, but the place closes at 8 so I've never been able to use it yet I still have to pay for it; not cool. Don't require pointless classes for a degree program. I switched degree programs because a single philosophy degree has less philosophy classes than general requirements, which is silly, because it's a philosophy degree, not a general requirements degree.

More sections of required upper level classes on different days. Reducing cost. More offerings in books that will satisfy Explore/Summit/etc requirements.

If there were more online class options per semester I would be more likely to enroll in more classes.

If it were possible to change the overall cost, or possibly give more information on scholarships.

Free parking for student employees. I work at your school... why should I pay to have some decent parking that doesn't require to ride the bus? Thanks... sorry if I'm coming off as rude. I feel that there should be some form of employee benefits.

No, there is not. I like my work load the way it is.

Offer more classes online and remove the online course fee.

Offer all required classes for mechanical engineering and aerospace every semester. Some classes in the engineering department are exclusively taught in fall or spring semesters. For example, MAE 4410, Astrodynamics, a class required for completing a minor in Aerospace Engineering, is only offered in the spring semester.

Give me the ability to take out more loans than necessary so that I can have living expenses paid through student loans so I don't have to work as much. Less time I work, more time I can be at school. My job requires me to be at full capacity physically and mentally every day and can be exhausting if I am stuck doing the heavy lifting all day.

In this situation, I believe there is nothing UCCS could do.



Provide all pre-med classes for every semester.

If the cost was lower, incentive to enroll for more would be higher.

If the classes had fewer writing assignments and projects, I may be able to take more classes.

Make school more affordable and look at the pre-requisite paths, like mine I'm bottlenecked into only taking certain classes and still progress.

I honestly feel like there's too high of an emphasis on being full time and getting through programs quickly. For many students, the material is new. Why would we pay tens of thousands of dollars to take courses on things we already know? Unfortunately, the instructors rarely approach the subjects that way. We're expected to come in knowing the lecture with little to no context then perform at a professional level, and that is simply unrealistic.

More classes offered online or in weekends and keep a flat rate tuition.

No because I plan on taking 15 hours per term from now on

I suppose there's not much the school can do financially speaking, since federal aid is federal and not necessarily dictated by the school. I am also not sure what the school could do grant or scholarship-wise and I understand that certain students have higher priority, so I don't exactly expect there to be an overhaul on the financing portion of it. But I genuinely believe making more classes more consistently accessible, so that students don't have to waste time in classes that are not exactly what they need but have to be taken to fill credit hours to even qualify for financial aid, that would make it much more worthwhile. I would much rather pay for a class that I know will apply to the field I have chosen, rather than simply taking any old class to fill a credit hours, just so I can qualify as a full-time student.

Highly unlikely. I would be unable to pay my bills without my current work schedule.

Make 12-16 credits all the same cost

Make more classes online. That helps with not having to go to a lecture

I think the paragraph below sums up what is wrong - with being busy with work (as financial aid, for me, doesn't cover all of tuition), trying to cram more classes into a limited schedule in an effort to decrease costs when it should be less expensive taking fewer classes is painful.

No. Degree plans are constructed a certain way and when I get on track with the degree plan for college of Education I should be at 15 hours

I know you can not offer more grants or scholarships, but in an ideal world, that would be the best offer.

Actually offering courses listed as options to satisfy my degree program (a lot of classes I wanted to take aren't really offered at any time, but still show up as options). And having more than 1 offering for the class. Most are at similar times as other courses that are required. There is no variation in times and days courses are offered and it makes it hard to keep a consistent schedule.

More online courses that relate to my specific degree.

I would suggest more flexible scheduling and more hybrid/online classes. With many required courses that only meet at one specific time a week throughout a semester, UCCS makes it hard on commuter students and working professionals to schedule classes that work with their schedules. More hybrid/online options would likely have led me to enroll in 15 hours per term.

Increase the number of credit hours for upper division math courses.

More availability in classes, so that times are more easily able to stack. Also more accessibility to classes that follow a sequential order instead of only in fall or only once every two years.

No, unless the nursing program removes elective requirements and a 4 year nursing program and more attainable.

The only thing you guys could do for me is allow me to have more scholarship opportunities for me to sign up for or allow me to have some more financial aid. That would be the only way I could take more classes

Make parking easier so that people who commute don't have to take an hour or more out of their day before their classes to ensure that they are there on time.

Make more parking

Not that I can think of that would be reasonable and realistic.

Well make sure the classes students enroll in don't get cancelled because that throws everything out of wack and it's hard to find replacement classes when everyone is already enrolled.

The cost of additional credits past 12 cuts into remaining financial aid. If there was somehow more financial aid leftover to supplement my work income, I would increase my courseload.

Include affordable childcare. I don't have time to use the gym, why can't that money that you've already taken go towards childcare, Especially if I'm not utilizing the gym, it would be Simple to allow students to allocate their money to childcare instead of the gym.

Allow better financial aid opportunities or lower cost of classes so the maximum amount offered by FAFSA can actually cover a fuller class load.

Reevaluate the work load each class entails.

I have enrolled for 15 or more when needed. I liked enrolling in 15-18 to get to this point where I can take 12 my last year. I was under the impression that I would have to take 15 or more for every semester.

Improve parking. Offer more classes year round. Encourage FAFSA to increase the amount given for taking more than 12 hours.

I don't think so

There is nothing that can be done to help unless a program is out that allows students to live with a family in housing while in school and working on campus to cover the cost of housing.

Cheaper tuition.

Nope. It has nothing to do with the University, I just took on what I felt would be manageable for me!

Offer more financial aid rather than \$500 for SUMmer Aid!! :-) thank you so much for paying for half a course!

not really

No it's basically my fault and choice...