



Student Center North, N203, Houston, TX 77204-3024 ☎ Phone: (713) 743-5065 ✉ Email: isssohlp@central.uh.edu 🌐 <http://uh.edu/oisss>

Reduced Course Load (RCL) Form for Undergraduates

F-1 students are required to maintain full-time enrollment while studying in the U.S. Undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students are expected to complete a minimum of 12 hours of course work during the fall and spring semesters. Classes during the summer are optional unless it is the first semester at UH; then an F-1 student has to complete 6 hours (i.e. full-time for summer).). The following form must be completed before dropping below full-time hours after start of classes.

Note: Dropping below full course load may involve the loss of resident tuition based on a scholarship, grant, or on-campus employment.

Please complete the form below by selecting one of the options:

1. ACADEMIC DIFFICULTY (FIRST SEMESTER ONLY)

RCL for valid academic difficulties is allowed once and only in the first semester when starting a new degree program. A minimum of 6hrs will still have to be completed. This option cannot be used or submitted prior to ORD.

Initial Adjustment Issues (IAI)

- ☐ I am having initial difficulties with the English language, reading requirements, or unfamiliarity with American teaching methods. Please explain: _____

Improper Course Level Placement (ICLP)

- ☐ I am having difficulty with my class(es) due to improper course level placement which may include not having the prerequisites or insufficient background to complete the course at this time. For example, an international student taking U.S. History for the first time (e.g. no previous exposure, insufficient background) or a philosophy course that is based on a worldview that clashes with the student's own culture.

ICLP CERTIFYING SIGNATURE BY PROFESSOR

I recommend that this student be allowed to drop the following course(s) due to improper course level placement as defined above.

Class _____ Professor _____ Signature _____ Date _____
Class _____ Professor _____ Signature _____ Date _____

2. MEDICAL REASON

- ☐ Valid medical reason must be proven with a supporting letter from a licensed medical doctor, clinical psychologist, or doctor of osteopathy. The letter has to contain the following information: written in English on a letterhead, signed in ink, the recommended credit hours of enrollment, when the below hours should begin and end (if known), details of when student first saw the doctor, and when they advised the student to withdraw from course(s). Medical excuses must be renewed each semester. You are only allowed to accumulate 12 months of reduced course load for medical reasons during any given degree level. **Zero hours are allowed under this provision of the law only if it is clearly recommended by the licensed medical professional.**

- ☐ Letter from a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, a licensed psychologist/clinical psychologist is attached.

3. FINAL SEMESTER

- ☐ This is my final semester and I only need _____ hours of course work to complete my degree. I understand that if I am granted a reduced course load and fail to complete my degree as planned, I may be in violation of my legal status and will need to apply for reinstatement. (If you need only one course to finish your program of study, it cannot be taken through online/distance education).

4. CONCURRENTLY ENROLLED

- ☐ I am taking courses at another college/University and want to drop a course at UH. I will still have 12 hours of enrollment between both schools. After the drop, I will have _____ hours at UH and _____ hours at _____ (school name). Attach proof of concurrent enrollment. Academic advisor signature is not required for this option, only ISSSO counselor.

I am applying for a reduced course load for the ☐ fall semester of 20____ ☐ spring semester of 20____

I want to drop the following class(es): _____; _____; _____ (course number). After the drop, I will have a total of _____ hours (at UH) for the: ☐ Fall semester 20____. ☐ Spring semester of 20____.

You must submit a copy of this form to Office of the University Registrar (Student Success Center) if you are requesting the drop after the 1st day of the semester. The approval signature from your Academic Advisor is required to drop a course. You may still be responsible for the tuition and fee charges to the dropped course(s) after passing the



Your Name: _____ Signature: _____ PS ID: _____ Date: 04/22/2025

APPROVAL SIGNATURE FROM ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

APPROVAL SIGNATURE FROM ISSSO (if course drop is required)

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____