

# When to Withdraw and What to Consider

*At what point should I seriously consider withdrawing from a course?*

*What does it mean if I withdraw?*

*How does it impact my academic record?*

These are just a few of the questions to think about when deciding whether or not to withdraw from a course. To help you make a more informed decision, we suggest you consider the following issues and discuss your options with your academic advisor.

## **ASSESS YOUR PERFORMANCE IN THE CLASS**

- How am I currently doing in the class?
- What is my average grade so far?
- How many graded assignments do I still have to do?
- How much of my final grade is already determined?
- Have I put enough time and effort into the course?
- Can I devote more time and effort to the remainder of the class?
- What do I need to do to improve my performance in the course?
- What does my professor recommend?

## **ANALYZE YOUR OPTIONS**

- What grade can I realistically earn in this course?
- Am I at risk of failing this course?
- Will it help to go to tutoring or join a study group?
- If I keep this course, will I spend too much time on it and neglect my other courses?
- Is this course required for my major?
- Can I repeat this course in the future?
- Is this course a prerequisite for other courses I need to take next semester?
- Do I need to earn a minimum grade in this course for my major?

## **CONSIDER THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR DECISION**

- If I withdraw from this course, how will it impact my overall GPA and academic record?
- How many credits will I be left with?
- Will my status (full-time vs. part-time) change?
- Will this affect my financial aid?
- Can I still live on campus if I am no longer full-time?
- Is withdrawing from courses a pattern for me or an unusual occurrence?  
(A couple W's on your record is ok, but a pattern of W's can often raise questions.)
- Will I need to take a summer course to make up the credits?
- When will this course run again if I need to repeat it?
- If I withdraw from this course, will it interrupt any sequence of courses I need to complete for my major?
- Will I need additional time to finish my degree if I withdraw from this course?