Students in the College of Arts and Sciences, Heider College of Business, and College of Professional Studies are classified according to the total number of semester hours they have earned:

- Freshmen—completed fewer than 24 credits
- Sophomores—completed 24-59.5 credits
- Juniors—completed 60-95.5 credits
- Seniors—completed 96 or more credits.

Students in the College of Nursing are classified according to the completion of specific curricular requirements and not merely on the basis of total semester hours completed.