Course Numbering Guideline Recommendations

The below listing of course guidelines is neither exhaustive nor inclusive. If your courses are part of an accredited program, your guidelines may differ depending on the standards required by your program accrediting body.

1000 level courses are considered to contain beginner knowledge and require no additional skills to enroll and complete the course requirements. These 1000 level courses should provide the foundational knowledge for, in some cases, 2000 and, in most cases, 3000 level courses. Within the 1000 level courses, unique prerequisites are sometimes required to provide sequential learning (e.g., a student satisfactorily completes BIOL-1010 then he/she enrolls in BIOL-1020). These 1000 level courses will tend to require students to demonstrate the lower levels of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning (e.g., remember and understand).

- Recall common discipline specific terminology
- Recall basic concepts and issues in discipline
- Exhibit proficiency in discipline specific writing skills
- Explain basic understanding of discipline specific ideas and/or concepts

2000 level coursework contains beginner knowledge and require no additional skills to enroll, but aligned to one aspect of a much bigger curriculum (i.e., Anatomy & Physiology and American History) and/or aligned to a more specific career path (i.e., Nursing and Medical Laboratory Science). These 2000 level courses will tend to require students to demonstrate the lower levels of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning (e.g., remember and understand).

- Identify, discuss and list discipline specific terminology
- Identify skills necessary to solve discipline specific programs
- Identify discipline specific research

3000 level coursework is considered to contain more advanced knowledge and requires successful completion of prerequisite course work prior to enrollment. These 3000 level courses should provide advanced course content that prepares students for 4000 level courses. These 3000 level courses will require students to demonstrate the lower levels of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning (e.g., remember and describe) and include mid-level levels of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning (e.g., apply).
• Apply acquired skills within discipline to solve problems
• Develop proficiency of skills/techniques within discipline
• Identify and interpret discipline specific research

**4000 level coursework** considered to contain content that can only be manageable by those that have successfully completed 3000 level courses and/or very specific 2000 level courses. These 4000 level courses are considered terminal courses of knowledge for the undergraduate degree that contain course content derived from a hybrid of primary and secondary research databases/repositories. In addition to lower and mid-level Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning, these 4000 level courses will require students to demonstrate analysis and evaluation.

• Develop and enhance course knowledge and competencies in discipline
• Analyze and develop discipline specific opinions about research
• Demonstrate proficiency in discipline specific concepts
• Demonstrate an understanding of different fields of study by comparing/contrast ing skills or topics across disciplines
• Develop an understanding of the applications and limitations of the discipline’s theories and or practices
• Develop specific abilities that will promote success in a particular field or professional practice upon graduation

**5000 level coursework** Master’s level courses and are considered manageable by those who have successfully completed an undergraduate degree within a relevant field of study and have earned appropriate grades within relevant undergraduate courses. For 5000 level courses, unique admission requirements tend to exceed undergraduate admission standards (i.e., elevated GPA and/or additional assessment scores and documentation). In addition to lower and mid-level Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning, these 5000 level courses will require students to demonstrate analysis and evaluation. It is expected that a few 5000 level courses within a graduate program will require students to create an original work to be evaluated by faculty.

• Demonstrate knowledge of the literature of the discipline
• Develop discipline specific research questions and/or hypotheses
• Propose alternative methods and/or research designs
• Defend opinions/ideas related to research
• Engage in research and or appropriate professional practice and training experiences

**6000 level coursework** Master’s level courses considered manageable by those who have successfully completed an undergraduate degree within a relevant field of study and have earned appropriate grades within relevant undergraduate courses. For 5000 level courses,
unique admission requirements tend to exceed undergraduate admission standards (i.e., elevated GPA and/or additional assessment scores and documentation). In addition to lower and mid-level Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning, these 5000 level courses will require students to demonstrate analysis and evaluation. It is expected that a few 5000 level courses within a graduate program will require students to create an original work to be evaluated by faculty.

- Demonstrate knowledge of the literature of the discipline
- Engage in Field Study or Research activity
- Work independently to analyze and evaluate discipline specific theses or research projects
- Compare and Contrast field of study ideology

7000 level coursework 7000 level courses are considered Doctoral level courses that contain prerequisite requirements stemming from 6000 level courses and/or very specific 5000 level courses. These 7000 level courses are designed to prepare doctoral students for the terminal 8000 level courses which require the highest level of applied knowledge. 7000 level courses contain course content derived from the most immediate, primary research databases/repositories and students will engage in activities requiring the highest level of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning. Evaluation of learning within these courses require instructors to have earned the highest level of education preparedness (e.g., in most instances, doctoral work plus post-doctoral work and/or other relevant experiences).

- Advanced application of discipline specific knowledge
- Develop individual research interest
- Analyze and evaluate previous research to develop a unique research interest that would contribute to discipline
- Develop full plan of study for research completion
- Develop knowledge of technical applications in the field

8000 level coursework 8000 level courses are considered Doctoral level courses that contain prerequisite requirements stemming from 7000 level courses and/or very specific 6000 level courses. These 8000 level courses are considered terminal courses of knowledge that contain course content derived from the most immediate, primary research databases/repositories and students will engage in activities requiring the highest level of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning. Evaluation of learning within these courses require instructors to have earned the highest level of education preparedness (e.g., in most instances, doctoral work plus post-doctoral work and/or other relevant experiences).

- Practical application of all previously completed coursework
- Defense of proposed research utilizing all elements of field research processes
- Ability to comprehensively explain all elements of research or study with terminology and methodology consistent with the area of study
• Completion of study at a level ready for publishing