Degrees Offered and Graduation Requirements

Denison University offers Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Science (BS), and Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degrees. To be a candidate for a Denison degree, a student must do the following:

• Fulfill the General Education requirements;
• Major in an area - either in a department, a program, or an individually designed program;
• Earn 127 semester hours of credit;

A student earning a BA degree may have no more than 56 hours from the major field (14 courses) count toward the 127 hours required for graduation. Required cognates would not be included in this "56 Hour" rule. Interdepartmental BA degrees may require no more than 68 hours (17 courses).

NOTE: A student may count towards graduation no more than 4 credits for participation experiences that are credited S/U, unless such credits in excess of 4 are required for the student’s major or minor.

• Earn a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0 overall including the major and minor (if applicable);

Normally, all Denison courses completed by the student, including repeated and failed courses, will count in the calculation of the overall grade-point average. Normally, all courses eligible to count toward the student’s major, minor, and concentration, including courses beyond the minimum requirements, will be included in the calculation of the major, minor, and concentration grade-point average.

• Complete at least 64 of the required 127 credit hours while in residence at Denison and also reside at Denison for the two semesters of the senior year. Satisfactory completion of a minor at Denison requires at least one-half of the credit hours that fulfill minor requirements to be completed in residence at Denison. Generally, all students, except those enrolled in recognized pre-professional 3-2 programs, must complete the last two semesters in residence at Denison. Exceptions to these requirements may be made by the Academic Standing Board. A course taken "in residence" is defined as any course scheduled by the Denison Registrar and taught on the Denison campus, by a Denison faculty member. This policy prescribes a university-wide minimum residence requirement; individual departments may have stricter requirements.

Denison reserves the right to not award a student a degree if serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct have been alleged against that student or if charges exist against that student that cannot be adjudicated prior to commencement exercises. For the present purpose, "serious violations" are those that normally could result in suspension or expulsion. At the discretion of the Vice President for Student Development or the Provost, a student facing allegations or charges of academic dishonesty may be permitted to participate in commencement exercises, however, the student would not receive a diploma or be considered a graduate of Denison. A valid diploma would be sent when all serious conduct matters have been resolved, and the student is deemed eligible to receive a degree from Denison.

Please note that qualifications and further clarification of these requirements appear in various following sections.