Course Numbering and Terminology;
Credit, Semester, and Prerequisite Codes

Course Numbering and Description Key
Each course at Boise State University has a course description that consists of a prefix, course number, title, credit code, semester code, additional information, content description, and list of requisites. These elements of the course description are described below.

1) Course Prefix/Subject The prefix indicates the department or academic unit offering the course.

2) Course Numbering System Each course offered is assigned a unique number, indicating what type of course it is and what sort of credits may be earned in the course. Courses are numbered as follows:
   - 00 – 99 non-academic credit courses
   - 100 – 299 lower-division undergraduate courses
   - 300 – 499 upper-division undergraduate courses
   - 500 – 699 graduate-level courses

3) Course Title The official title of the course.

4) Credits The unique course number of each course is followed by a sequence of three numbers that indicate the number of classroom hours per week that the course meets, the number of special hours (laboratory, studio, field) per week that the course meets, and the number of credits a student earns by completing the course. The following examples show typical uses of these additional numbers:
   - (3-0-3) a 3-hour lecture class carrying 3 credits
   - (3-4-5) a 3-hour lecture class with a corresponding 4-hour laboratory class, carrying 5 credits
   Note: a ‘V’ is used to indicate variable credits or hours.

5) Semester Code The semester code indicates the semester(s) and/or term in which the course is offered and is expressed using letter codes F for fall semester, S for spring semester, and SU for summer term, with the full sequence of letter codes enclosed in parentheses. A comma or slash between letter codes is used to interpret combinations as illustrated in the following examples:
   - (F) fall semester only
   - (S) spring semester only
   - (F,S) fall and spring semester
   - (F/S) fall semester, spring semester, or both
   - (F,SU) fall semester and summer session only
   - (S,SU) spring semester and summer session only

If the semester code is not indicated, then the course is offered during the fall and spring semesters and summer session (although there may be some exceptions).

6) Additional Information Additional information associated with the scheduling of the course such as a notice of alternate year offering may be given in parentheses after the semester code.

7) Requisites The list of requisites specifies any prerequisites and corequisites using the following abbreviations:
   - PREREQ: prerequisite (condition to be met before enrollment)
   - COREQ: corequisite (condition met before or during enrollment)
   - PERM/INST: permission of instructor required to enroll
   - PERM/CHAIR: permission of department chair required to enroll

The most common prerequisite is a specific course that must be successfully completed prior to enrollment. The most common corequisite is a laboratory course that must be taken during the same semester or term as a related science course.

Course Terminology
A graded course is any course in which the awarded grade is one of the traditional grades (A, B, C, D, or F) and a pass-fail course is any course in which the awarded grade is P (pass) or F (fail).

A graduate course is any course offered with a course number between 500 and 699 inclusive; successful completion of a graduate course earns graduate credit.

Graduate courses are said to be cross-listed if they are offered by multiple academic units and have identical titles, credit codes, and content descriptions in each unit (such as COUN 546 and MHLTHSCI 565). Dual-listed courses are those offered by an academic unit at both the 400-level and 500-level with identical titles, credit codes, and content descriptions (such as GEOPH 420 and GEOPH 375).

A G-course is an upper-division undergraduate course marked with a G-suffix (such as ENGL 401G); successful completion of a G-course earns graduate credit if the student meets certain requirements (see “G-Courses and Dual-Listed Courses” in the Graduate Academic Regulations section).
University-Wide Graduate Courses

A university-wide graduate course represents a certain type of graduate activity with the same course number and title across all academic units University-wide graduate courses 591 Project, 592 Portfolio, 593 Thesis, 600 Assessment, and 693 Dissertation represent work done on graduate culminating activities and are therefore known as culminating activity courses; some graduate programs have culminating activity courses that are numbered differently than these university-wide courses.

593 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (Variable Credit). Available at special fee rate (approximately one-third of part-time fee rate). Credit is awarded for professional development only and cannot be applied to a graduate degree program by policy of the State Board of Education. Either graded or pass/fail.

580-589 SELECTED TOPICS (Variable Credit). Subjects normally offered and studied in one department can be divided into as many as 10 areas. Each area will be assigned one number of the 580-589 group. Although the topics considered in the courses in any one area may vary from semester to semester, repeated use of any one number implies that the topics continue to be selected from the same area.

590 PRACTICUM/INTERNSHIP (Variable Credit). To earn graduate credit you must have a 3.00 cumulative GPA and no more than 12 credits may be applied toward a graduate degree or second undergraduate degree. Some graduate programs, however, accept only 3 internship credits. Practicum/Internship cannot be repeated to improve a grade.

Note: An undergraduate internship is an entry level employment experience related to the discipline. The graduate intern already has an undergraduate degree and is expected to perform with a higher level of responsibility, decision-making authority, and accomplishment.

591 PROJECT (Variable Credit). Execution of a substantial exercise that demonstrates the ability to successfully and independently carry out a professional activity similar to what is encountered in the professional workplace; archival of the results of the project is required according to standards approved by the Graduate College. Pass/fail only.

592 PORTFOLIO (Variable Credit). A broad-based selection of significant student work that is used to appraise student performance and professional development. A portfolio reflects the depth and breadth of a student’s educational growth since entering the graduate program. Portfolios may include, but are not limited to, classroom examinations, journals, writing samples, publishable scholarship, professional projects, annotated bibliographies, and artistic endeavors. Pass/fail only.

593 THESIS (Variable Credit). Independent research or creative activity at the master’s level resulting in a thesis that must be defended at a final oral examination and archived in the university library. The thesis must be written in clear and effective English and presented in a format that conforms to the standards of the Graduate College. Pass/fail only.

594 CONFERENCE OR WORKSHOP (Variable Credit). Intensive daily instruction by a recognized expert in a specialized topic over a period of time considerably shorter than a semester. Workshop credits may not transfer.

595 READING AND CONFERENCE (Variable Credit). The conduct of topical research, assigned readings or literature review. The faculty advisor and the student prepare and sign an agreement describing the amount and type of work to be accomplished.

596 INDEPENDENT STUDY (Variable Credit). Advanced study of a specialized topic; design and completion of a project may be included in the study. The student works with a high degree of independence to meet well-defined goals under the supervision of a member of the graduate faculty. Requires submission of a completed Application for Graduate Independent Study prior to the deadline specified in the academic calendar. An independent study cannot be substituted for a course regularly offered at Boise State, nor can independent study credits be used to improve a grade in a course the student has already taken. Either graded or pass/fail.

597 SPECIAL TOPICS [Required Modifier] (Variable Credit). Instruction on a topic that is not included in the catalog of regular graduate courses; the topic is indicated by the required modifier. Descriptions for these courses are given in the Schedule of Classes published each semester.

598 SEMINAR (Variable Credit). Small group meetings for the exchange of ideas, debate of issues, or presentation of research. Format, conduct, and purpose of seminars vary widely among disciplines.

600 ASSESSMENT [Required Modifier] (Variable Credit). Examination or other assessment required by a graduate program. The required modifier is used to indicate the type of assessment and may be chosen from the following possibilities: Capstone Course (either graded or pass/fail), Comprehensive Examination, Preliminary Examination, or Thesis or Dissertation Proposal (Pass/fail only).

693 DISSERTATION (Variable Credit). Independent research at the doctoral level resulting in a dissertation that must be defended at a final oral examination and archived in the university library and with UMI. The dissertation must be written in clear and effective English and presented in a format that conforms to the standards of the Graduate College. Pass/fail only.

696 DIRECTED RESEARCH (Variable Credit). Research conducted by a graduate student under the supervision of a member of the graduate faculty. Requires the clear statement of a hypothesis or proposition, a review of the relevant literature, analysis and synthesis of data or scholarly evidence, and the inference of conclusions. The results must be stated in a report written in clear and effective English. Requires submission of an Application for Directed Research prior to the deadline specified in the academic calendar. Either graded or pass/fail.

697 SPECIAL TOPICS [Required Modifier] (Variable Credit). Instruction on a topic that is not included in the catalog of regular graduate courses; the topic is indicated by the required modifier. Descriptions for these courses are given in the Schedule of Classes published each semester. Either graded or pass/fail.