

Bradley University

Advising Senior Students

Advising Senior Students

Special care needs to be taken when advising students who have earned 90 or more credit hours (senior status). Graduation requirements for those students are critical. The DARS identifies all graduation requirements and indicates the student's current status for completing those requirements. A few requirements that advisors should discuss with these students are:

1. Earned credit hours – Students **MUST** have earned no less than 124 hours to graduate. This requirement is highly enforced and waivers are never granted.
2. Residency requirement – 24 of the last 30 hours of coursework toward graduation must be completed at Bradley University. If a student wants to earn hours from another institution during their last year, they should be cautioned that only six hours can be taken.
3. To receive Honors for graduation, a student must have completed 60 hours at Bradley University. The honors recognized at the commencement ceremony are determined by the student's next to last semester GPA (seventh semester in a typical four year program). The computation of the GPA for honors designation on the transcript and diploma will be based on all work completed at Bradley University at the time of graduation. The honors are:
 - a. Sum cum laude - 3.8 or higher
 - b. Magna cum laude – 3.6-3.79
 - c. Cum laude – 3.4-3.59
4. Students must complete 40 credit hours at the junior/senior level (300-400 classes).
5. GPA – students must have an overall GPA of 2.0 to graduate from Bradley University. There may be college and/or departmental GPA requirements that the advisor should review with the student.
6. Application for Graduation – every student who plans to graduate must complete and submit the application for graduation to the Registrar's Office. The form is located on the Registrar's Office website at <http://www.bradley.edu/registrar/forms/>. Filing deadlines are listed in various locations online or can be determined by contacting the Registrar's Office at 309-677-3101. If a student has filed, but was unable to complete requirements for graduation, he/she must reapply. This is a critical communication tool so that the Registrar's Office is kept informed of the student's intention and progress.

7. Commencement – There are two commencement ceremonies at Bradley University: May and December. The May commencement is held in the Civic Center. Students who have applied to graduate will receive a packet of information about graduation and order forms for cap and gown the first week in March. The December commencement is held in the Renaissance Coliseum. Students who have applied to graduate will receive their packet the first week in October. Although degrees are conferred in August, there is no summer commencement. For more information, contact Nial Johnson, Jobst Hall 237, at 309-677-2333 or visit <http://www.bradley.edu/commencement/>

8. Walk – If a student is within two courses for graduation, a student may participate in commencement if they show proof or registration in the final required courses. A walk form is available in the Dean’s Office of the student’s major.