The college year consists of two regular semesters, fall and spring, plus several summer sessions of varying lengths. Several programs offer courses in the fall and spring semester that last only a portion of the semester.

The unit of instruction is the semester hour or credit hour, which consists of one lecture period of 50 minutes (hereafter called a contact-hour) each week for the entire semester (approximately 15 weeks). In addition to the time in class, students are expected to complete approximately twice as much time outside of class working on the course and its materials.

1. The general expectation for one credit hour is one contact-hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of student work completed outside of the classroom each week for approximately fifteen weeks for a traditional semester, or the equivalent amount of work over a different period of time; or
2. For other academic activities (including laboratory work and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours), an amount of work at least equivalent to that required in the above definition, as determined by the College.

A course having three 50-minute class periods a week will, therefore, earn three semester hours of credit. Other meeting patterns will also fulfill the required contact time. The number of semester credits to be earned in a given course is always indicated by the number after the course title.

Registration Processes

Students register for courses on-line through myCanisius. Once registration has opened, students are encouraged to register as early as possible. Students are required to consult with their advisors each semester to insure that they are taking the proper courses.

Students who have not completed registration will not be admitted to class. It is the responsibility of the all students to be aware of registration procedures.

Prerequisites

Some courses have prerequisites that must be met before a student can register for the course. Prerequisites include such requirements as the successful completion of previous courses, concurrent registration in another course, permission of the instructor or chair, and specific GPA and course grade requirements. A student may not register for a course where prerequisites are indicated unless the prerequisites have been successfully completed.

Note: For two-semester courses that are listed with one title and description (e.g., EDD 536-EDD 537), it is understood that successful completion of the first semester is a prerequisite for admission to the second half of the course.

Course levels

The numerical sequence used at Canisius College indicates the following: Courses numbered 100-499 are undergraduate courses, and courses numbered 500 and higher are graduate courses.

Course Offerings

The information listed in this catalog about course availability and when courses will be offered was provided by chairs and program directors based on their planned course offerings and are intended to provide students with guidance as they produce their schedules. However, schedules are subject to change, especially when the availability of appropriate instructors changes. Actual course offerings are listed in the online course schedule produced each semester by the Student Records and Financial Services Center.

Immunization Requirements for Class Attendance

Measles, Mumps, Rubella

New York State law requires all students taking six or more credits, attending any classes on campus, and born on or after January 1, 1957 to provide proof of immunity against measles, mumps and rubella to the Student Health Center prior to class attendance. Students must submit proof of two doses of measles (rubeola) vaccine, one dose of rubella (German measles) vaccine and one dose of mumps vaccine, given on or after their first birthday and after 1967.

Meningitis Requirement

All students registered for 6 or more credits and attending class on campus, regardless of birth date, are required to receive information about the risk of meningococcal disease and the benefit of vaccination. Students are required to read the information and either obtain the meningitis vaccine or sign a vaccine refusal statement within thirty days of first class attendance.

Submission Dates and Non-Compliance

Health requirements, including immunization records, must be submitted before the first day of class. Non-compliance with these health requirements results in registration cancellation, removal from college housing, and inability to register with the college for future semesters. If registration is cancelled, a student may be re-registered once the health forms are submitted and deemed complete. Canisius may charge a fee for re-registration. Compliance with these health requirements is strictly enforced across the campus.

Students who are only taking online courses are generally exempted from these requirements, although some online programs have established stricter immunization requirements prior to matriculation or course enrollment and these requirements are detailed in the program descriptions in the catalog.

The Student Health Center website (https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/student-health) has detailed information about health requirements and links to the required forms.

Drop/Add Period

In the fall and spring, the first full week of classes of the semester is the Drop/Add week, during which students may drop or add classes without penalty (see Academic Calendar for dates). After that, the withdrawal procedures described below apply. No change or deletion of courses, except for authorized withdrawals, may be made after the first full week of any semester.

Withdrawal

A student wishing to withdraw from a course must submit a Class Withdrawal Form to the Student Records and Financial Services Center after obtaining the required approvals. Students in online programs should send the program director an email requesting the withdrawal from the class. This will start the process. The date of the email will be the effective date of the withdrawal. A student receiving financial aid should consult with a counselor before withdrawing from a class. The faculty signature represents an acknowledgment of the student’s withdrawal. Failure to submit the
withdrawal form will mean that an automatic grade of “F” will be entered on
the student’s record.

The deadline for withdrawal without academic penalty is the last day of
classes of each fall and spring semester. See the official academic calendar
(http://catalog.canisius.edu/graduate/academic-calendar). Summer sessions
have their own deadlines for withdrawal. Consult the Summer Session
catalog for details.

Withdrawal from a course automatically results in a notation of
“W” (withdrawal) for the course. Ordinarily, no student will be allowed
to withdraw from any course after the deadline. However, in extreme
circumstances, a student may request permission from the dean and then
the instructor of the class to withdraw after the deadline. Such permission
will be granted rarely and only in exceptional cases. Written documentation
explaining the reasons the withdrawal is being requested is required for all
withdrawals after the deadline.