**Academic Year**  
Period from August to May, usually consisting of 2 semesters.  
(Fall: August to December, and Spring: January to May)

**Advanced Placement**  
Undergraduate credit earned for courses by passing a subject test, rather than by taking the course. For example, first-year students can earn advanced standing credit in math and English. Advanced Placement Tests are offered in calculus, chemistry, mathematics, physics and Spanish.

**Assistantship**  
Employment offered to a graduate student by a department in exchange for teaching or research assistance. A monetary stipend is offered in addition to a partial or full tuition waiver.

**Call Number**  
Code on every library book separating books by subject.

**Credits/Credit hours**  
Units that are used by universities to record enrollment hours and successful completion of a course.

**Dean**  
High-ranking University administrator, usually a faculty member.

**Electives**  
Courses that a student may freely choose to take for credit (as opposed to required courses).

**Expulsion**  
Permanent dismissal from the university caused by a violation of the Code of Student Conduct (for example, academic dishonesty).

**Fellowship**  
Merit-based financial stipend awarded to graduate students by academic departments, private sources or governmental agencies. Fellowships do not require teaching or research obligations.

**Finals**  
Exams administered at the end of each semester. They are usually comprehensive.

**Full-time Student**  
A graduate student taking 9 or more credit hours during the fall and spring semesters.  
An undergraduate student taking 12 or more credit hours during the fall and spring semesters.

**Grade Point Average, “GPA”**  
Average of a student’s grades weighted by credit hours. This is computed for each semester’s work as well as for all work undertaken at a particular school. LSU has a 4.00 system.

**Graduate**  
As an adjective, it refers to study beyond the Bachelor’s degree level. When used as a noun, it refers to a person who has graduated.

**Incomplete, “I”**  
A grade indicating that all required work for a course has not been finished. A student receiving an Incomplete must finish the remaining course work by a prearranged date; otherwise, the “I” becomes an “F” (fail) grade. Incomplete grades are not automatically
given to students. They are only given with the prior consent of the instructor and are rarely given.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-terms</td>
<td>Exams given by some instructors in the middle of the semester. If given, they are usually comprehensive.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Matriculating Student</td>
<td>A student who is enrolled in a non-degree program and is not seeking a degree.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part-time Student</td>
<td>A graduate student enrolled in less than 9 credit hours during the fall or spring semesters; an undergraduate student enrolled in less than 12 credit hours during the fall or spring semesters. (NOTE: International students should meet with an international advisor at International Services before considering part-time enrollment since part-time enrollment affects lawful student status and is only allowed in specific situations.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pass (P)/ Fail (F)</td>
<td>Course grade which indicates the student did satisfactory work (P) or unsatisfactory work (F) in the class. A “pass” grade does not affect a student’s GPA; however, a fail grade does affect GPA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prerequisites</td>
<td>Courses a student is required to complete before being allowed to enroll in a higher-level or more-advanced course.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>Short test, sometimes given without advance notice and called a “pop quiz.”</td>
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