The table below outlines a possible course progression for the Middle Grades Math and Science program. Although the course progression is provided below, please consider the following when considering an adequate course load for you.

- Professional Obligations Are you a coach, student organization advisor, new teacher, or commute a long distance to work?
- Personal Obligations Are you actively involved with your community, church, or social organization? What are your commitments to family and friends?
- Financial Aid—Typically, students need at least 5 credit hours to quality for financial aid. Thus, students typically enroll in two courses (6 credit hours). Please check with the Official of Financial Aid about your personal financial aid award

Often times, people think online courses are easier than face-to-face courses. That is a myth. The article below provides insight into how much time should be committed to online degree coursework.

http://learnmore.uncq.edu/blog/bid/157407/How-Much-Time-Should-One-Commit-To-Online-Degree-Coursework

Although you will find a possible course sequence plan below, it is imperative for you to create a personal plan based on your personal and professional obligations. When creating your personal plan, be sure to use your program of study that outlines the semester the courses are offered. There are multiple courses that are only offered <u>once</u> year. If you would like for me to review your personal plan, feel free to email it to me. Please complete your personal plan on the program of study.

| Fall | Spring | Summer | Fall | Spring | Summer |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| MGMS 7000 (3) | MGMS 7300 (3) | MGMS 7240 (3) | MGMS 7401 (3) | MGMS 7402 (3) | MATH 6161 (3) |
| MGMS 7200 (3) | MATH 5180 (3) | MATH 5190 (3) | MGMS 7100 (3) | MGMS 7650 (3) | MGMS 7400 (3) |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 6 credit hours |

- MGMS 7000 and MGMS 7650 should not be taken together.
- MGMS 7000 should be taken prior to MGMS 7650.

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| Spring | Summer | Fall | Spring | Summer | Fall |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| MATH 5180 (3) | MATH 5190 (3) | MGMS 7200 (3) | MGMS 7402 (3) | MGMS 7240 (3) | MGMS 7100 (3) |
| MGMS 7000 (3) | MATH 6161 (3) | MGMS 7401 (3) | MGMS 7300 (3) | MGMS 7400 (3) | MGMS 7650 (3) |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 6 credit hours |

- MGMS 7000 and MGMS 7650 should not be taken together.
- MGMS 7000 should be taken prior to MGMS 7650.

<u>All</u> of the courses required for your program of study are listed below.

Courses are listed by Semester offered. Courses in **RED** are offered ONLY one semester each year. MGMS 7650 should be taken in the final semester(s) of your program.

| SUMMER | FALL | SPRING | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| MGMS 7240 | MGMS 7200 | MGMS 7300 | |
| MGMS 7400 | MGMS 7401 | MGMS 7402 | |
| MATH 5190 | MGMS 7100 | MATH 5180 | |
| MGMS 6161 | MGMS 7000 | MGMS 7100 | |
| | MGMS 7650 | MGMS 7000 | |
| | | MGMS 7650 | |
| | | | |

Course load — How many courses should I take in a semester?

Myth: Online courses are easier than face-to-face courses.

Online courses are very similar in content and expectations for performance as those offered on campus. Most classes expect some kind of applied practice or project in the classroom.

Our recommendation is that students take <u>no more than two courses per semester</u>, although a few are able to balance three courses in a term. Some may want to take extra courses in the summer. Academic success and the value of the information learned in a program are the most important factors, so carefully weigh commitments before registering for classes. Please also consider the students you teach and your obligation to give them your best each day.

To prevent frustration and failure due to overextending yourself, consider the following before deciding how many courses to take each semester:

- Financial Aid: Do you need financial aid? To be aid-eligible you must take at least two courses (6 hours) each semester.
- Commitments to family and friends: What family activities and commitments do you have scheduled in the months ahead?
- Teaching Status: Are you new to teaching?
- Community Involvement: Are you actively involved in activities in the community, church, social?
- Professional Demands: Do you have long commutes, serve on committees at school, sponsor extracurricular activities, or coach?

A rule of thumb for time commitment for college level graduate classes is to expect to spend 3 hours of class time plus 6-9 additional hours per week, for a total of 9-12 hours per week for each class.