

HSU MAT Program – Academic Policies

To stay in good standing and successfully complete the MAT program, you need to meet certain academic and professional benchmarks. Here's what you need to know:

Academic Requirements

- Keep a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all graduate courses.
- Earn A or B grades in all ATTR courses.
- If under the conditional admission policy, the relevant parts of that policy are in effect.
- If you earn:
 - C → Program policy expects students to earn A/B grades in the program. A meeting with program faculty is required; the faculty will make the ultimate decision about program continuation or dismissal. If retained, you must retake the course as soon as possible. If you don't earn an A or B in the course the second time, you will be dismissed. Any required course retakes will likely affect Year 2 clinical experiences & delay graduation.
 - D or F → You will likely be dismissed from the program. A meeting with program faculty is required; the faculty will make the ultimate decision about program continuation or dismissal. Readmission after dismissal requires unanimous approval from the MAT faculty. Course(s) must be retaken as soon as possible. Any required course retakes will likely affect Year 2 clinical experiences & delay graduation.
 - See Dismissal Policy in *HSU Graduate Catalog*

Ethics/Professional Responsibilities

- Act professionally and ethically at all times (no *Fitness to Practice* concerns). This applies both on- and off-campus, as well as any program-related activities.
- Stay engaged!!
 - Communication is critical; you must reply to faculty emails/phone calls within 48 hours (sooner is better!)
- Log in to Canvas regularly and complete assignments on time. If you don't engage in Canvas for more than 5 days, have incomplete assignments or excessive clinical absences, it will count as non-attendance and be handled under the program's Fitness to Practice Policy.

Clinical Responsibilities

- Keep your Healthcare Professional-level CPR certification current.
- Complete annually assigned bloodborne pathogens/infection control & HIPAA/FERPA training.
- Preceptor evaluations describe appropriate attendance, behavior & participation in clinical experiences
- Complete all assigned clinical experiences and demonstrate required progress in clinical skills.

Compliance with the above items is evaluated at the end of each session/semester.

Moving to Year 2 Clinical Courses

- A/B grades in all 5 Diagnosis & Management (D&M) courses → Full access to Year 2 clinical courses.

- A/B grades in 4 of 5 D&M courses → Limited access (10 of 20 required clinical credit hours) until retake completed (may delay graduation).
- A/B in 3 or fewer D&M courses → No Year 2 clinical courses; you'll need extra clinical hours while retaking D&M courses (delayed graduation).

Clinical Skills Lab VI requirements:

- A/B grades in:
 - All didactic courses except Exam Preparation
 - If not completed prior, should be taking Exam Preparation same semester
 - Completion of at least 4 weeks of high school/college/professional clinical experience

BOC Exam Clearance:

- Must have completed or be in-progress/registered for Exam Preparation (grade >80) & Clinical Skills Lab VI.

Deceleration Policy

If you're struggling academically, we want to help you succeed. Students who meet any of these conditions will extend the program by one year to have a reduced course load to improve the likelihood of success:

Triggers for Deceleration:

- Undergraduate GPA below 3.0 when admitted.
- Any C/D/F grade in program course.
- Overall GPA drops below 3.0.
- Repeated non-attendance or any Fitness to Practice concerns.

If you have a single trigger from the list, deceleration should be seriously considered and will be discussed with you. MAT faculty may require deceleration for *Fitness to Practice* or clinical skill progression concerns with a unanimous decision. Any combination of two triggers requires deceleration.

If you reject required deceleration, you will be dismissed from the program under the relevant program policy.

What Deceleration Looks Like:

- Move to a three-year completion track; essentially taking 2 years to complete Year 1 courses -- (see three-year curricular plan).
 - You will take fewer courses per session so you can focus on improving grades.
- Complete extra clinical hours as required.
- Relevant lab sessions will be required after completing all courses in a specific session
- Sign a probation contract outlining expectations and timelines.

Evaluation happens at the end of each semester. Failure to adhere to the probation contract or if you don't show appropriate improvement during probation, you will be dismissed from the program.

Graduation Requirement

- You must apply for the BOC examination before graduation; students will not be allowed to graduate without applying for the examination.

Tip: If you're struggling, talk to your professors early! We're here to help you succeed.