To standardize graduate course credits across DU, the University of Denver is making an administrative change to the maximum credit allowed for graduate courses. Starting in Fall Quarter 2017, all graduate courses will be worth a maximum of 4 credits (rather than 5). This is purely an administrative change and will not impact students adversely, or entail substantive changes to the graduate curriculum.

To help you learn more, this guide is organized in three sections: 1) General FAQs; 2) FAQs specific to your degree program; and 3) a graphic to help you navigate the 5:4 credit change specific to your degree or certificate program.

**GENERAL FAQs**

1. **What changes are being made to graduate programs/courses at JKSIS?** The maximum number of credits assigned to graduate Conflict Resolution (CRES) and International Studies (INTS) courses is changing from 5 credits to 4 credits per course (“5:4”), beginning in Fall Quarter 2017. No substantive changes are being made to the graduate programs/courses themselves.

2. **Which students are affected by this change?** Students who matriculated (entered DU) prior to Fall Quarter 2017 and who will be continuing students as of AY 2017-2018. See the navigation graphic on page 2 to learn whether you are affected by 5:4.

3. **When will these changes take effect?** Any graduate CRES or INTS course currently offered for five credits will be re-categorized at a maximum of four credits beginning in Fall Quarter 2017.

4. **Will this change affect my academic coursework?** No. This is a purely administrative change which will have no adverse impact on students and does not entail any substantive changes to the graduate curriculum.

5. **Will this change impact courses in which I am currently enrolled or courses that I have already completed?** No. This change will not take effect until Fall Quarter 2017 and will not retroactively apply to or impact any coursework completed prior to Fall Quarter 2017.

6. **May I begin taking INTS courses for four credit hours now?** No. Per University of Denver policy, this change will not take effect until Fall Quarter 2017 and, until that time, course credits cannot be modified.

7. **Am I permitted to take more than three courses in any given quarter?** While it is possible to register for more than three courses in any given quarter, we do not necessarily recommend doing so. Please remember that no substantive changes are being made to JKSIS courses, so rigor and expectations remain the same. Given the intensive reading and writing requirements of most JKSIS courses, three courses remains the standard registration load.

8. **Who should I talk to if I have more questions?** Start with your program director(s):

   - MA in IIC – Tom Rowe (tom.rowe@du.edu) and Margie Thompson (margaret.thompson@du.edu)
IIC PROGRAM FAQs

1. Do I still need 60 credits for my MA in IIC degree moving forward? The MA in IIC has always required a minimum of 14 courses (worth varying credit hours) for degree completion and that will remain the same. The only difference is that JKSIS courses will now be worth a maximum of four credits each as of Fall Quarter 2017. While new, incoming graduate students who matriculate (enter DU) during Academic Year 2017-18 will need 56 credits to satisfy degree requirements, any MA in IIC major who will be a continuing student during AY 2017-18, and who entered DU prior to Fall Quarter 2017, must focus on completing a minimum of 14 courses in the major and a minimum of 56 credit hours. Each course (or combined set of courses) must equal at least four credits to count toward degree requirements. For example, a student may complete a three credit course, plus a one credit independent study to reach four credits or a student may simply complete a four credit course.

2. If I already earned 56 or more credits toward my major, can I stop taking coursework? Not necessarily. If you matriculated (entered DU) prior to Fall Quarter 2017 and will be a continuing student as of AY 2017-18, you are still required to complete a minimum 14 courses and a minimum of 56 credit hours, regardless of your current credit total. In reality, your total credit hours will be between 56 and 60.

3. Are all other requirements for the major the same? Yes, all other requirements for your major remain the same. In addition to completing a minimum of 14 courses and a minimum of 56 credit hours successfully, you must also satisfy any other applicable non-coursework requirements for your degree (e.g., foreign language requirement, an approved thesis/SRP/internship, etc.).