

What is F850, What is G901, and when do I sign up for them?

Remember to check your situation every semester before you register. Do I have a fee remit? How many hours towards my degree do I have? Do I need to be enrolled in a required amount of hours? Ask us these questions, we're here to help.

F850 is our dissertation or thesis credit. Essentially, this is not a 'real' class in the sense that you do not sit in a classroom and get a grade at the end of the semester. They are graded with an R or deferred grade at the end of every semester. You will eventually get grades for these courses when you complete your thesis or dissertation. This is the way the university gives you course credit for working on your thesis or dissertation.

If you are an MA student, only 6 hours of F850 will count towards your 30 hours for your degree **if** you are doing an MA project or MA thesis. (If you are doing the exam, none of it will count.) However, you may still take F850, even more than 6 hours, as an MA student and it will count toward your PhD if you are continuing to the PhD program. 30 hours of thesis credit can count toward your 90 hours required for your PhD degree.

Once you reach that magical land of PhD Candidacy (ABD, all but dissertation) after you pass your PhD qualifying exams, you must be continuously enrolled every semester, except summer, until you submit your dissertation. **Submit, not defend.** Once you reach candidacy and have 90 hours towards your degree you qualify to take G901.

G901 You receive 6 semester of G901, which is a discounted tuition credit, hurray! You pay only \$150 per semester for 6 hours of G901. G901 is always automatically 6 hours. Once you run out of G901s, you must register for 1 credit for F850.

If you already have all your 90 hours and you get a message that says, "You've taken F850 too many times to count towards your degree." Ignore it. You can take F850 as many times as you need. It's true only 30 hours will count towards the 90 total hours for PhDs, but as a PhD candidate you **MUST** be enrolled so 1 credit of F850 is what to take if you are out of G901.

An exception to this 1 credit rule:

If you are an ABD student who has a Student Academic Appointment (SAA) you must be enrolled in 6 hours according to university policy. Usually your SAA will come with a fee remit so if you decide to you may enroll in 6 hours of F850 instead of G901 to save your G901 for later semesters. If the SAA specifically states you must be a G901 student, then you must have 2 semesters of G901 left in order to qualify for this SAA appointment.

When should I take F850?

-If you have a student academic appointment that comes with a 12 credit hour fee remit. You want to use all 12 hours with a fee remit, until you reach 30 or 90, because if you don't use it, you lose it! Nothing is worse than passing your qualifying exams and not having 90 hours and having to take F850 at full price! However, if you are a student who has already reached the 90 hours but haven't taken their qualifying exams yet, only sign up for the required 6 hours if you have an SAA, not the full 12. Try to hit as close to 90 as possible!

-If you are an ABD who has used up all their G901s, 1 credit only.

When should I take G901?

-After you pass your qualifying exams and have 90 hours towards your PhD for 6 glorious semesters.

Is there ever a situation where I wouldn't need any F850 at all?

-If you are an MA student and will be taking the MA exam and are definitely not moving on to the PhD, you will not need any F850 credits. If you are unsure of whether or not you will move on to the PhD and you have a fee remit, it's always better to take the F850 when it's being paid for even if you don't end up using those credits.

Last updated October 2023