GUIDE
TO THE EDUCATION SYSTEM
IN THE UNITED STATES

BY
ANTONELLA CORSI-BUNKER

ISSS
International Student & Scholar Services
University of Minnesota
COMMONLY USED TERMS

OneStop Services
At the University of Minnesota: University students can access vital information online at www.onestop.umn.edu. This is where you will go to register for classes (after your initial registration), as well as to view course offerings, your transcript, and to update your personal information (such as a new address) for University records. You may also customize this site to your own usage, and find easy links to ISSS and other University services.

Registration Hold
A code that is put on your academic record indicating that you need to meet some specific obligation (e.g., payment of fees; attendance of a required advising session). It restricts your access to normal registration, transcripts, or financial aid services. Also called a “negative service indicator.”

Registration Hold Release
Only the office that puts a hold on a record can release it. Once you have resolved the hold with the appropriate office, that office will release the hold electronically. In some cases, you may receive a “temporary hold release.” This will allow you to register once, but will require you to go back to that office for any subsequent registrations until you have permanently resolved the issue.

Liberal Education Requirements
Sometimes referred to as “Lib Eds” or “General Education” requirements, these are the foundation classes necessary for all undergraduate degree-seeking students. See the Course Guide for a complete explanation and specific course requirements.

Permission Number (or Instructor Consent)
At the University of Minnesota, a number given to a student by an instructor or a department to enable the student to register for a class after classes have started or after they have filled. Give this number to the registration clerk or put it in the registration. Other institutions might use a different system and/or a different term.