



Board of Trustees of The City University of New York

RESOLUTION TO

**ADD THE WEIGHTED INSTRUCTIONAL UNIT (WIU) MESSAGE
COURSE TO THE SUBJECT TABLE AT HUNTER COLLEGE**

20 March 2024

WHEREAS, Hunter College recognizes the importance of providing flexibility for graduate students completing full-time academic requirements, including those who are not enrolled in courses or carrying an insufficient credit load, to access financial support and other crucial resources such as loan deferment; and

WHEREAS, the Weighted Instructional Unit (WIU) Message Course (WIU) has proven to be an effective mechanism for enabling students to qualify for financial support and access essential resources, ensuring equitable opportunities for academic success and promoting retention and graduation; and

WHEREAS, the WIU has successfully facilitated full-time academic engagement for students at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Hunter College to be able to offer the WIU to its graduate and doctoral level students; and

WHEREAS, Hunter College proposes to add the WIU Message Course to the Subject Table at Hunter College beginning in the Fall Semester of 2024, with no tuition fee or academic excellence fee associated with the WIU Message Course;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Weighted Instructional Unit (WIU) Message Course (WIU) be added to the Subject Table at Hunter College as of the Fall Semester of 2024, with no tuition fee or academic excellence fee.

EXPLANATION:

Students enrolled in graduate programs that require a full-time commitment (as with clinical, internship, and research work) often carry an insufficient credit load to be considered full-time. This hinders their ability to receive financial support and access to other crucial resources including loan deferment, which can negatively impact their retention and graduation rates.

Through use of the Weighted Instructional Unit (WIU) courses, students in these programs can have equitable access to financial resources without incurring additional tuition cost or fees. Through the use of WIU, the Registrar's Office will be able to assign sufficient credits to a student's record to reach the minimum required for full-time status and eligibility for various forms of financial resources. Graduate students will be able to request a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 9 WIU units. Doctoral students will be able to request a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 7 WIU units. No tuition fee or academic excellence fee shall be associated with these WIU credits, ensuring that no additional financial burden is imposed to access this essential resource for students who are already matriculated in a course with a full-time academic obligation, but that is not reflected by their academic progress credits.