

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 SENATE BILL 637

By: Standridge

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to higher education; prohibiting an  
8 institution of higher education within certain system  
9 from requiring students to enroll in certain courses;  
10 prohibiting certain students from being penalized for  
not enrolling in certain courses; providing for  
11 codification; providing an effective date; and  
12 declaring an emergency.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3249 of Title 70, unless there  
16 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. Beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, no institution  
18 within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education shall require  
19 enrolled students to enroll in:

20 1. A course that is not a core requirement of their chosen  
21 curriculum;

22 2. A course for which there is no tuition or fee charged to the  
23 student comparable to courses of similar time and commitment; or  
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1           3. A course, which is not directly relevant to a degree being  
2 pursued, that the student or the person or party financially  
3 responsible for the course objects to for philosophical or religious  
4 reasons.

5           B. No student shall be penalized academically or financially  
6 for choosing not to enroll in a course pursuant to the provisions of  
7 subsection A of this section.

8           SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.

9           SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
10 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
11 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
12 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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