



## **CREDIT HOUR Policy Statement**

In accordance with [U.S. Department of Education](#) definition of credit hours and the [SACSCOC Policy Statement on Credit Hours](#), which states:

A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates

1. Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time, or
2. Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time, or at least an equivalent amount of work as required outlined in item 1 above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

The purpose of this policy is to establish the definition of the credit hour for the institution.

### **Definitions**

*Credit:* A credit is equivalent to one collegiate semester hour credit. Each semester hour of credit assigned to a course is based upon approximately one academic hour (50 minutes) of formalized, structured instructional time weekly for 15 weeks (or equivalent) by each student. Courses with lab component require extra time. In addition to instructional time, a scheduled evaluation or examination period is scheduled for each semester hour of credit. Courses may consist of lectures, out-of-class study, laboratory and shop study or their combinations.

### **Procedures**

N/A

### **Responsible Office**

Authority for interpretation of this policy rests with the Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs.

### **Other Information**

The Learning Policy Committee developed this policy based on policy language published in the College Catalog.

### **Document History:**

*Approved: K. Blosser, March 31, 2022, reflecting policy in College Catalog*