

# Credit

## Credit Hour Policy at Sage

A contact hour is described as interaction between faculty and students via lecture, discussion, research, project/problem, debate, etc. For lecture class formats, one credit requires a minimum of 12.5 faculty contact hours (750 minutes) and a minimum of 30 hours of out-of-class student work over the course of the 15-week semester. A three-credit course is thus equal to a minimum of 37.5 faculty contact hours (2,250 minutes) with the expectation of 90 hours of student out-of-class work time. Summarized below are the credits awarded to students enrolled in a lecture course format based upon the faculty contact hours and expected student work hours.

Credits Awarded for Lecture/Seminar Courses (15 week semester)			
	Direct Faculty Instruction (in hours)	Direct Faculty Instruction (in minutes)	Student Out-Of-Class Work (in hours)
1 credit	12.5	750	30
2 credits	25.0	1500	60
3 credits	37.5	2250	90
4 credits	50.0	3000	120

In addition, the following define standard practices for awarding credits for other types of class formats:

## Online or hybrid courses

Online and/or hybrid courses provide direct instruction time equivalent to 12.5 hours per credit awarded. Students are expected to engage in a minimum of 30 hours of additional work for every credit awarded.

## Weekend, summer, or accelerated courses

Courses offered at an accelerated pace during the semester or during the summer must meet the same learning outcomes as an identical course offered during the 15-week semester at the standard pace. Faculty direct instruction time is a minimum of 12.5 hours per credit awarded.

## Laboratory Courses

Science and clinical labs with 2 contact hours/week over the 15-week semester are awarded 1.0 credit. Labs with 3 contact hours/week over the 15-week semester are awarded 1.0 to 1.5 credits. Labs with 4 or more hours/week over the 15-week semester are awarded 2 credits.

## Internship, Practicum, Student Teaching, Clinical Placement

The specific number of required hours per credit awarded varies depending on the discipline and/or the requirements set by the program's accrediting body. All require a minimum of 40 supervised clock hours per 1.0 credit awarded.

## Thesis, Dissertation, Independent Study

Courses in which students are working on independent projects such as thesis/dissertation conform to the standard minimum of 3 hours of student work per credit hour, per week throughout the course of the semester, or the equivalent amount of work distributed over a different period of time. Courses offered

through independent study are awarded a varying number of credits depending on the agreement between the student and the faculty member. Students in each of these course types meet periodically with the professor at a schedule or frequency agreed upon at the start of the semester. Assignments and evaluations are communicated to the student at the start of the semester.