

University of Evansville

University of Evansville Credit Hour Policy

Academic Credit for semester length courses at the University of Evansville shall be based on the following “seat time” standards and definitions related to “Credit hour” specified in the final regulations issued by the US Department of Education (Regulatory Citation: 34 CFR § 600.2).

“Clock hour: *A period of time consisting of—*

- (1) A 50- to 60-minute class, lecture, or recitation*
- (2) A 50- to 60-minute faculty-supervised laboratory, shop training, or internship*

“Credit hour: *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 not less than—*

- (1) One clock hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester*
- (2) At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition 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.”*

At UE under (2) of the above “Credit hour” definition, the following shall be quantified as one “Credit hour” as spelled out by the University of Indiana Northwest on April 15, 2011

“2 hours of laboratory, studio, or similar activities and one hour of additional student work per week, or
3 hours of laboratory, studio, or similar activities per week, or
3 hours of supervised independent study per week or
45 - 75 total hours of supervised clinical or fieldwork experiences (additional preparation time may be required).”

For non semester length courses and semester length courses that are exceptions to the general rule the “learning outcome”, rather than “seat time”, standard may apply. The “learning outcome” standard requires that the student demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department awarding the credit evidence of actual achievement of course objectives in regards to the credit hour that are at least equal to the intended learning outcome under the Federal definition, i.e., a learning outcome expected from an amount of work equivalent to experiencing one hour of class attendance or faculty instruction per week, for 15 weeks, in a course that requires for the average student two hours of additional work for every one hour of class attendance and/or instruction.

This credit hour policy applies to all courses at all levels that award academic credit (i.e., any course that appears on an official transcript issued by the University) regardless of the mode of delivery including, but not limited to, self-paced, online, hybrid, lecture, seminar, and laboratory. Academic departments are responsible for ensuring that credit hours are awarded only for work that meets the requirements outlined in this policy.