



جامعة الفيصل
Alfaisal University

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Academic Credit Hour Equivalencies Policy

Policy and procedure

These equivalencies represent minimum requirements.

One academic credit hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction is equivalent to 50 minutes of clock time, over 15-16 weeks of instruction (excluding the final examination period), for a total of 750-800 minutes of direct faculty instruction over the semester. Therefore, a 3 credit hour didactic, lecture class must meet 2250-2400 minutes during the 15-16 weeks of instruction in a typical semester, excluding the final examination period.

One academic credit hour for a laboratory class is equivalent to 2-3 scheduled hours of laboratory experience per week (total minimum of 100 minutes), typically delivered over a 15-16 weeks academic semester. One academic credit hour for a laboratory class shall consist of one thousand five hundred (1,500-1600) minutes of learning experience in the laboratory.

However, there are additional teaching/learning approaches that include, for example, clinical experiences, studio experiences, field studies, and individual lessons that may follow a modification of the equivalencies for credit hour assignment. Those equivalency models are approved by each College Dean, then submitted to the Academic Development Committee for approval. At least an equivalent amount of work in the traditional didactic teaching/learning approach is required for these additional types of academic learning activities.

For independent studies, practicum experiences, and internships, academic credit is determined by standards and requirements established in each College that is dependent on the discipline/field of study, scope of the planned educational experience(s) and the academic experience and preparation of the student(s). Minimally, these learning experiences follow the model of requiring the student to work in the placement or devote focused study for 3 hours per week, for 15-16 weeks during the typical semester, to earn one academic credit hour. This translates to an estimated 45-60 hours of experience per semester for one academic credit hour. If a consistent academic equivalency is not established by the College for these types of teaching/learning experiences, an individual written agreement must be developed for each individual student experience. This written agreement will outline the scope of the work to be achieved, learning objectives/outcomes and the academic assessment standard to be applied. This written agreement must be approved by the respective Department Chair and College Dean and submitted to the Dean of Admissions Office. The respective Dean's office will be responsible for retaining the appropriate documentation.

Any equivalencies below these minimum equivalencies must be submitted in writing for review and approval by the concerned College Dean, ADC, CoD, and the President Office