



Credit Hour Policy

Effective:	[Leave this date blank.]
Prior Versions:	2013
Responsible Office:	Office of the Provost; Office of the Registrar
Review By:	[Date will be assigned by Executive Policy Committee]

I. PURPOSE

Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) definition of a credit hour formalizes compliance with federal and accreditation expectations and helps to provide consistency throughout the University. AUM follows the Carnegie unit of measure for assigning credits to its undergraduate and graduate academic courses. AUM also appropriately categorizes the level of credit as described in the Course Numbering System.

II. POLICY

Auburn University at Montgomery defines one credit hour as the unit of work that includes no less than one 50 minute period of classroom or direct faculty instruction and completion of assignments that typically requires 2 to 2.5 hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester (or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time). Contact time for a one-hour, one-semester course should be 750 minutes. AUM expects that for each credit hour awarded, an appropriately prepared student will complete an average of 3-3.5 hours of academic work per week over the length of a 15-week semester. The same or higher expectations exist for credits awarded for practica, internships, activity courses, laboratory experiences, and distance learning courses, although there will be variations to accommodate differences among academic disciplines.

Course numbers appropriately categorize the academic level of work expected and clearly differentiate between undergraduate and graduate coursework.

III. DEFINITIONS

A credit hour is an amount of work directed by institutional established equivalencies, represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement (Southern Associate of Colleges Commission on Colleges, [*Credit Hour Policy*](#), 2018)

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

Deans, curriculum committees, and department chairs will review each new course to verify that expectations are in line with credit hour definition.

V. INTERPRETATION

The Office of the Provost, working with the deans and department chairs will interpret the policy.