



What constitutes a credit hour?

A credit/semester 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 than¹:

- 750 minutes of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of 1500 minutes of out of class student work for one semester hour of credit. Each credit hour corresponds to 50 minutes per week of classroom or direct faculty instruction and 100 minutes of out of class work per week for a 15 week semester, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
- At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities or instructional modes of delivery as established by the institution including distance education, hybrid, and face-to-face instruction, laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.
- The time may include required examination periods, but may not include study days.²

Term Requirement Per Credit Hour:

1 hour (50 min) of instructional time per week x 15 weeks = 750 minutes (15 hours) per credit hour

2 hours (100 min) of out of class (homework) per week x 15 weeks = 1500 minutes (25-30 hours) per credit hour

Contact hours for 3 credit hours	Contact Hours 15-week format	Contact Hours 10-week format	Contact Hours 5-week format
Total term requirement (instructional time)	2250 total minutes = 37.5 contact hours	2250 total minutes = 37.5 contact hours	2250 total minutes = 37.5 contact hours
Weekly requirement (instructional time)	150 min/week = 2.5 contact hours Ex. 2 days per week for 1 hr 15 min each	225 min/week = 3.75 contact hours Ex. 2 days per week for 1 hr 45 min each	450 min/week = 7.5 contact hours Ex. 5 days per week for 1.5 hrs each
Weekly requirement (indirect contact = homework)	6 hours	9 hours	18 hours

Contact hours for 3 credit hours Hybrid Delivery	Contact Hours 15-week format		Contact Hours 10-week format		Contact Hours 5-week format	
Weekly requirement (instructional time)	150 min/week = 2.5 contact hours		225 min/week = 3.75 contact hours		450 min/week = 7.5 contact hours	
Percentage online	Online	F2F	Online	F2F	Online	F2F
1-25% online	40 min	110 min	60 min	165 min	110 min	340 min
26-50% online	75 min	75 min	112 min	112 min	225 min	225 min
51-75% online	110 min	40 min	165 min	60 min	340 min	110 min
76-100% online	150 min	0 min	225 min	0 min	450 min	0 min

Rev. 3/21/14

¹ UNC Charlotte Academic Policy: Academic Credit, <https://provost.uncc.edu/policies/academic-credit>

² The UNC Policy Manual, Policy 400.1.6, <https://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/policy/index.php?pg=vs&id=365&added=1>