

Credit Hours Awarded Policy

Approved by Academic Policies and Curriculum Committee 6/2/16

Approved by Faculty Senate 6/10/16

Approved by the President 6/10/16

As a unit of the University System of Georgia (USG), East Georgia State College (EGSC) adheres to the definition of a credit hour as presented in the policy manual of its governing body, the USG Board of Regents (BOR). As stated in Section 3.4.1, Calendar of Academic Activities - Semester System,

"A minimum of 750 minutes of instruction or equivalent is required for each semester credit hour."

The USG definition of a semester credit hour is presented in the College's catalog. This seat-time definition is not an indication of the time the student must spend to successfully complete the credit-hour. In practice we relate verbally to the student of our expectation that students must spend at least two hours outside of class for every one hour in class. This time is required to prepare for and to carry out the assignments associated with the instructional time associated with the credit hours awarded. Thus the definition of the credit hour is more appropriate if it is defined as

"A minimum of 750 minutes of instructional time and 1500 minutes of time outside the classroom environment is required for each semester credit hour. For alternative delivery methods, the amount of instructional and outside the classroom environment time will be equivalent for each semester hour of credit."

For all curriculum proposals sent to the Academic Policies and Curriculum Committee for approval both the instructional time and out-of-class time will be indicated. Prior to submission to the Faculty Senate and the President for approval, the Academic Policies and Curriculum Committee will verify the appropriateness of the credit hours listed in the curriculum proposal.