

Southern University Law Center Credit Hour Policy

Purpose of the Policy

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges provides the following definition for credit hour.

Federal Definition of the Credit Hour. For purposes of the application of this policy and in accord with federal regulations, 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

1. Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time, or
2. At least an equivalent amount of work as required outlined in item 1 above 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.

The purpose of this policy is to establish a formal policy that determines the appropriate number of credit hours for each course offering at the Law Center, to assure that the process is aligned with federal guidelines and to assure that the assigned value can be roughly equated to the amount of student work required to achieve the intended learning outcomes in a course.

Definition of Credit Hour

A Credit Hour is defined as not less than 50 minutes of classroom or direct faculty instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work per week for fifteen weeks, or an equivalent amount of work in other academic activities such as clinic work or externships.

Application of the Policy

This policy applies to all present or future course offerings at Southern University Law Center.

The administration of this policy lies with the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

The responsibility for periodic review of the policy lies with the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Effective Date of the Policy: October 22, 2014.