

Assignment of Credits, Program Length, and Tuition

Assignment of Credits

The credit hour is the unit by which an institution measures its course work. The number of credit hours assigned to a course quantitatively reflects the outcomes expected, the mode of instruction, the amount of time spent in class, and the amount of outside preparatory work expected for the class. Martin University's definition of a credit hour is consistent with Federal Guidelines that is based on the Carnegie credit hour definition. It applies the following guidelines on assigning course credit.

1. Lecture, Seminar, and Laboratory Courses

One credit hour is associated with an in-class meeting for 50 minutes of lecture per week plus an estimated out-of-class workload of 2 to 2.5 hours over the course of approximately 15 weeks for a total of no less than 45 student learning hours per credit hour. An example would be that a 3-credit hour class would have a total of 150 minutes of in-class time including all activities per week with 6 hours of out-of-class work (e.g., unsupervised computer-aided-instruction, homework, research writing assignments, projects, etc.).

2. Accelerated Courses

Accelerated courses are offered in an 8-week format. In this 8-week format for a three-credit hour course, there would be 32 hours of contact time (4 hours per week for 8 weeks) and students would be responsible for 12 hours of student-directed learning per week or a total of 96 student learning hours, which includes reading, writing and other activities, for students to achieve the student learning objectives.

3. Online and Hybrid Courses

For online and hybrid courses, a three-credit hour course would entail approximately 135 hours of any combination of the following activities: face-to-face classroom time, watching instructor-defined content (e.g., streaming video, reading lecture transcripts posted online, PowerPoint presentations, streaming audio), reading assigned course material, engaging in instructor defined interactive learning activities (e.g., discussion boards), and student directed learning.

4. Other Courses

In the case of off-campus practicum and internships, a formal university-wide policy would be counterproductive to the development of curricula. Instructors who make use of practicum and internships in their curricula must adhere to the general guidelines listed in the Faculty Handbook for the assignment of credit hours to the associated internships. Credit hours for practicum and internships may reflect (e.g., professional content/development, student workload, professional standards, accreditation requirements, etc.) required for completion.

Program Length

All of Martin University's undergraduate programs require 120 credit hours to graduate. Martin University's master's degree programs require 48-60 credit hours to graduate. Martin's single certificate

program in Counseling and Clinical Services requires 12 credit hours to complete. These total credit hour requirements are consistent with credit hour requirements at institutions of higher education.

Tuition

There is a difference in the tuition cost for undergraduate and graduate courses. Undergraduate tuition is currently \$535.00 per credit hour, and Graduate tuition is currently \$650.00 per credit hour. This practice is common among institutions of higher education and is justified in that Graduate level of study is more rigorous and requires greater preparation, training, and level of evaluation by instructors. There are no other special programs requiring any additional tuition.