

McLennan Community College
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Reference:	B-IV	Effective Date:	07/19/2021
Subject:	Course Credits		
Source:	Vice-President, Instruction and Student Engagement		
Approval Authority:	President	Approval Date:	07/19/2021
History:	Previously effective 09/29/2020, replaced policy dated 09/24/2018		
Remarks:	Updated policy to clarify semester hour credit		

CREDIT HOUR

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 semester credit hours.

SEMESTER CREDIT HOUR

The semester credit hour is the unit of credit and is defined as the amount of credit given for one hour of classroom time, direct faculty engagement with a student, and/or effort required from the student per week, be it in a traditional classroom setting or online, for a 16-week period or the equivalent amount of engagement over 3, 6 or 8-week course periods. A lecture class meeting three hours a week, therefore, counts as three semester credit hours. With varying lengths of course offerings (3, 6, or 8-weeks), meeting times will be adjusted to reflect the equivalent of a three hour per week over 16-weeks.

Laboratory work may add a semester credit hour to a course. In general, three hours of carefully planned and supervised laboratory work are equivalent to one hour of lecture or recitation. Field experience also may add semester credit hours to the course value. In general, four to six hours of field experience are equivalent to one hour of lecture.