

AGC Decision Form

Course Format and Credit Hour Policy 7.13

Decision

On February 8, 2022, the AGC membership voted to approve changes to the Course Format and Credit Hour Policy. Changes to the revised Policy statement include:

- Changed policy language: Course learning outcomes must be met regardless of delivery modality and/or location.
- Changed laboratory credit to contact hour to 1:1 (min.), as some labs in certain programs are currently 1:1.
- Removed "accreditation requirements" as previously proposed in clinical definition, as this language is unnecessary since it is assumed accreditation would be considered.
- Removed 'Study Away' format as not all study away experiences align with this format. Study away type courses will continue, but they will be completed under other course formats.

Additional updated definitions include:

- Lecture: A course in which content is primarily delivered through presentations of facts, principles, context, or interpretation. Credit to Contact Hour Ratio – 1:1
- Laboratory: A course which is focused on the implementation of an instructional strategy particular to a discipline and allows students to interact directly with natural phenomena, materials or models, work with existing data, or engage in data collection. Credit to Contact Hour Ratio – 1:2 (min.) (may vary depending upon course learning outcomes and/or should align with transfer partner institutions)
- Clinical: A course that is part of an academic program and allows students to be supervised by a GRCC instructor while applying methods and principles of a clinical discipline, and which takes place in a clinical setting, including practice labs, hospitals, or other agencies. Credit to Contact Hour Ratio – 1:3 (min.) (may vary depending upon course learning outcomes, accreditation requirements, and/or should align with transfer partner institutions)
- Practicum: A course that provides site-based field experiences, supervised by a professional in the field, in which students observe, participate, and apply academically acquired knowledge identified in course learning outcomes. Credit to Contact Hour Ratio – 1:3 (min.) (may vary depending upon course learning outcomes and/or should align with transfer partner institutions)

- Independent Study: A learning experience in which the student and instructor agree upon a topic of study, learning outcomes, and number of credits that are awarded for the work. Credit to Contact Hour Ratio – 1:1 (min.)

Sponsor/Champion of Proposed Policy

Cochairs: Matt Mekkes (OTA) and Tim Hoving (Biological Sciences)
 Members: Pam Miller (Workforce Development), Jennifer Batten (Physical Sciences), Shanna Goff (Mathematics), Deb Dewent (Instructional Support), Mike Miller (Instructional Support)

Rationale

The GRCC Course Format and Credit Hour Policy establishes guidelines and standards for GRCC courses.

Supporting Data

The team reviewing this policy:

- Sought and included input from AGC members at three meetings.
- Received and responded to input from Departments, Programs, and individual faculty members.

Implications for Action

- Ensure changes are implemented in curriculum documents and practices.

Date of Decision by AGC

Date: February 8, 2022

Vote: 100% approved, 0% not approved, 0% abstained

Section to be Completed by the Provost

Evaluation Plan

[Next scheduled review of policy: 2024-2025]

Response from Provost

Approved for immediate implementation.



 Brian Knetl, Provost

9/12/22
 Date