



**POLICY STATEMENT**

**NO. 2.29.00**

**COORDINATED BY:** Office of Academic Affairs

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**SUBJECT:** Definition of Credit Hour

**I. PURPOSE**

This policy defines the amount of time for a credit hour.

**II. POLICY**

In accordance with SACS\*COC policy, as well as federal guidelines, one credit hour is a temporal designation of time needed for the average student to demonstrate student learning outcomes appropriate to the course that approximates the following:

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 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.

One credit hour is composed of a minimum of one class hour per week where a class hour is defined as 50 minutes. This credit hour policy applies to both undergraduate and graduate levels of courses. This policy of in-class and out-of-class expectation is uniform regardless of the format of the course be it entirely face-to-face, online, or hybrid. It is the purview of the instructional faculty to designate an appropriate number of credit hours through the normal Courses and Curriculum process.

Approved by:

Paul Sisson  
Paul Sisson, Interim Chancellor

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John S. Vassar, Interim Provost  
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This policy was written, approved, and published in accordance with LSU Shreveport General Policy **1.01.01 Policy Manual** published at [Policy Manual](#).