

## J. STANDARDS FOR ACADEMIC CREDIT

The quality of the Longwood University degree depends on requirements for awarding credits. Any course offered by Longwood University reflects on the quality of the institution as a whole. Qualified faculty and courses of appropriate content enhance the quality of the institution and uphold the reputation of the University in the eyes of the public, faculty and students of the University, faculty and students of other institutions, and the General Assembly, and therefore courses must:

1. Support the University's ability to attract high quality students,
2. Justify the commitment of the General Assembly to provide resources for the University's development and well-being, and
3. Enhance the University's ability to attract superior faculty to fill vacancies and new positions.

### AWARDING OF CREDIT

~~The following standards apply to the awarding of credit in University courses.~~

**1. Longwood University credits are awarded on a semester-hour basis. Generally, 1 credit represents a total of approximately 37.5 hours of student engagement. The distribution of time, for example between class activities and outside work, varies depending on the type of class.**

**For each credit hour awarded in a course with a traditional format:**

- a. ~~Lecture courses must meet at least one 50-minute period a week per semester.~~ **12.5 hours per semester. To perform at an acceptable level the student will be expected to spend a minimum of 25 hours outside of class working on study or other course related activities.**
- b. ~~Laboratories must meet at least one 100-minute period a week per semester.~~ **25 hours per semester. To perform at an acceptable level the student will be expected to spend a minimum of 12.5 hours outside of class working on study or other course related activities.**
- c. ~~Activity courses must meet three 50-minute periods a week per semester.~~ **37.5 hours per semester.**
- d. **The instructor shall be responsible for structuring the course at a level appropriate to accomplish these goals.**

**2. An on-line or hybrid version of a course which is also taught regularly in one of the formats mentioned above will be considered to have met the credit hour requirement if it covers the same amount of material with the same level of assessment. (Please see section T.)** Other types of courses must meet time equivalences consistent with these standards.

~~2. All courses which have the same number of semester credits as weekly class contact hours shall expect two hours of work out of class for each hour in class. Courses in which the number of weekly class hours exceeds the number of semester credits (e.g., courses which include laboratories, physical education activities courses, and studio courses) shall apply a minimum~~

~~standard of three hours total work per week, both in and out of class, for each semester hour of credit. The instructor shall be responsible for assigning sufficient work to accomplish this goal.~~

3. The instructor shall obtain evidence that the student has acquired knowledge or skill through written tests, performances, exhibitions, experiments, compositions, or research results which demonstrate the attainment of a predetermined level of proficiency or achievement to justify the awarding of credits.
4. The instructor shall be responsible for structuring a graduate course so that the level of instruction and performance exceeds that of undergraduate courses, as documented in the course syllabus (e.g., increased contact hours, increased course content, and/or elevated research requirements).
5. Criteria for lower and upper division undergraduate courses differ, and course numbers should be assigned accordingly.
- ~~6. Criteria for graduate courses must assure that the level of instruction and performance exceeds that of undergraduate courses.~~
6. Quality content of all independent study courses and variable-topic numbered courses should be guaranteed by departments.
7. All internships must include appropriate supervision both by a representative of the department in which it is taken, and qualified on-site personnel before credit is awarded.