

CoE Policy for the Assignment of Credit Hours (approved 3.26.2024):

Course credit is based on contact hours (time spent by students engaged with the course instructor) for all Engineering courses. This means one contact hour per credit hour in a week for Lectures, Discussions, and Recitations.

For each credit earned per full academic term, students are expected to receive at least one contact hour of instruction and perform two to three hours of work outside of class each week.

Independent Study, directed research, experiential and seminar courses have the same total academic work requirements (contact hours plus hours of additional work) as listed above with the understanding that engagement may not be scheduled on a weekly basis as determined at the department level.

Laboratory sections are expected to meet for at least two hours for each credit earned. A laboratory section should be set up as a meeting in an actual laboratory classroom if the laboratory work involves in-person operation of equipment under oversight of instructors. A laboratory section can be set up as a meeting in a virtual or remote laboratory classroom if the laboratory work only involves software development or operation of easily accessible, portable hardware and/or remote sensors, and an equivalent amount of instruction as required by in-person laboratory sections is provided.

Hybrid and Online courses require an equivalent amount of instruction and student work as required by in-person courses. The online, self-paced, or asynchronous learning modules in such courses can be counted as contact hours if these modules are prepared by the instructors.

Courses that do not fall within any of the aforementioned categories will be treated individually. The course description must justify the conditions for credit. The CoE Curriculum Committee must approve the credit hour to contact hour ratio for such courses.