

Curricular Affairs Committee – Mon., Mar. 23, 2015 – 1-2pm, Runcorn Room

Invited: Brian Cook, Catherine Hanks, Cindy Hardy, Dennis Moser, Joan Hornig, Ken Abramowicz, Rainer Newberry, Rob Duke, Todd Radenbaugh (remote), Doug Goering, Jayne Harvie, Alex Fitts, Carol Gering, Caty Oehring, Casey Byrne, Holly Sherouse, Libby Eddy, Linda Hapsmith, Stacey Howdeshell

I. Approve minutes from Mar. 9 meeting (attached)

II.

3. Libby doesn't have a recommendation, but just wants clear confirmation of which grade should be the minimum.

III. Old business

A. Definition of Credit Hour

1. Proposed change, from Rainer's subcommittee:

Proposed UAF Faculty Senate Policy on Academic Credit [] = existing, but to be removed; ___ to be added.

A credit hour represents an amount of work that reasonably approximates not less than:

1. one hour of classroom or other faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
2. at least an equivalent amount of work for other academic activities, including laboratory work, internships, practice, studio work, and other academic work.

[One academic credit hour of non-laboratory instruction at UAF will consist of a minimum of 800 minutes of instruction. It is understood that an average student will be expected to spend 1600 minutes of study and preparation outside of class in order to meet the learning objectives for the unit of credit in lecture.]

The following standards establish the minimum requirements for one academic unit of credit for the course formats commonly used at UAF:

1. 800 minutes of lecture or equivalent instructional activities plus 1600 minutes of student work outside of class.
2. 1600 minutes of laboratory (or studio or other similar activity) plus 800 minutes of student work outside of class.
3. 2400 minutes of laboratory (or studio or other similar activity)
4. 2400 - 4800 minutes of supervised practicum
5. 2400 - 8000 minutes of internship (or externship, clinical)
6. 2400 - 4800 minutes of supervised scholarly activity

Credit hours may not be divided, except one-half credit hours may be granted at the appropriate rate.

For short courses and classes of less than one semester in duration, course hours may not be compressed into fewer than three days per credit. Any existing semester-long course that is to be offered in a "compressed to less than six weeks" format must be approved by the college or school's curriculum council and the appropriate UAF Faculty Senate Committee (SADA, Core Review, Curriculum Review or GAAC). Any new course proposal must indicate those course compression format(s) in which the course will be taught. Only approved course formats will be allowed for scheduling.

Given the above information the formula used for computing credit/contact hours is 800 minutes (13.3 hrs) per credit. This equates to approximately 1 hour of lecture per week for a normal 14 week semester. For courses that do not employ lectures, but that are intended to achieve learning outcomes equivalent to those of a lecture course (e.g., some eLearning classes), 800 minutes of structured instructional activities are expected per credit, in addition to at least 1600 minutes/credit of other work that the student completes independently. "Structured instructional activities" is not intended to mean synchronous interaction with an instructor, but rather faculty-designed instructional activity intended to facilitate student learning.

Proposed statement for UAF Catalog:

A credit represents an amount of work that reasonably approximates not less than:

1. one hour of classroom or other faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
2. at least an equivalent amount of work for other academic activities, including laboratory work, internships, practice, studio work, and other academic work.

and/or non-curricular degree requirements chosen to meet the needs of the particular program, in such a way that all the outcomes are met somewhere in the collection of courses. The Communications Plan for each degree will describe the collection of courses (possibly, both in and out of the department) and other requirements (if any) and how they contribute to meeting these outcomes.

3.

Two courses designated O/2 are required to complete the oral intensive requirement.

EFFECTIVE: Fall 2016