

Academic Credit Policy

Overview

All credits at Wabash College are issued as course credits. Each course credit is equivalent to four (4) credit hours. Each one-half course credit is equivalent to two (2) credit hours. Credit values of courses are assigned on the basis of instructional time, which is a combination of direct instruction and out-of-class student work. Direct instruction is defined in the “Forms of Instruction

Wabash College Course Credit Standards

Minimum standard for a half-credit course: A half-credit course (two credit hours) requires six hours of work per week (the equivalent of two hours of classroom or direct instruction and four hours of out-of-class student work) over a period of 14 weeks of instruction plus one week of exams. Half-credit courses that meet for half the length of the full semester are thus expected to require the equivalent of 12 hours of work per week (the equivalent of four hours of classroom or direct instruction and eight hours of out-of-class student work).

Minimum standard for a one credit course: A one credit course requires 12 hours of work per week (the equivalent of four hours of classroom or direct instruction and eight hours of out-of-class student work) over a semester of 14 weeks of instruction plus one week of exams.

Minimum standard for courses over one credit. Courses offered for more than one credit, should Wabash ever elect to offer such courses, are multiples of the one credit standard. A 1.5 credit course offering requires 18 hours of instructional time per week (the equivalent of six hours of classroom or direct instruction and 12 hours of out-of-class student work over the semester). A two-credit course offering requires 24 hours of work per week (the equivalent of eight hours of classroom or direct instruction and 16 hours of out-of-class student work) over the semester.

Capstone/Research/Independent Study/Internship courses. Capstones, directed/independent studies, research and similar courses may require students to invest a greater amount of time in work outside of class including additional reading, writing, and research activities. These courses will frequently shift the distribution of the one-third/two-thirds ratio described in the minimum standards above. These shifts should be articulated in course syllabi or on the independent study/special registration application, as applicable.

If in the future a course is ever offered for less than a half-

- organized by instructional faculty, even if someone other than the course's faculty of record is delivering the instruction;
- evaluated by instructional faculty, i.e. included in discussions, exams or other assignments so that students are responsible for the information.

Direct instruction at Wabash may include the following approaches, among others:

- Laboratory meetings that extend beyond the three regularly scheduled course hours