

CAP Report and Recommendations
John Carroll University Credit Hour Policy and Definitions
October 4, 2013

The Committee on Academic Policies has reviewed the draft JCU Credit Hour Policy and finds it to be in keeping with current expectations and practices. We suggest the following modifications for purposes of clarity.

On page 2, under (a) “Classroom-based Courses”:

- Add “labs” to the list of examples.
- Replace

for each 50 minutes of meeting time

with

per week for each academic credit.

There are courses, such as labs, where the number of class hours per week is more than the number of academic credits; surely we’re not expecting that a 1 credit lab that meets for 3 hours per week also has 6 hours of outside work per week.

On page 2, under (b) “Blended and Non-blended classroom based courses”

- Change *full semester* to *full 15 week semester*.

On page 2, under (d):

- Replace

*must accomplish the same 170 minutes per credit hour standard and satisfy
the total credit hour requirements within the timeframe of the overall semester
or term in which it is offered*

with

must require the same total time commitment as a 15 week course of equal credit.

This clarifies that the 170 minutes per credit hour per week requirement is based on a 15 week semester, and that courses that meet for fewer than 15 weeks will have a higher time commitment per week per credit hour.

The phrase “within the timeframe of the overall semester or term in which it is offered” seems to exclude activities like international trips associated with spring courses that may occur in January before the spring term begins. If there is a reason we haven’t considered for that phrase to be included, we’re not opposed to leaving it in the document. If it is not necessary, though, we recommend deleting it.