

NDSU Academic Credit Matrix: Clock/Contact Hour to Credit Conversion

Learning Experience	Clock/Contact Hours	Meetings per Week	# of Weeks/Semester	Recommended Credit
Classroom/ Direct Faculty Instruction	50 minutes + 2 hrs min. of out-of-class	1	15	1
Laboratory Work	Two 50-minute periods	1	15	1
Practicum	50 minutes + 2 hrs min. of out-of-class	1	15	1
Studio Work	50 minutes + 2 hrs min. of out-of-class	1	15	1
Seminar	50 minutes + 2 hrs min. of out-of-class	1	15	1
Clinical Rotations*	Determined by department	Determined by department	Determined by department	Determined by department
Cooperative Education**	See below	As arranged	As arranged	See below
Individual Study***	Varies on the nature of the IS	Determined by course instructor	Determined by course instructor	Varies on the nature of the experience as well as the number of mtgs/week
Internships****	40 hours	As arranged	As arranged	1
Field Experience	40 hours	As arranged	As arranged	1
Study Tours - Faculty Led	12.5 hours of direct faculty instruction + 25 hours of add'l student work	As arranged based on experience	As arranged based on experience	1
Undergraduate Research	3 hours/week	As arranged	15	1
Minimum contact hours are prorated accordingly for variable length and/or compressed courses				
In courses in which "seat time" does not apply, such as those courses offered online, a credit hour may be measured by an equivalent amount of work, as demonstrated by student achievement.				
On average, students should expect to spend a minimum of two hours of study or preparation for each hour spent in class. Preparation time varies for laboratories, variable-length and individual study classes.				
*Clinical rotations are determined by each department that requires a clinical experience as part of the major program of study. In most cases, the length of the experience and the amount of time required to be engaged in the experience is determined by the program's professional accrediting body.				
**Cooperative education credits and limits are determined by the NDSU Career Center: 100-199 hours/semester = 1 credit 200-299 hours/semester = 2 credits 300+ hours/semester = 3 credits Cooperative credits/limits were reviewed in March 2015 by the NDSU Career Center and it was determined that credits are consistent with peer institutions and are in line with best practices for offering cooperative education experiences.				
***The definition of an individual study must undergo review. The current definition for the course does not provide enough detail to help inform a student or instructor the nature of an individual study experience.				
****Credits for an internship are determined in consultation with the student's academic adviser/department.				