

CREDIT HOUR POLICY
Implementation Guidelines
for the Academic Affairs Council

Most courses at Denison are offered for four credits. In the simplest case, a course will meet four times per week for 50 minutes, thus:

Grid Option	Classroom Instruction	Direct Faculty Instruction	Out of Class Student Work	Total per Week
4 x 50 mins.	4 hours	NA	8 hours	12 hours

However, because many courses are offered using different grid options, the breakdown of classroom and direct faculty instruction will vary. For example, a course that meets three times per week for 50 minutes, must have one additional hour of direct faculty instruction (see Forms of Instruction and Student Work above).

Grid Option	Classroom Instruction	Direct Faculty Instruction	Out of Class Student Work	Total per Week
3 x 50 mins.	3 hours	1 hour	8 hours	12 hours

Similarly, courses that meet twice per week for 80 minutes, and once per week for either 120 or 170 minutes, must have additional hours of direct faculty instruction or take the form of a capstone, practicum, research, or creative course (see Minimum Standards for Academic Credit: paragraph c). Note that because 50 minutes equals one hour according to the federal guidelines, these weekly distributions are calculated in minutes.

Grid Option	Classroom Instruction	Direct Faculty Instruction	Out of Class Student Work	Total per Week
2 x 80 mins.	160 mins./week	40 mins./week	8 hours	12 hours
1 x 120 mins.	120 mins./week	80 mins./week	8 hours	12 hours
1 x 170 mins.	170 mins./week	30 mins./week	8 hours	12 hours

Laboratory courses at Denison commonly meet three times per week plus one three-hour lab. The minimal standard for such laboratory courses would look like this:

Grid Option	Classroom Instruction	Direct Faculty Instruction	Out of Class Student Work	Total per Week
3 x 50 mins. + lab	3 hours	3 hours	6 hours	12 hours

Courses that meet twice per week for 120 minutes, three times per week for 80 minutes, or twice per week for 170 minutes, have a higher proportion of classroom instruction.

Grid Option	Classroom Instruction	Direct Faculty Instruction	Out of Class Student Work	Total per Week
2 x 120 mins.	~ 5 hours	NA	~ 7 hours	12 hours
3 x 80 mins.	~ 5 hours	NA	~ 7 hours	12 hours
2 x 170 mins.	~ 6 hours	NA	~ 6 hours	12 hours