



St. John's College Policies and Procedures

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SYSTEM: HSHS	MANUAL(S): HSHS St. John's College Policies
TITLE: Academic Credit Hour Equivalencies Policy	ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: St. John's College
EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/01/2024	REVISION DATE(S):
SUPERCEDES: Local ministry handbooks/catalogs/policies adopted prior to the effective date of this policy.	

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is St. John's College credit hour definition, credit definition by the U.S. Department of Education, Higher Learning Commission (HLC) definition.

Policy:

I. Didactic, Lecture Academic Credit

- a. Didactic, lecture is defined as a nursing faculty present with a defined number of students for the entirety of a didactic, lecture class in an in-person or virtual environment.
- b. One didactic, lecture academic credit (credit hour) is equivalent to 50 minutes of instruction.
- c. The Fall and Spring Semester are delivered over a 15-week academic semester, excluding the final examination period, which is the 16th week.
 - i. One didactic, lecture academic credit (credit hour) of classroom faculty directed instruction is equivalent to 50 minutes of clock time, over 15 weeks of instruction (excluding the final examination period), for a total of 750 minutes of direct faculty instruction over the semester.
 - ii. Therefore, a three-credit (credit hour) didactic, lecture class must meet 2250 minutes during the 15 weeks of instruction in a typical semester, excluding the final examination period (*credits x 50-minute hour x 15 weeks*).

II. Laboratory Academic Credit

- a. Laboratory is defined as a nursing faculty present with a defined number of students for the entirety of a laboratory class in an in-person laboratory environment.
- b. One laboratory academic credit is equivalent to two scheduled hours of laboratory experience per week (total minimum of 100 minutes).
- c. The Fall and Spring Semester are delivered over a 15-week academic semester, excluding the final examination period, which is the 16th week.
 - i. One laboratory academic credit of laboratory faculty directed instruction is equivalent to 100 minutes of clock time, over 15 weeks of instruction (excluding the final examination period), for a total of 1500 minutes of direct faculty instruction over the semester.



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- ii. Therefore, a three-credit laboratory class must meet 4500 minutes during the 15 weeks of instruction in a typical semester, excluding the final examination period (*credits x 100-minute hour x 15 weeks*).

III. Clinical Academic Credit

- a. Clinical is defined as a nursing faculty present with a defined number of students for the entirety of a clinical class in an in-person clinical environment.
- b. One clinical academic credit is equivalent to two scheduled hours of clinical experience instruction per week (total minimum of 100 minutes).
- c. The Fall and Spring Semester are delivered over a 15-week academic semester, excluding the final examination period, which is the 16th week.
 - i. One clinical academic credit of clinical faculty directed instruction is equivalent to 100 minutes of clock time, over 15 weeks of instruction (excluding the final examination period), for a total of 1500 minutes of direct faculty instruction over the semester.
 - ii. Therefore, a three-credit clinical class must meet 4500 minutes during the 15 weeks of instruction in a typical semester, excluding the final examination period (*credits x 100-minute hour x 15 weeks*).

IV. Practicum (Clinical Precepted) Academic Credit- Graduate Programs ONLY

- a. Practicum (clinical precepted) course is defined as a community nursing preceptor present with a student for the entirety of a precepted experience in an in-person clinical environment, with course oversight by a designated faculty.
- b. One practicum (clinical precepted) credit is equivalent to 60 scheduled hours of precepted experience.

V. Student Work in Relation to Academic Credit

- a. These learning experiences require the student to devote focused study and work for approximately two (2) to three (3) hours per week, for 15 weeks during the typical semester, to earn one academic credit (credit hour).
 - i. This translates to an estimated 30-45 hours of focused study and work per semester for one academic credit (credit hour).

VI. Credit Equivalency Variation

- a. Any alteration to equivalencies detailed in this policy must be submitted in writing for review and approval by the chancellor.