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TITLE: Minimum Length for Academic Courses	
EFFECTIVE DATE: 09/15/03	
LAST REVISION: 02/20/13	Policy No. 1.4260

Policy Statement

In accordance with Federal and SACS/COC definitions, Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC) identifies the following standards for academic courses:

Semester Credit Hour

One credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that approximates one hour of formalized instruction. Formalized instruction may take place in a variety of modes including but not limited to laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, etc.


Semester Length

The length of the semester should consist of no more than 15 weeks and no fewer than 14 weeks.

The length of a session, whether it is embedded within a semester or during the summer, should consist of no more than 8 weeks and no less than 4 weeks. Courses taught in a special session or shortened time frame are expected to have the same number of contact hours as courses taught in a normal semester.

Courses taught in a non-traditional manner such as hybrid or online may be offered even if they do not meet contact hour requirements if 1) the course has been reviewed and approved through a formal BRCC faculty review process, and 2) it has been determined that the course has equivalent learning outcomes to a traditionally delivered course.

The foregoing policy statements stress both the need for flexibility required by new modes of instruction and scheduling and the need for consistency in transferring and awarding credit among institutions.

Source of Policy: AA
 Related Policy: _____
 Approved by: 
 Chancellor Andrea Lewis Miller

Responsible Administrator: VCAA
 LCTCS Policy Reference: 1.019 - Deleted
 LCTCS Guideline Reference: _____
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