

ACC Rationale for a revised Policy on Credit Hours

The current ACC policy on the credit hour (ACC Handbook, Section 1.2 and Appendix 1) is (a) internally inconsistent; (b) less flexible, in some cases, than current State and Federal regulations; (c) inconsistent, in some cases, with current, and long-standing Department scheduling practices; and, consequently, (d) applicable in potentially inconsistent and inequitable ways.

In writing a new policy, the ACC has the following objectives:

- (1) a policy that is in full compliance with state and federal regulations, and the requirements of the NWCCU;
- (2) a policy that is systematic, consistent, and equitable in its written form and its practical application;
- (3) a policy that is consistent with current, sometimes long-standing, course scheduling practices;
- (4) a policy that allows flexibility in current and future scheduling practices;
- (5) a policy that, through (4), serves student interests, facilitating course selection and, thereby, decreasing time to degree;
- (6) a policy that assures university oversight of credit hours for all courses, including courses using teaching modes other than direct, face to face instruction on Western's campus.

Approved at ACC meeting of [9 May 2017](#) and Faculty Senate meeting of [30 May 2017](#)