

Policy on Credit Hours

CUSM-SOM credit hour calculation follows WSCUC's Credit Hour Policy, where *"a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than (1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or (2) At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution, including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours."*

CUSM-SOM utilizes a semester system, and thus the calculation for most courses in CUSM-SOM MBS program follows the definition (1) above. For the research-based MBS-5260: Statistics and Epidemiology (Research) course, CUSM-SOM utilizes the calculation for (2) above, where '15 weeks x (1 + 2) hours = 45 hours of work = 1 semester credit hour.' The details of calculations for 2 types of courses in the curriculum are shown below.

I. All courses, except MBS-5260

All courses, except MBS-5260, have 1 – 3 semester credits and utilize the following calculation:

- a) 1 hour/week of lecture session and 2 hours/week of out-of-class student work (3 hours/week); $3 \text{ hours/week} \times 15 \text{ weeks} = 45 \text{ hours} = 1 \text{ semester credit}$

II. The Research component of 'Statistics and Epidemiology' course (MBS-5260)

The Research component of 'Statistics and Epidemiology' course (MBS-5260) is a capstone, epidemiological research project, and students are expected to spend time independently on the research project on weekdays (9 hours/week). The semester credits are calculated as follows:

- a) $9 \text{ hours/week} \times 15 \text{ weeks} = 135 \text{ hrs} = 3 \text{ semester credits}$