

GUIDELINES FOR CREDIT SYSTEM FOR GRADUATE TAUGHT COURSES/PROGRAMMES

Any new postgraduate programme or course originating from a Department must firstly be approved by the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee prior to being sent to the Campus Committee for consideration. The Faculty Committee for Graduate Studies must ensure that the proposal is circulated to teachers of the subject, and relevant departments on the other campuses of the University, for their comments prior to recommending the programme to the Campus Committee.

In designing any new programme or course, or restructuring an existing programme, Departments should conform to the guidelines approved by the Board on the weighting of credit courses.

The School for Graduate Studies & Research has agreed to a credit system for its taught graduate programmes and for the taught components of research graduate programmes. The system is based on the formula that 1 credit is equivalent to 12 lecture contact hours, 24 hours of laboratory work, supervised field assignments, seminars or formal group discussions, or 48 hours of non-supervised research work.

Based on the formula, Postgraduate Diploma programmes should fall within the range of 20-25 credits and the credit range for taught Masters programmes within 35-45 credits.

The formula above provides for the following:

A clear statement of the differences in work requirements for the different categories of taught graduate programmes, thereby facilitating intra-university consistency.

Guidance to students and staff on the time and effort expected to be devoted to different categories of programmes.

Ensures that the work requirements of the different categories of graduate programmes are consistent with international standards and in a currency understood by all.

Facilitates the development of credit-based fee structure for graduate programmes.

Allows standardization of the minimum and maximum course loads allowed in research graduate programmes.