

Gustavus Adolphus College Course Credit Guidelines:

Gustavus Adolphus College awards course credit in alignment with the Federal Regulations for Credit Hour. For purposes of discussion, one Gustavus course credit is the equivalent to four Carnegie Units.

The definition of a Carnegie Unit is “one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week for approximately 15 weeks (14 weeks of classroom instruction plus one week of final exams) 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.”
(http://www.chea.org/Government/FedUpdate/CHEA_FU11.html)

Courses at Gustavus are typically assigned one course credit. Course credit is assigned through a review process that begins with the home department proposing the course and proceeds through review by the Course Approval Subcommittee, Curriculum Committee and the full faculty to ensure that each course meets the criteria set for each type of course, new and revised semester courses, Liberal Arts Perspective and Three Crowns courses, Writing courses and First Term Seminars.

In particular, for “regular” semester courses,

1 course: The course meets for a minimum of 150 minutes of classroom time (3 “hours”) and a minimum of 600 total minutes (12 “hours”) of classroom, out-of-classroom, and directed faculty instruction per week.

0.75 course: The course meets for a minimum of 150 minutes of classroom time (3 “hours”) and a minimum of 450 total minutes (9 “hours”) of classroom, out-of-classroom, and directed faculty instruction per week.

0.5 course: The course meets for a minimum of 100 minutes of classroom time (2 “hours”) and a minimum of 300 total minutes (6 “hours”) of classroom, out-of-classroom, and directed faculty instruction per week.

0.25 course: The course meets for a minimum of 100 minutes of classroom time (2 “hours”) and a minimum of 150 total minutes (3 “hours”) of classroom, out-of-classroom, and directed faculty instruction per week.

Directed faculty instruction may include laboratory work, internships, practica, service-learning, studio work, research and other faculty directed instruction.

Required outside-the-classroom activity may include reading required texts, writing and revising papers, preparing laboratory reports, creating studio art work, rehearsing musical compositions and theatre productions, working on projects, or preparing class presentations,