Dear Colleagues – The purpose of this Info Blast is to inform you about the types of information our office puts together and to provide a brief summary of different projects we work on along with the findings. This time we want to highlight credit hours.

Credit Hours at UW

Did you know that there are at least three ways to consider credit hours and each provides different kinds of information?

- Credit hours based on the department offering the class – Looking at credit hours with this method allows us to see all of the hours taught for that department. This method is useful to look at whole classes when considering class sizes and grading averages.

- Credit hours based on the faculty offering the class – These credit hours consider the faculty member and the percentage responsibility for a class. For instance, if faculty member 1 is responsible for 25% of a class, he/she would get credit for 25% of the student credit hours. This faculty member’s department would also get credit for 25% of the student credit hours. If a second faculty member is responsible for 75% of the class, then 75% of those hours would go to that faculty member and that faculty member’s department. This method is helpful when considering workload and it supports interdisciplinary teaching since the faculty and faculty department get credit for whatever an instructor teaches regardless of the subject area.

- Credit hours based on the students’ college – This type of credit hour counting is useful for seeing where students are taking their classes versus where they are majoring. This method can be used to estimate tuition revenue and to consider how course loads may differ by major. For example, the graph shows A&S majors take about 85% of their courses in A&S, but AG students only take a little over half of their courses from the AG college. Student credit hours can further be broken with hours taken by undergraduates, graduates, and students in differential tuition programs.

Hope you found these explanations useful. Have a great day and feel free to contact us at oia@uwyo.edu.

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