Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Credit Hour Policy

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC) does not rely on any means of determining academic credit other than semester credit hours. ABAC uses the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia Policy Manual, Section 3.4.1 and established federal regulations that are reflected in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges’ (SACSCOC) policy on credit hours updated in January 2012 for determining the amount of credit awarded for courses. The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia Policy Manual, Section 3.4.1 states “a minimum of 750 minutes of instruction or equivalent is required for each semester credit hour.” The U. S. Department of Education and SACSCOC’s Credit Hours Policy Statement define a credit hour as 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 one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work [engaged learning activities] each week for approximately 15 weeks.

Credit Hour Calculation: The distribution of time between classroom or in-direct faculty instruction and engaged learning activities varies depending on the type of course; however, regardless of the type of course, the minimum amount of time required for a credit hour award is calculated using 50 minutes as the recognized length of a classroom “hour.”

Minimum Requirement for 1 Hour of Classroom or Direct Faculty Instruction per Semester: 50 minutes multiplied by 15 weeks equals 750 minutes of classroom or direct faculty instruction.

Minimum Requirement for 2 Hours of Engaged Learning Activities or In-Direct Faculty Instruction per Semester: 50 minutes multiplied by 2 hours multiplied by 15 weeks equals 1500 minutes of engaged learning.

Therefore, earning 1 credit hour requires 2250 minutes of classroom, in-direct faculty instruction, and/or engaged learning activities per 15-week semester.

Drafted by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness on 07.15.15.