

Motion  
University Studies Advisory Committee  
credit hour/contact hour lab issue

Whereas the Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean for Undergraduate Studies approved a blanket petition expiring in fall 2014 to grant 3 hours of Writing Intensive competency credit for all 1-credit hour/3-contact hour labs that have already been approved for WI (BIOL 325, BIOL 345, BIOL 366, CHML 321, CHML 420 that have three contact hours/week but only one credit hour;

Whereas this petition was granted on a temporary basis with the understanding that the USAC to consider the issues involved;

Resolved that all 1-credit hour/3-contact hour labs approved for either Writing Intensive or Information Literacy be counted permanently as equivalent to 3-credit hour/3-contact hour courses similarly approved for these competencies.

Rationale: The 1-credit hour labs are a discipline convention, but they meet 3 hours/week, thus involving the same amount of time and effort on task as 3-credit hour/3-contact hour courses.

Rationale: Granting 3 hours of WI for the 1-credit hour/3-contact hour labs corrects the disparity between these separate lecture/lab courses and those courses, also approved for WI, that combine lecture and lab (e.g. GGY 333 and GLY 337). The 4+0 labs meet the 3-credit hour WI requirement in the major through the happenstance that they are connected to a lecture, even if that lecture does not relate to the competency.