I HAVE TO ACCOUNT FOR WHAT?
ACCOUNTING FOR CREDIT HOURS

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#1-Define the federal definition of a credit hour for their institution

#2-Determine in-class and out-of-class time equivalencies for face-to-face or online courses which provide program and institutional documentation

#3-Analyze their course findings to consider financial and accrediting implications of matching credit hour equivalencies for student and faculty workloads
To equate learning experiences with credit hours using the Higher Learning Commissions' policy recommendations
The higher learning institution must be able to equate learning experiences with semester or quarter credit hours.

Institutions participating in Title IV financial aid must have evidence of policies for credit hours awarded to courses.

The Commission will review the assignment of credit hours, program length, and tuition to determine reliability and accuracy of the institution’s policy for assigning credit,
According to Levander and Mikkola (2009) instructors usually are not required to detail teaching plans and goals. Instructors are more concerned with their research and content.
Federal Credit Hour definition:

- A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcome and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally-established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than...
Has credit hour consideration been part of your planning?
**Research shows when redesigning curriculum content seems to mushroom and increases student workload as apposed to reconciling content**

**What does the student NEED to know vs what is NICE to know. Levander & Mikkola (2009)**

**How much time do both faculty and students spend on...**
- Readings
- Assignments
- Postings (online)

**What is the foundation students are walking away with as a generalist nurse to critically think?**
Hyer, Taylor and Nanni (2004) Once material is developed no consideration is given for the amount of time is needed to complete the tasks, Often students are in control of the time spent on the assignments, discussions, etc.

Important Considerations:
- Prep sheet...
  - Preparation time for a course
  - Discussion forums
  - Exam prep
  - Amount of reading for students
  - Work load hours
  - Variance between flipped, traditional, or online courses
WHAT IS A CREDIT HOUR?

Example...
- 1 credit = 15 hours
- 3 credits = 45 hours

What does this mean regarding study time for students, prep time for faculty...
“If a course is offered both on-ground and online, and each of the following conditions is met, then the online course is considered to have equivalent classroom and out-of-class time as the on-ground course:

- Stated learning outcomes are the same
- Assignments are the same
- Term length is the same
- Online students are to regularly engage in the course
Financial Implications...

- Intentionality...
  - credit hours
  - What this includes
  - Faculty course load...like case load for safe staffing!
REFERENCES


WEBSITES FOR MORE INFORMATION

- https://www.hlcommission.org/Policies/federal-compliance-program.html
- http://www.educause.edu/discuss/teaching-and-learning/blended-and-online-learning-constituent-group/definition-contact-hours-asynchronous-courses
- https://www.creighton.edu/celai/planning-quality-assurance/seat-time-documentation