

1. Introduction to UCSC

Course Credit

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- Credit by Petition
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Course Credit

Most courses at UCSC carry 5 quarter credits. The exceptions are described below.

Noncredit Courses

All physical education courses and a few other courses identified in the *UCSC General Catalog* are noncredit. Noncredit courses do not count toward your 15-quarter credits program of study, and you may enroll in as many noncredit courses as you wish. Be sure to enroll; a record of these courses might be important to you at another institution, and your enrollment is used to justify the program's financial support.

Workload Credit Only Courses

Courses offered at UCSC which are preparatory for university-level work count for "workload credit only." For example, the credits earned in Writing 11 are valid for financial aid purposes and academic standing, but do not count toward a baccalaureate degree. It is important that you officially enroll in these courses, because they affect your academic standing and/or eligibility for financial aid. These "workload credit only" courses are clearly identified as such in the catalog course descriptions.

One (1)-, 2-, and 3-Credit Courses

Some courses carry 1, 2, or 3 credits, because they require less work and meet for fewer hours than 5-credit courses (e.g., special interest seminars, laboratories, music lessons, and individual studies). The *UCSC General Catalog* shows the credit value for these courses after the course title, e.g., Music 9, *Wind Ensemble* (2 credits). The *Schedule of Classes* notes the number of credit hours for the course in the column immediately after the title:

MUSC 009-01 *Wind Ensemble* 2.0.

If you are in the Part-Time Program, you are advised to pay special attention to the number of credits assigned for each course in which you enroll so that you do not exceed the 10-credit enrollment limit. Students in the Part-Time Program are assessed full fees if they enroll in more than 10 credits.

How Course Credits Can Affect Financial Aid Status

Enrollment for financial aid purposes is measured after the deadline to add classes each quarter at the end of the third week of instruction. Students enrolled less than full-time as of the add deadline date will have their aid adjusted as described below. Enrollment changes after the third week will not result in financial aid adjustments unless:

- financial aid is awarded after the third week;
- the student receives all W grade notations; or
- the student withdraws before the end of the term from the university.

Credit values for financial aid eligibility are as follows:

- 12–15 credits is considered full time; however, you must obtain the approval of your academic preceptor if you enroll in 14 or fewer credits.
- 6–11 credits is considered part time, and financial aid may be reduced.
- 5 credits and fewer—you are generally not eligible for financial aid, although some students may qualify to receive a partial Pell Grant.

You will be required to repay any financial aid you receive for quarters in which you enroll less than half time. Check with the Financial Aid Office, 459-2963, for more information.

Your academic standing may be affected if your total enrollment (and credits satisfactorily completed) for one or more quarters is less than 15 credits.

A final reminder: If you do not advance enroll in classes financial aid will not credit your student account.

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Credit by Petition

Regularly enrolled students may obtain full academic credit for a course by challenging the course. Challenging the course entails passing an examination or completing an appropriate body of work supervised by a regular instructor for the course. The petition for such credit must be approved by the instructor of the course, the chair of the department offering the course (or provost, if it is a course offered by a college), and the provost of the student's college. Some courses are not considered appropriate for credit by petition.

For foreign language students, credit by petition may not be used by students whose language ability greatly exceeds the course level proposed for challenge. Petitions for credit for levels 4 and 5 cannot be filed in the same quarter. Contact the Language Program, 239 Cowell, 459-2054, for more information.

Use of Human Subjects in Activities for Course Credit

Should you propose to include the participation of humans as subjects in a research project for course credit or in any other activity, contact the Office of Sponsored Projects, 2901 Mission Street Extension, Suite D, 459-2779, before beginning the activity. "Participation of humans" includes interviews, surveys, questionnaires, and psychological testing, as well as medical or biological procedures. Federal regulations require that such projects be approved.