January 25, 2016

Deans, Academic Program Directors and Coordinators

Jose Ginel Rodríguez, MD, FAAP
President

Nereida Díaz-Rodríguez, PhD
Dean of Academic Affairs

Revised Institutional Policy for Equivalency of Contact Hours to Credit Hours

This document represents a revision of the current Institutional Policy for Equivalency of Contact Hours to Credit Hours that was approved on June 30, 2006, under the authority of Dr. Aristides Cruz, former Dean of Academic Affairs, and Dr. Nilda Candelario, former President of Universidad Central del Caribe (UCC).

Recent revisions and internal audits of academic records, in compliance with healthy administrative processes, federal regulations and accrediting bodies, have led to reformulating the following regarding the assignment of credit hours.

DEFINITIONS

Academic period:  At the UCC, two types of academic periods are in place, consisting of semesters and quarters.

Semester:  Fifteen weeks of course work plus one exam week represents a semester.

Quarter:  Consists of eleven weeks of course work plus one week of exams.

Contact hour:  Refers to a fifty minute period of academic experience.
Credit hour: One credit hour is equal to fifteen hours of instruction in the MD and undergraduate programs and twelve hours of instruction in the graduate programs.

ASSIGNMENT OF CREDIT HOURS

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS
These include the Associate Degree of Science in Radiologic Technology; the Bachelor of Science in Medical Images; and the Post-Associate Degree Certificates in Diagnostic Ultrasound, Mammography, Magnetic Resonance, and Computerized Tomography.

Each undergraduate credit hour is equivalent to the following contact hours:
- 15 hours of lecture, group discussion or examinations, or
- 30 hours of laboratory, or
- 60 hours of independent supervised study, or
- 110 hours clinical experience

GRADUATE PROGRAMS
These include the Graduate Programs in Substance Abuse Counseling and the Graduate Programs in Biomedical Sciences.

Each graduate credit hour is equivalent to the following contact hours:
- 12 hours of lecture, group discussion or examination, or
- 24 hours of supervised independent study or clinical skills laboratory, or
- 48 hours of supervised clinical experience, scientific laboratory, or research

FIRST PROFESSIONAL LEVEL PROGRAM
This includes the program conducive to the MD degree.

Each credit hour is equivalent to the following contact hours:
- 15 hours of lecture, discussion or examination, or
- 30 contact hours of laboratory, or
- 72 contact hours of clinical experience or independent supervised work

The revised policy aims to make uniform and adhere to observed institutional practices. This revision shall be in effect immediately.