

Ohio Northern University Standards for the Semester Conversion

Finalized by the Semester Transition Coordinating Committee on May 7, 2008.

Section 1: The University Academic Affairs committee will propose a calendar to be approved by the University President utilizing the following framework:

- The result should be a single, unified 4-college (undergraduate) calendar.
- A semester should consist of [*] nominal weeks of instruction and [*] week(s) of examinations, exclusive of breaks. The number of instructional days will range from a minimum of [*] days to a maximum of [*] days” (* = to be set by Academic Affairs).
- The resultant calendar should be consistent with accreditation requirements of programs.
- Detailed consultation should be sought from all faculty parties.

Section 2: Courses will normally be of three credit hours. It is understood that there are instances where variation from this standard is necessary.

Section 3: Baccalaureate degree requirements will range from a minimum of 120 credit hours to a maximum of 128 credit hours.

(NOTE – the College of Pharmacy Curriculum Committee is currently discussing degree requirements and will inform the Semester Transition Coordinating Committee when a final decision is reached.)

Section 4: A credit hour is to represent three hours of academic work per week, on average over the term.

Section 5: Normally, the number of contact hours per week for a course will be equal to the number of credit hours for the course. The number of contact hours per week for a course may be different for courses with components such as laboratory or recitation or other types of courses (for example: seminars, studio courses, clinical experiences, internships, independent study, capstone).

Section 6: In general, with college review and approval, (1) all departments and programs should reduce the credit hours required of their curricula (e.g., majors, minors, options, and concentrations) by approximately one-third and (2) the time required to complete a degree should not be increased as a result of the change to semesters. For example, the timing of course offerings should be consistent with this standard.

Section 7: Exemptions from these standards may be granted following review and recommendation by the University Academic Affairs committee and shall be reported to the University Council and the University faculty. Final approval is with the President's Office.