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Semester Course Content Equivalencies Handbook

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Semester Course Content Equivalencies Handbook : Graduate Schools : How to Use This Handbook

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Semester Course Content Equivalencies Handbook

Graduate Schools

How to Use This Handbook

Overview

This handbook is intended to support the transition process for graduate students enrolled in courses at Northeastern University prior to the fall 2003 semester. Faculty from each department have spent many hours reviewing the course information included in this document.

See Your Academic Adviser!

All students must have a complete transition plan made with and approved by an academic adviser. This handbook is designed to be used by students *in conjunction with an academic adviser* to plan completion of degree programs/majors under semesters. The handbook is not intended to replace academic advising but rather to supplement it. Similarly, the equivalency relationships in the handbook are not intended to replace transition plans made with an academic adviser.

Credit Conversion—Two Essential Ideas

There are two essential ideas to understand about credit conversion from quarters to semesters:

1. There are two types of credit involved, *semester hour credit* and *course content credit*.
2. *Semester hour credit* and *course content credit* are computed independently of one another.

Semester hour credit is easy to understand: All applicable quarter hour credit that a student has earned will be multiplied by 0.75 to produce the student's equivalent *semester hour credit*. The 0.75 conversion rate is the standard that has been published by Northeastern University for many years.

Course content credit, on the other hand, is what this handbook is all about. Reading this short introductory section and studying the brief examples given here will help you use this handbook effectively to determine *course content credit*.

Handbook Contents

As noted above, this handbook is designed to be used by students *in conjunction with an academic adviser*. The handbook is divided into two sections:

Section 1: Semester to Quarter Course Content Equivalencies Table
Section 2: Quarter to Semester Course Content Equivalencies Table

Section 1, the "Semester to Quarter Course Content Equivalencies Table," lists all semester courses together with their quarter course content equivalents. This table is designed to assist advisers and students to determine *course content credit* and to plan for future terms. This section provides critical information for course registration planning and for the completion of degree/major requirements.

Section 2, the "Quarter to Semester Course Content Equivalencies Table," lists all quarter courses together with their semester course content equivalents. Again, this table is designed to assist advisers and students in determining *course content credit* and in future planning.

Course Content Equivalencies

Most commonly, a single quarter course has a single content-equivalent semester course. A student who passes the quarter course will receive *course content credit* for the semester course. In essence, the student will be considered to have covered the content of the semester course and hence will not be required to take the semester course to meet degree program/major requirements.

In some cases, multiple quarter courses have been combined in content into a single semester course. In some of these cases, the student must complete *all* the related quarter courses to receive *course content credit* for the single semester course. In other cases, the student may receive *course content credit* for the semester course without completing *all* the related quarter courses. The examples below illustrate some of the possible variations.

Similarly, students throughout the University may benefit from certain very specific course substitutions which also have not been included in this handbook. Again, please see your adviser for details.

Note: The examples that follow cite undergraduate courses. However, the same principles also apply to graduate courses.

Example 1

Semester Course(s)	Equivalent Quarter Course(s)
ECN U101 Econ Problems & Perspectives (4 SH)	**ECN 1001** Economic Problems & Perspectives (4 QH)

In the above example, the student who passes **ECN 1001** will receive *course content credit* for **ECN U101** and will receive 3.00 *semester hour credits* (4 QH x 0.75 = 3.00 SH). You may notice that the 3.00 semester hours of credit which the student will receive differs from the 4.00 semester hour value of **ECN U101**. This is not unusual—remember, *semester hour credit* and *course content credit* are computed independently of one another.

Example 2

Semester Course(s)	Equivalent Quarter Course(s)
GEO U326 Petrography (5 SH) *and* **GEO U327** Petrography Lab (0 SH)	**GEO 1312** Petrography (5 QH)

In the above example, the student who passes **GEO 1312** will receive *course content credit* for both **GEO U326** and **GEO U327** and will receive 3.75 *semester hour credits* (5 QH x 0.75 = 3.75 SH).

Example 3

Semester Course(s)	Equivalent Quarter Course(s)
JRN U101 Journalism 1 (4 SH)	**JRN 1103** Newswriting 1 (4 QH) *or* **JRN 1703** Newswriting 1 - Honors (4 QH)

In the above example, the student who passes **JRN 1103** will receive *course content credit* for **JRN U101**. The student who passes **JRN 1703** will likewise receive *course content credit* for **JRN U101**. In either case, the student will receive 3.00 *semester hour credits* (4 QH x 0.75 = 3.00 SH).

Example 4

Semester Course(s)	Equivalent Quarter Course(s)
LNS U101 Elementary Spanish 1 (4 SH)	**LNS 1101** Elementary Spanish 1 (4 QH) *and* **LNS 1102** Elementary Spanish 2 (4 QH) *

In the above example, the student must pass both **LNS 1101** and **LNS 1102** to receive *course content credit* for **LNS U101**. The student who passes both of these courses will receive 6.00 *semester hour credits* (8 QH x 0.75 = 6.00 SH). Since the 6.00 semester hours of credit which the student will receive exceeds the 4.00 semester hour credit value of **LNS U101**, the student will actually receive excess semester hour credit; such excess credit is indicated throughout this handbook by an asterisk (*). Note that the student who passes only **LNS 1101** or only **LNS 1102** will receive 3.00 *semester hour credits* (4 x 0.75 = 3.00) but will not receive *course content credit* for **LNS U101**.

Example 5

Semester Course(s)	Equivalent Quarter Course(s)
BIO U147 The Human Organism (4 SH)	**BIO 1182** The Human Organism (4 QH) *and* **BIO 1683** Human Organism Lab (1 QH) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - ***or*** - **BIO 1181** The Human Organism (4 QH)

In the above example, the student who passes both **BIO 1182** and **BIO 1683** will receive *course content credit* for **BIO U147**; this student will receive 3.75 *semester hour credits* (5 QH x 0.75 = 3.75 SH). The student who passes **BIO 1181** will likewise receive *course content credit* for **BIO U147**; this student will receive 3.00 *semester hour credits* (4 QH x 0.75 = 3.00 SH). Note that the student who passes only **BIO 1182** will receive 3.00 *semester hour credits* (4 QH x 0.75 = 3.00 SH) but will not receive *course content credit* for **BIO U147**. Similarly, the student who passes only **BIO 1683** will receive 0.75 *semester hour credits* (1 QH x 0.75 = 0.75 SH) but will not receive *course content credit* for **BIO U147**.

Example 6

Semester Course(s)	Equivalent Quarter Course(s)
LNF U150 Intro to French Culture (4 SH)	**LNF 1225** Intro to French-Speaking World (4 QH) *and* **LNF 1500** The French Speaking World (4 QH) ✻ - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - ***or*** - **LNF 1225** Intro to French-Speaking World (4 QH) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - ***or*** - **LNF 1500** The French Speaking World (4 QH)

In the above example, the student who passes both **LNF 1225** and **LNF 1500** will receive *course content credit* for **LNF U150** and will receive 6.00 *semester hour credits* (8 QH x 0.75 = 6.00 SH). Since the 6.00 semester hours of credit which the student will receive exceeds the 4.00 semester hour credit value of **LNF U150**, the student will actually receive excess semester hour credit as indicted by the asterisk (✻). The student who passes only **LNF 1225** will also receive *course content credit* for **LNF U150**; this student will receive 3.00 *semester hour credits* (4 QH x 0.75 = 3.00 SH). Similarly, the student who passes only **LNF 1500** will receive *course content credit* for **LNF U150**; this student will receive 3.00 *semester hour credits* (4 QH x 0.75 = 3.00 SH).

Transfer Credit

All transfer credit processed prior to fall 2003 will be converted from quarter hour credit to semester hour credit at the 0.75 conversion rate. Beginning in fall 2003, any courses taken at either semester or quarter institutions will be converted to Northeastern semester credit.