



## Academic Workload and Grading Information

The following information about the University of Wollongong system may assist advisers with the transfer of credit for Exchange and Study Abroad Students.

### Workload

Normal full-time load	24 credit points per session
Minimum full time load for student visa	18 credit points per session

100 level Wollongong subjects	First year students
200 level Wollongong subjects	Second year students
300 level Wollongong subjects	Third year students
400 level Wollongong subjects	Honours students
800 and 900 level Wollongong subjects	Postgraduate students

Each Autumn and Spring session is comprised of thirteen teaching weeks, one week of study recess and two weeks of examinations.

Students begin their major study in the first year of their degree. Most undergraduate degrees are three years in length except professional qualifications such as law, engineering or teaching which are four or five year awards. Some three-year graduates undertake an additional Honours year, involving a research project and the production of a thesis. A result of Honour Class II or better is usually required for entry to Research Masters or Doctorate programs. Three-year graduates are eligible to enrol in Coursework Masters or Graduate Diplomas.

All degree seeking students complete a certain number of credit points to graduate (144 credit points for a three-year degree), and a prescribed set of subjects. A weighted average mark is used to calculate the award of Honours for some four-year degrees. Non-award (non-degree seeking) students do not receive a weighted average mark, but do receive an individual mark and grade for each subject completed.

### Credit Points

A 'credit point' is the value attached to a subject as a component for a degree. Each **credit point** has an implied workload of 2 hours per week, including class attendance, minimum private study and library research.

The number of **contact hours** per week in any subject is not directly related to the credit point value for the subject. Some Departments offer subjects worth 6cp, 8cp, and 12cp, with the number of contact hours varying between 3 hours-6 hours per week, per subject.

The contact hours for each subject are listed in the **Timetable** but they should not be used as a direct guide for the transfer of credit hours. The amount of work needed to complete the requirements for a subject varies between students, subjects, levels, departments and methods of assessment and is most accurately assessed by credit points.

Most subjects at Wollongong run over one semester only, though some annual subjects are available to students studying February-December.

## Guide to Transfer of Credit Points (approximate only)

	<u>24 credit points equals</u>	<u>18 credit points equals</u>
US	15 credit hours	12 credit hours
Canada	15 credit hours	12 credit hours
UK	60/30 points	45/20 points
Sweden	20 Swedish points	15 Swedish points
Europe	30 ECTS points	22 ECTS points

### Assessment and Grade equivalents

The method of **assessment** varies between subjects and details can be found in the University Calendar; [www.uow.edu.au/student/calendar](http://www.uow.edu.au/student/calendar) and a syllabus is given to students in the first lecture of each subject. Students should retain this syllabus to facilitate credit transfer at their home institution.

A lot of individual study is required of students in the Australian Education system. Students need to be self-motivated as a considerable amount of assessment occurs late in the session.

Results are declared as follows (both % marks and grades are awarded):

High Distinction	HD	85-100
Distinction	D	75-84
Credit	C	65-74
Pass	P	50-64
Pass Conceded	PC	45-49
Pass Restricted	PR	
Fail		0-44*

\*In some faculties a fail can be in the range of 0-49

A grade of Pass Conceded is considered as a borderline passing grade although credit points are awarded. A Pass Restricted result precludes a student from undertaking a subject for which it is a prerequisite. Students are not permitted to resit exams if they have failed. To receive a passing grade they must undertake the entire subject again.

Students who do not withdraw from a subject by the appropriate date are awarded a Fail grade, unless the withdrawal was on medical or other compassionate grounds.

### Distribution of Grades

Results are generally not scaled, and students are not in competition for grades. A Summary of the Distribution of Grades for subjects undertaken by Exchange and Study Abroad students is produced at the end of each session and forwarded with the transcript. A very general guide to the distribution is:

High Distinction	less than 5%
Distinction	10-15%
Credit	20-30%
Pass	30-40%
PT and PC	5%
Fail	10-15%