



AUP Credit Hour Policy

The American University of Paris requires that all students seeking a Bachelor's degree complete a minimum of 128 credits. A standard load for an undergraduate in a regular semester is 4 x 4 credit courses, which is typical of a liberal arts curriculum in which deep exploration and extensive reading and writing are the norms. Master's degrees vary by discipline and length of study but range from 32 to 64 credits. A standard load in a regular semester for a graduate student that is not the last semester in the program is between 16 and 18 credits.

The measure of academic credit at The American University of Paris is the credit hour, which represents 1 hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of 2 to 3 hours of out-of-classroom student work. The American University of Paris holds 2 x 15 week semesters, 1 x 6 week summer term, and 2 x 3 week intensive summer terms. The class period is specified at 1 hour 20 minutes during fall and spring semesters. The class period during the 6 week summer term is specified at 1 hour 40 minutes. The class period during either of the 3 week summer terms is specified at 3 hours 30 minutes.

For a small number of courses in certain disciplines, additional contact time is required for an equivalent number of awarded credits. While the University offers a variety of course scheduling formats, each is held to the minimum number of contact hours per credit awarded (37.5 hours minimum for a 4 credit course). A standard class period during the regular semester is 80 minutes and the mandatory exam period is 150 minutes.

Standard courses:

Our 4 credit course types (undergraduate and graduate) are as follows:

1. The typical graduate and undergraduate lecture course (4 credits) meets twice a week during the semester. In addition, each course has a mandatory final exam period. Each course must meet for a total of 26 sessions during each fall or spring semester.
2. Foreign language courses (4 credits) have specific need for more intensive contact hours, therefore each foreign language course must meet for a minimum of 39 sessions during the semester. The French department in particular requires an additional 13 sessions with a teaching assistant. The additional contact hours are to ensure expected student learning outcomes.
- 3.



Flexibly scheduled or short courses:

AUP offers a variety of course formats that do not foll



		Through Academic Year 2013-2014	Starting Academic Year 2014-2015
MA thesis details	word limit	credits	credits



6. A **Portfolio** (1 credit) requirement exists as part of several majors. This is a 1 credit course supervised by a department faculty member. The goal of the portfolio is to display the highlights of the student's performance. The portfolio is an excellent source of departmental learning outcomes assessment and complements students' résumés for job hunting and/or graduate school applications.

7. *Les Jeunes ont la Parole* (1 credit) is a practicum permitting students to spend time studying individual works of art housed within the Louvre. The outcome of the practicum is the preparation of formal presentations under the supervision of an art historian as part of the Louvre museum's program (*Les Jeunes ont la Parole*). This exercise requires students to present their work to museum visitors at designated times in multiple languages. Students may participate in the program multiple times for academic credit.