

Workload & Credits

Buenos Aires Global Semester program

UCEMA International HUB

Briefing

Type	Course	Hours	Credits
Theoretical	<u>Example:</u> Behavioural economics and Data-Driven decision making	(3 contact hours per week) x (18 weeks) = 54 contact hours per semester.	~ 6 credits <i>Per theoretical course.</i>
Practical	<u>Example:</u> Data visualization and storytelling with python	(2 contact hours per week) x (18 weeks) = 36 contact hours per semester.	~ 4 credits <i>Per practical course.</i>

Notes:

1. *The used procedure and formula are detailed in the following section.*
2. *UCEMA does not grant credits for the Global Semester and the final calculation is up to the student's home university.*
3. *Numbers detailed are for reference purposes under the assumptions expressed in the next section.*

In Argentina, universities do not use a credit-based system like the one commonly found in North America or Europe. Instead, courses are structured with a fixed number of weekly hours over a semester or academic year, and students are expected to follow a pre-determined curriculum. Academic progress is generally measured by the completion of courses and final exams, rather than by accumulating credits. As a result, comparing or transferring coursework to institutions that operate under a credit system may require a case-by-case academic evaluation.

However, ***for reference purposes***, we do provide an estimated credit equivalency based on the total number of contact hours, study hours and course workload. This approximation is intended to help partner institutions better assess the academic content and effort required in each course.

What is the typical workload for courses in the Global Semester program?

The program is divided into two types of modules: theoretical and practical courses. Students can check on the study programs, the number of hours per week that each course entails. For example:

Theoretical course	Practical course
<p>Degree: Global Semester</p> <p>Course: Data Analytics for Global Marketing</p> <p>Course Load: 3 hours per week</p> <p>Mode: In-person</p>	<p>Degree: Global Semester</p> <p>Course: AI Ethics and Decision-Making in Business (Case-Based)</p> <p>Course Load: 2 hours per week</p> <p>Mode: In-person</p>

The total workload will, of course, depend on how many courses students decide to take. For guidance reasons, let's assume the following schedule to make the analysis:

For a student enrolled in the Diploma in Global Business, Economics & Technology (completing at least 20 credits)

Day	9:00 - 12:00 (Theoretical Courses)	13:00 - 15:00 (Workshops)
Monday	Theoretical course #1	Practical course #1
Tuesday	Theoretical course #2	Practical course #2
Wednesday	Theoretical course #3	Practical course #3
Thursday	(No classes)	(No classes)
Friday	(No classes)	(No classes)

In this case, with three weekly 3 hour long theoretical courses and, three 2 hour long practical courses, the supposed student will have a total of 15 hours of class each week of the Global Semester program.

Considering that the academic semester consists in a total of 18 weeks (classes + exams), we can calculate the total number of contact hours for this example:

$$(15 \text{ hours of class}) \times 18 \text{ weeks} = 270 \text{ contact hours}$$

How do we estimate credits?

Disclaimer: *The following calculation is for reference purposes. UCEMA does not grant credits for the Global Semester and the final calculation is up to the student's home university.*

To estimate the number of credits, we consider the **contact hours + study hours, which consist in twice the amount of contact hours**. That, divided by the number of hours we estimate equal to one credit (27)¹.

Therefore, the final formula is as follows:

$$\frac{(\text{Contact hours} + \text{study hours})}{\text{Hours equal to 1 credit}}$$

$$\frac{(\text{Contact hours} + 2 * \text{Contact hours})}{\text{Hours equal to 1 credit}}$$

Now, taking the example seen before, we can replace the numbers:

$$\frac{(270 + 2 * 270)}{27} = \sim 30 \text{ credits}$$

Hence, in this example, the student would be completing a total of 30 credits.

With this intuition, students and officials can model the number of credits to receive depending on how many courses of the Global Semester the students effectively enrol.

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For more information regarding courses, dates and study plans, please check the Global Semester official website by clicking [here](#).

¹ Please consider that the last number is entirely arbitrary and may vary depending on the university.