

#### **D14. MPH Program Length**

**An MPH degree requires at least 42 semester-credits, 56 quarter-credits or the equivalent for completion.**

**Schools use university definitions for credit hours.**

- 1) Provide information about the minimum credit-hour requirements for all MPH degree options. If the university uses a unit of academic credit or an academic term different from the standard semester or quarter, explain the difference and present an equivalency in table or narrative form.**

The MPH degree is offered in two formats, a standard 48-credit program and an accelerated 42-credit program for individuals with prior terminal degrees in health-related fields (i.e., MD, DVM, PharmD, DMD, PhD). UF uses a standard semester unit of academic credit.

- 2) Define a credit with regard to classroom/contact hours.**

The UF definition of a credit hour is consistent with requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) as stated in the [Resource Manual for the Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement](#), third edition, page 164:

“For the purpose of accreditation and in accord with federal regulations, a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates (1) not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out-of-class student work each week for approximately 15 weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or 10 to 12 weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or (2) at least an equivalent amount of work as required outlined in item 1 above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.”

Thus, one hour of direct faculty instruction per week for one semester at UF confers one credit. One credit of Applied Practice Experience in the MPH requires 50 contact hours.