



COURSE LOAD & COURSE AUDITING POLICY **And subject specific exchange course restrictions**

Rationale

This policy is to ensure parity with home students who are required to take a full course load; and to preserve academic standards. Visiting Students are expected to acquire credits to contribute to their degree and study at the University of Edinburgh as if they were studying at their home institution.

The Visiting Student Programme is an academic one. While it is hoped that students gain a cultural experience and are able to explore subjects and academic methods that may not be available to them at their home institution, we consider the Programme to be an integral part of their degree which carries with it the gravity of a University of Edinburgh qualification.

Credit load

All Visiting UG and PGT students (exchange and study abroad) must take a full course load.

A full course load is defined as 60 credits per semester (which generally translates to 3 courses).

Exceptions

Students required to take a particular course the only option being of 10 credits. This results in the student choosing an underload (minimum 50 credits) or an overload (maximum 70 credits).

Students who are completing a dissertation or other formal work for their home institution: this requires written confirmation of this study from their home university.

There are no further exceptions which would result in an underload or overload of credits.

Course auditing

Students may audit up to a further 20 credits, taking their total load to a maximum of 80. Any course auditing requires permission from VSO, the Course Organiser, Course Secretary and that there is available space. This must be done by completing 'Course Audit Request form', obtained from the VSO.

The student must meet the academic prerequisites for the programme and engage with it as if it were being taken for credit.

Students cannot audit a course if they don't have a full course load. For example, a student cannot take 40 credits and 20 for audit.

The course will be defined as 'class only' on the student's record and no grade will appear against the course on the official transcript.

Subject specific exchange course restrictions

All students who have been admitted through a subject specific exchange (Departmental Exchange or ERASMUS) must take a minimum of two-thirds (generally 2 x 20 credits) per semester of their courses in the subject area covered by the exchange.

Rupert Lezmore
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