

Bard College Credit Assignment Policy

At Bard College, credits are assigned for coursework as follows:

A four credit Lower College course (typically numbered at the 100 or 200 level) meets twice weekly for 80 minutes per meeting, or a minimum of 160 minutes per week. Students are expected to perform a significant amount of independent work outside class each week, which might include several hundred pages of reading, significant writing assignments, supervised or unsupervised laboratory assignments or artistic work, and/or meeting with writing fellows or the instructor. While different students will require different amounts of time to complete this work, a total of nine to ten hours per week outside class is a reasonable expectation.

A four credit Upper College seminar may meet once per week for at least 140 minutes. These courses are open to moderated students, whose advanced academic standing allows them greater independence. Thus work assigned outside class should be more ambitious than for Lower College courses; the expectation of work outside class increases to ten to twelve hours per week.

Two credit courses have half the workload compared to four credit courses.

Typically students enroll in sixteen to eighteen credits; Bard College does not allow students to register for more than 20 credits in a semester.