

ECTS credits before 2014

The total study volume typically included lecture hours, laboratory, practical sessions and seminars, consultations, individual studies and assessments. In the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, 60 credits correspond to one full-time academic year. Accordingly, one ECTS credit was calculated from average number of academic hours in a year as being 1.800 hours, which divided by 60 equaled to 30 hours in one ECTS. The ECTS were also awarded the same way for the Junior Specialist programs, including the ones with the basic secondary education entry. The state final examinations were not included in credits, so the hours allocated for them were not included in the credit total.

The distribution of credits between subjects and allocation of the minimum number of credits for core subjects (practical sessions, coursework and qualification projects) were determined by the industry standard of higher education. The higher education institutions made decisions on elective subjects (practical sessions and coursework) and their ECTS volume for different programs, and could also restructure programs taking ECTS from elective to core subjects. The higher education institutions were responsible for the formation of curriculum components and elective subjects.

The maximum number of in-class hours per one ECTS was 16 hours for students of the Bachelor's and Junior Specialist's programs, 14 hours for Specialist's, and 10 hours for Master's. The remaining time was devoted to independent study.

The maximum weekly in-class load (including hours of the non-credited subject of Physical Education) could not exceed 30 hours for students of the Bachelor's and Junior Specialist's programs, 24 hours for Specialist's, and 18 for Master's. Tests that were graded as 'pass' or 'fail' were usually held at the final seminar, laboratory or practical class.