

What is ECTS?

It is a credit system used in the field of European Higher Education, approved by the Bologna Declaration. The European Credit Transfer System - ECTS was designed and developed by the Commission of the European Union, with the aim of creating a common procedure to guarantee academic recognition of studies within the universities of the country and abroad.

ECTS credits are relative numerical values (from 1 to 60). ECTS credits represent the amount of the student's overall commitment to complete the given subject. Credits are not based only on class hours/weeks, but they represent all student activities such as: lectures, exercises, practical work, seminars, individual work and exams or other assessment activities.

In the ECTS system:

60 credits represent the student's commitment for one academic year to achieve the expected learning outcomes.

60 credits = 1500 to 1800 hours of commitment for one academic year.

1 semester = 30 credits.

1 ECTS credits = 25 to 30 hours of commitment.



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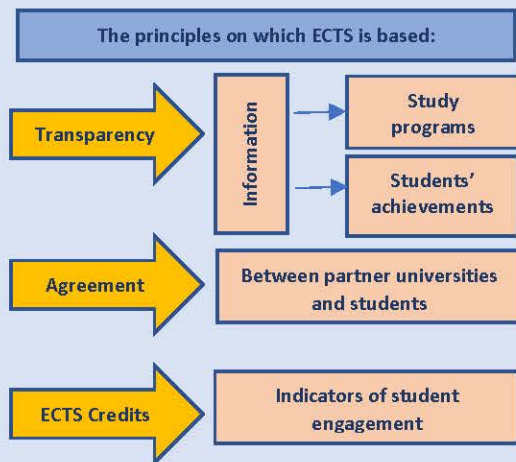
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Quality Assurance Office

ECTS
European Credit Transfer System
Sistemi Evropian i Transferimit të Kredive



Teaching subjects for which ECTS are calculated

ECTS credits must be calculated for all teaching subjects that are offered for study, showing the proportion of the student's commitment during the year of studies. The subject which is elective or optional in one institution/department, may be a compulsory subject in the other institution/department.

ECTS - credits and the importance of the subject

ECTS defines the volume of studies and informs about the average time needed by the student to complete all studies and their parts. But the number of credits does not determine the importance of the subject. Therefore, a narrower professional subject does not mean that it contains more ECTS credits than a less professional subject. Credit allocation is the process of assigning a number of credits to qualifications/programmes or educational components. ECTS credits are allocated based on the typical workload required to achieve the required learning outcomes.

Calculation of ECTS - Sample

The table below presents a sample for the calculation of ECTS (European Credit Transfer System), where 1 ECTS is equivalent to 25 hours of engagement.

Activity	Hours	Week	Total
Lectures	3	15	45
Exercises	1	15	15
Consultations	1	15	15
Independent work	4	5	20
Colloquy	5	1	5
Self-study	1.53	15	23
Time spent in evaluation	2	3	6
Project	3	3	9
Final Exam	4	3	12
Total workload: 150 hours = 6 ECTS credits			

ECTS credits and learning outcomes

Learning outcomes describe what a student is expected to know, understand and be able to do after successful completion of the learning process. They relate to level descriptors in the national and European qualifications framework. Learning outcomes must be clearly defined and always accompanied by appropriate assessment procedures and criteria and relevant teaching/learning activities, as these three elements are closely interrelated.

ECTS recommendations for exam success

Grading in the ECTS system is done with letters A, B, C, D, E, FX and F, which are equivalent to grades 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5. The ECTS grading system, among other things, foresees the ideal case of grade distribution, presenting as a percentage the number of students who must receive the specified grade of the ECTS grading scale.

According to this system, the maximum success in the given teaching subject is achieved if the total number of students achieves success as follows: A=10 EXCELLENT - excellent knowledge with only a few minor errors, 10% of students.

B=9 VERY GOOD - above standard average, but with some errors, 25% of students.

C=8 GOOD - generally good result with some errors noted, 30% of students.

D=7 SATISFACTORY - good, but with many mistakes, 25% of students.

E=6 SUFFICIENT - results meet the minimum criteria, 10% of students.

FX=5 WEAK - some work is required from the student to earn credits.

F=WEAK - lots of work required to earn credits.

Sources:

*European Commission. (2015). ECTS Users' Guide. web: https://ec.europa.eu/assets/eac/education/ects/users-guide/docs/ects-users-guide_en.pdf

* Beqiri, E. (2002). ECTS - European Credit Transfer System, University of Pristina.