The credit hour is a unit by which South Dakota Mines (Mines) measures its course work. Mines ascribes to commonly accepted higher education practices and standards regarding credit hour value determinations. Supplementing the generally accepted standards in BOR policy, Mines establishes that each credit hour of laboratory work must meet a total of 45 contact hours. The combination of the direct contact hours and out-of-class requirement hours may vary between course sections and disciplines based on course content, instructional and pedagogical strategies, and other factors.