CREDIT HOUR POLICY: POSTGRADUATE

General Principles

1. At the postgraduate level, one US credit is equivalent to:
   a. 2.5 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits
   b. 5 UK credits

2. The credit equivalency for US and UK credits at the postgraduate level differs from that at the undergraduate level, as additional independent study hours are required at the postgraduate level. This is reflected in the notional hours of learning calculated for credit in the UK, but the US credit calculation remains rooted in contact hours.

3. A typical postgraduate course consists of 4 US/20 UK credits which normally corresponds to 39 contact hours across the standard 13 week semester. Contact hours may consist of both timetabled hours in the physical classroom, and a small amount of guided learning hours.

4. Some L7 courses run at different credit values and for different durations, and students should refer to their individual Course Specification Documents (CSDs) and/or syllabi to understand the weekly hours per course.

5. The difference between undergraduate and postgraduate ratios of classroom time to credit is a result of increased expectations for research time outside of the classroom.

6. For out of classroom experiences, such as internships, one 'practice' credit hour represents 3-4 hours per week of supervised and/or independent practice. This in turn represents between 45 and 60 hours of work per semester per credit. The hours expressed in the Course Specification Documents (CSDs) should fall within this range.

VERSION MANAGEMENT

Responsible Department: Office of the Provost			
Approving body:			
Version no.	**Key Changes**	**Date of approval**	**Date of effect**
001		24 July 2018	28 August 2018
002	Corrected version management table	18 October 2022	01 September 2022
003	Corrected semester length to 12 weeks	May 2023	01 September 2023
004	Updated classroom hours to contact hours, added guided learning and updated semester length and references to PS.	June 2024	01 Sept 2024
	Restricted access? *Tick as appropriate* ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**		