**FAQ: How much time should a 3-credit, asynchronous on-line course take? In other words what is the estimated student workload associated with an asynchronous on-line graduate course?**

**Typical Residential Course:**

3 hr. in class/week for 15-16 weeks (a semester) = 45-48 hours/semester

2X the class time for out of class work = 6 hours/week x 15-16 weeks = 90-96 hours/semester

Total = (45-48) + (90-96) = 135–144 hours/3 credit course

**Asynchronous On-Line Course:**

Session = 7–8 weeks

135–144 hrs./ 7-8 wks. = 17 - 21 hrs./wk.

If taking 2 courses, total = 34 – 42 hrs./wk.

This is the grid that instructors use to assess the workload in a course. Of course, there are many assumptions embedded in this - everything from reading/writing speed, denseness of reading, etc., would adjust the calculation.

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| Every graduate level course **should include** scholarly journal reading and critique, research, and academic writing activities at a significantly higher level than the average undergraduate course. | | **Weekly Course Activities**  Calculate approximate time per week  Reading, Writing + Other activities should equal | | | | | | | | |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **Activity Total** |
| **Common Online Course Activities:** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Course introduction video [@1+] | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Video meetings [@1+] | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Video chat session [@1+] | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Watching video | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Group discussion | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. PowerPoint w/wo audio/video [@1+] | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Audio/video lecture [@1+] | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Quiz [@0.5] (for assessing reading completion) | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Exam [@1+] (Used sparingly at Graduate level) | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Discussion Forum: Initial Post and responses [@1-3] | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Textbook Reading (avg. 10-15 pp/hr.) | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Journal Article Reading (avg. 15pp/hr.) | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Writing : Journal Article Critique (avg. 2 hrs. per page) | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Writing: Reflection Paper (avg. 1p/hr.) | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Writing: Research paper (avg. 2pp/hr.) | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Literature Review and Research (Avg. 3 hrs./pg.) | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Internet library research | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Activity report | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Other: | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Other: | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Approx. Hours Expected per Week:*** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **COURSE TOTAL:**  **Course Expectation is 126 – 168 Hours** | | | | | | | 0 | | | |
| **Unique aspects of course to consider** |  | | | | | | | | | |
| See: <https://cte.rice.edu/workload> for help in calculating workload for online asynchronous courses | | | | | | | | | | |