

Academic Credit

The Winter School credit scheme is the same as the University of Edinburgh’s and is based on a combination of contact teaching hours, independent study and formal assessment. We calculate that for 1 credit you should aim to do around 10 hours of study and this can be by attending lectures and seminars, studying in your own time, field trips, and completing other oral and written assessments. This means that for a 20 credit course, you should be putting in 200 hours of study.

Some courses require that part of those 200 hours are spent before the course starts by reading material sent to you by the course tutor before you arrive in Edinburgh and others, in addition may require some hours to be spent after the course finishes by completing assignments as part of your formal assessment to be handed in at a later date. Depending on the discipline some courses require more contact teaching time and others more self-directed learning or directed group work. The breakdown of these hours varies from course to course and can be found on the individual course pages.

Winter School courses may be run at one of these three credit levels:

**SCQF 8** (equivalent to junior honours in the US system). To study courses at this level at the Winter School you need to have completed one year of university level study.

**SCQF 10** (equivalent to senior honours in the US system). To study courses at this level at the Winter School you need to have completed two years of university level study. For some Winter School courses you may also be required to have studied a minimum of two courses at this level in a particular discipline at you home institution. This information can be found on the individual course page.

**SCQF 11** (equivalent to postgraduate-level study). To study at this level at the Winter School you need to be a university graduate.

# Credit System Equivalencies

Please be aware that 20 Edinburgh credits are equivalent to 10 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) and approximately 4 US credits. You are advised to check with your home university first on how many credits they will award you when you transfer your credits back from the Winter School.

# Marks and Grades

When you receive your marks for assessments, remember that the grading scale at Edinburgh may vary considerably from what you are used to at home.

The table below explains the marking scheme at Edinburgh. The pass mark is 40% and it is relatively unusual for students to regularly achieve marks of 70% or above (in fact, only 10% of students receive marks this high). Most Edinburgh students would be happy with marks in the 60s (55% of students receive marks between 60-69%).

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| **University of Edinburgh Marking Scheme** | | |
| **Mark (%)** | **Grade** | **Description** |
| 70-100 | A | An excellent performance (pass) |
| 60-69 | B | A very good performance (pass) |
| 50-59 | C | A good performance (pass) |
| 40-49 | D | A satisfactory performance (pass) |
| 30-39 | E | A marginal fail (fail) |
| 20-29 | F | A clear fail (fail) |
| 10-19 | G | A bad fail (fail) |
| 0-9 | H | A bad fail (fail) |

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| **Suggested USA & European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) Grade Equivalencies** | | |
| **Mark (%)** | **USA** | **ECTS** |
| 70-100 | A | A |
| 65-69 | A- | B |
| 60-64 | B+ | C |
| 55-59 | B | D |
| 50-54 | B- | D |
| 40-49 | C | E |
| 35-39 | D | FX |
| 0-34 | F | F |

# Academic Transcript

If you are registered on a credit bearing course you will receive a copy of your academic transcript. This will list your courses and the results that you have achieved. We will also send a copy of your transcript to your home university. Please note that if you apply to the Winter School through an agent or a partner institution, your transcript will be sent directly to your agent/institution.

If your home university works in ECTS then please be aware that 2 Edinburgh credits are equivalent to 1 ECTS. We will send out transcripts in September after the Winter School Exam Board.

All students, regardless of whether their course is credit bearing or not, will receive a certificate of attendance before they leave Edinburgh.

**If you require this document in an alternative format, such as large print or a coloured background, please contact the Winter School team.**

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