

CREDIT CONVERSION GUIDELINES – BASED ON THE WITS SYSTEM

The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg is unable to provide a direct conversion of the Wits credit system into either the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) or the Grade Point Average (GPA). This document merely serves as a guideline.

WITS CREDIT – RATING SYSTEM

The South African National credit rating system rates 10 notational study hours as equivalent to one credit (= 1 NQF credit). Credits represent a measure of all the learning activities engaged in by the student and include, among other, contact time, self-study, Work Integrated Learning (WIL) assignments, projects and examinations.

The University operates on a semester basis. Grades are awarded at the end of the semester; the semesters are usually from February to June and July to December.¹

Certificate, Diploma, Bachelor's degree and Bachelor of Honours degree qualification types assume a 30 week full time academic year². Master's degree and Doctoral qualification types assume a 45 week full time academic year. An average full time equivalent student is expected to study for a 40 hour week, thus requiring minimum credit load of 120 credits per academic year for Certificates, Diplomas, and Bachelor's degrees and 180 credits per academic year for Master's degrees and Doctorates. On average, there are four 45 minutes lectures per week, per course. Attendance of tutorials and practicals is usually compulsory.

Wits Handbooks and Rules & Syllabus' show the credit value of courses.

GRADE CONVERSION TABLE

Wits Grading System			Approximate Equivalents	
Class	Wits Percentage	Code	USA (GPA)	UK
First	75% and over	A	A	1
Upper Second	70% to 74%	B	B ⁺	2.1
Second	60% to 69%	C	B	2.2
Third	50% to 59%	D	C	3
Fail	0% to 49%	F	F	Fail
FABS	Failed Absent	F	F	Fail

¹ Health Science programmes commence in January and finish Mid December

² Professional Clinical programmes in Health Sciences are longer than the assumed 30 weeks full time academic year