

## Activity Unit Guidance

Typically, in calculating student hours for our courses, course authors have chosen from two categories for unit measure, Lecture or Laboratory. There is a third option, as provided by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) and Title V, the Activity unit. [YCCD Board Policy](#) has recently been modified to allow the existence and use of the Activity unit. See table below taken from the CCCCCO [Program and Course Approval Handbook](#) (PCAH):

Instructional Category	Units of Credit	In-Class Total Hours	Outside-of-Class Total Hours	Total Student Hours
<b>Lecture</b> (Lecture, Discussion, Seminar, and Related Work)	1	18	36	54
<b>Activity</b> (Activity, Lab w/Homework, Studio, and Similar)	1	36	18	54
<b>Laboratory</b> (Traditional Lab, Natural Science Lab, Clinical, and Similar)	1	54	0	54

The Activity unit gives course authors a third option that might better describe their courses. In consultation local MJC faculty, administration, and with Columbia College faculty, a typical description of the attributes of the activity unit was developed. Typical Activity unit course attributes can be described as follows (not an exhaustive list):

- Mixed format class where lecture is intertwined with synchronous activities that further the understanding of the content being taught in real time. Instructor is typically the same instructor for both the lecture and activity course.
- May or may not be used as a separate course period; activities can be woven throughout the connected lecture portion of the course. Instructor is typically regularly interacting with students during activities, with multiple activities occurring throughout the class time. Activities commonly involve periods of lecturing to introduce the activity, and to follow-up and summarize. During group discussion, the instructor actively approaches student groups to guide the discussion when appropriate.
- Students typically work together in small groups on a structured activity facilitated by the instructor and the work of the group as a whole is also assessed in real time. Activities may include student use of technology for computerized simulations and practicing the use of discipline-appropriate software.
- Activity content can be a review of content covered in lecture class, just-in-time remediation embedded within the context of the college-level tasks, or an experiential learning style of introduction to new material that will be covered in the lecture course (Experience First Formalize Later (EFFL) pedagogy).

- Homework is assigned and graded, but not necessarily directly related to activities in that are completed in the classroom, but rather related to course learning objectives.
- Assessment of content covered during the activity may include proctored quizzes and exams, as well as homework.
- For art classes, student work will typically take place in an art studio setting, or synchronous online setting.
- Student hands-on work involves substantial interaction with the professor with continued or intermittent instructions from instructor.
- Student work may superficially resemble homework, but requires extra immediate direct professor interaction.
- Class capacity is typically based on connected lecture course class size capacity.
- In DE addendum, there is typically a synchronous component for the Activity unit.

It is recommended to check with AO if Activity units will affect articulation. As always, the determination of Activity units is proposed by discipline faculty and then reviewed during the curriculum review process.