What is ‘EFTSL’?

‘EFTSL’, or “Equivalent Full Time Student Load”, is a measure of the standard annual full time study load for a student who is enrolled in a course of study. An annual full time study load has an EFTSL value of 1.0.

The EFTSL value of a unit of study is the proportion of a standard full time student load for an academic year that would be undertaken by a student enrolled in that unit of study: for example, if the standard annual full time load in a course is eight units, each unit will have an EFTSL value of one-eighth of the annual full time load. This is one-eighth of 1.0, which gives each unit an EFTSL value of 0.125.

EFTSL values and credit points

CHC’s internal system for representing the workload of a unit is its credit point weighting.

A standard CHC unit carries a weighting of 10 credit points (cp) and has an EFTSL value of 0.125. The exception to this are units that are undertaken in the Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary), which carry a weighting of 10 credit points and have an EFTSL value of 0.1 (see below).

A number of CHC units have higher credit point weightings: either 20 credit points or 30 credit points. A 20 credit point unit has an EFTSL value of 0.25 (2 x 0.125), and a 30 credit point unit has an EFTSL value 0.375 (3 x 0.125).

EFTSL value of units undertaken in CHC courses

All standard units undertaken in CHC courses have an EFTSL value of 0.125. This means that eight units (80 credit points) per year, or four units (40 credit points) per semester¹, is the standard full time load for these courses.

The exception to this are standard units that are undertaken in the Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) (ED25), which have an EFTSL value of 0.1. This means that 10 units (100 credit points) per year, or five units (50 credit points) per semester¹, is the normal full time load for this course.

Students who are undertaking the accelerated track of the Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts enrol in 12 units (120 credit points) per academic year: five units (50 credit points) in Semester 1, two units (20 credit points) in Winter Semester² and five units (50 credit points) in Semester 2. These units retain the standard EFTSL value of 0.125, meaning that these students undertake a study load of 120 credit points, or 1.5 EFTSL, in the academic year, thereby completing the course in two academic years.

Please refer to the CHC Student Handbook and the Fees and Charges, Census Dates and Units on Offer information sheets on the CHC website for further details.

¹ Applies to Semesters 1 and 2 only.
² Winter Semester is available to students in the accelerated track of the Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts only.