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Sample Certificate Program in Human Lactation

This is one example of a certificate program. Each educational institution and regional authority has their own process for designating credit hours, pre-requisites, course sequencing, and expectations. General Education course examples fulfill the IBLCE requirements for general education and continuing education topics. This example uses a standard numbering system for a 16-week semester. Some institutions will operate on quarters and some may count only 15 weeks, so it depends on the standard used by that state or region. In this example, 1 hour of lecture per week reflects 16 classroom hours and awards 1 credit. This example identifies how competencies in the *Curriculum for a Program in Human Lactation* (available on the LEAARC website) can fit into a 1-year certificate program along with the possible number of didactic and clinical hours for each area. Also see *Curricular Approaches to Programs for Lactation Professionals*.

Semester I	Competency Area from <i>Curriculum for a Program in Human Lactation</i>
Overview of breastfeeding including communication, assessment, documentation, parent teaching, evidence-based practice, public health and policy.	Communication and Counseling Documentation and Communication History Taking and Assessment Prenatal and Perinatal Breastfeeding Support (minus problems) Extended Breastfeeding Support Public Health Legislation and Policy (from Research, Legislation and Policy)
Semester II	Competency Area from <i>Curriculum for a Program in Human Lactation</i>
Advanced concepts of breastfeeding including problem solving, use of devices, maternal and infant challenges, ethical professional practice and responsibilities as a lactation practitioner.	Problem-Solving Skills Problem Solving (from Prenatal and Perinatal Breastfeeding Support) Use of Techniques and Devices Newborn/Child Breastfeeding Challenges Maternal Breastfeeding Challenges Research (from Research, Legislation and Policy) Professional Responsibilities and Practice Leadership and Teaching

SEMESTER I	Competencies Covered	Lecture Hours	Clinical Hours	Contact Hours	Credit Hours
Communication and counseling	14	4		64	4
Fundamentals of breastfeeding	21	3	4	112	4
Assessment and documentation	13	3	4	112	4
Public health and policy	6	2		32	2
Semester I credit hours	54	12	8	320	14
SEMESTER II					
Problem solving and evidence-based practice	10	3	15	288	5
Breastfeeding challenges	22	3	15	288	5
Leadership and teaching	3	2		32	2
Transition to practice	5	2		32	2
Semester II credit hours	40	10	30	640	14
TOTAL HOURS		352	608	960	28