



O'Brien Center for Scholarly Publications
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Nov. 22, 2017

The College's Academic Regulation 2605 governs credit for journal participation:

Unit credit for journal participation. A member of a journal may earn one unit by writing a note that a member of the Distinguished; Tenure and Tenure Track Faculty; Long Term Contract Faculty; Lecturers; Permanent Visitors; and Emeritus faculty deems to be of "publishable quality." Subject to the rules of the particular journal, a member of a journal may satisfy the note-writing requirement with a paper written for a seminar or an independent study under the supervision of a faculty member that fulfills the requirements contained in §§2401-2406. Students may not receive a unit under this provision if they have received credit for the independent study or seminar.

Under this regulation, a student may earn one unit of academic credit for journal by writing a note that is certified as publishable quality by a faculty member (in addition to meeting the journal's other membership requirements). If the rules of the journal permit, a student may satisfy the note requirement with a paper written for a seminar or an independent study. A seminar or independent study paper supervised by a faculty member need not also be certified as publishable quality. However, a student who uses a seminar or independent study paper to satisfy a journal's note requirement **does not** receive any unit credit for journal.

A student cannot receive journal unit credit by modifying or expanding upon an independent study or seminar paper for a note. To receive journal units, the paper used to satisfy the note requirement must be an independent paper. While a note could be written in the same field as an independent study or seminar paper, ***the note would have to be on a distinct topic, or advance a distinct central thesis***, in order to be regarded as a separate paper. In cases of doubt, Tom McCarthy is available to help make such judgments.

Tom McCarthy
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Scholarly Publications
UC Hastings College of the Law