Arizona Board of Regents:

Policy 2-320 -- Academic Year Calendar

- The Academic Affairs Committee shall adopt academic year calendars setting the first day of instruction and the last day of final examinations for each university in the Arizona University System for the Fall and Spring semesters. The last day of the Fall semester must be no later than December 22. All variations from the approved dates must be authorized by the Committee at least one year in advance. Within the approved dates, each university may arrange its class and holiday schedule depending upon the needs of its students, local customs, and the requirements of Board Policy 2-224A, Definition of a Unit of Credit.

Policy 2-224A -- Academic Credit

An hour of work is the equivalent of 50 minutes of class time (often called a "contact hour") or 60 minutes of independent study work. A minimum of 45 hours of work by each student is required for each unit of credit. Ordinarily, a course must cover a one-week period for every unit of credit given. During summer sessions, however, six units of credit may be given over a five-week period.

1. At least 15 contact hours of recitation, lecture, discussion, testing or evaluation, seminar, or colloquium, as well as a minimum of 30 hours of student homework is required for each unit of credit;
2. Workshops must involve a minimum of 45 hours for each unit of credit, including a minimum of 15 contact hours, with the balance of the requirement in homework;
3. Studios must involve at least 30 contact hours and at least 15 hours of homework for each unit of credit;
4. Laboratory courses require a minimum of 45 contact hours per unit of credit;
5. Field trips will be counted hour-for-hour as laboratory meetings;
6. Each unit of internship or practicum must require a minimum of 45 clock hours of work; and
7. Music instruction and specialized types of music performance offerings must conform to the requirement for accreditation of the National Association of Schools of Music.
8. Off-campus courses, regardless of mode of delivery, may be assigned credit based on competencies or learning outcomes that are acquired through coursework and are equivalent to those students in a traditional classroom setting. An equivalent of 45 hours of work by each student is required for each unit of credit.