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April 11, 2018

Supersedes Coded Memorandum ASA-2017-13
ASA-2018-06

CODED MEMORANDUM

TO: California Articulation Officers
FROM: Alison M. Wrynn, Ph.D. *ae m. wj*
State University Associate Dean, Academic Programs
SUBJECT: Systemwide Credit for External Examinations

Background

As directed in [Executive Order 1036](#), Section 1.2.4, the California State University (CSU) faculty has determined passing scores and, when appropriate, certification areas (for General Education Breadth and United States History, Constitution, and American Ideals) for CSU-approved standardized external examinations. The list is available as an attachment and may also be found [online](#) on the Cal State Apply website.

Updates

Updates to this coded memorandum include:

- a) An addition to the College Board Advanced Placement (AP) chart (AP Computer Science Principles);
- b) A new attachment that provides systemwide standards for Defense Language Institute/Defense Language Placement Tests based on American Council on Education recommendations; and
- c) A revision to the AP, College-Level Examination Program and International Baccalaureate charts. The “Minimum Semester Credits Earned towards Admission” column was removed as these units are determined by the admitting CSU campus.

Implementation

Note that each CSU campus determines how it will apply external examinations toward credit in the major. For students not already certified in General Education (GE) and/or American Institutions, the campus also determines how to apply credit from such exams toward the local degree requirements.

CSU Campuses
Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

Credit Awarded Through Associate Degrees for Transfer

When within the Associate Degree for Transfer (AA-T/AS-T), a California Community College awards course equivalency credit for a CSU-approved standardized external examination – and the student’s transcript is annotated to reflect the course to which credit was earned by examination – the CSU campus shall accept the course units awarded. These units shall be applied toward the lower-division minimum unit requirement for the CSU degree and, if applicable, toward meeting the minimum unit designation for the CSU major or CSU GE-Breadth requirements. For CSU campuses, entry of this credit to a student’s record can be accomplished through multiple methods. In the Common Management System, campuses may use “test credits” (automated or manual) functionality or “other credits” functionality to award the credit.

If there are any questions about test-credit entry, please contact Darlene Daclan, director of Academic Affairs Business Systems, at ddaclan@calstate.edu. If you have any other questions please contact me at awrynn@calstate.edu or (562) 951-4603.

Attachments

- c: Dr. Loren J. Blanchard, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
- Mr. Eric Forbes, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Student Academic Services
- Dr. Christine Mallon, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Programs and Faculty Development
- State University Dean, Academic Programs
- Dr. April Grommo, Director, Enrollment Management Services
- Ms. Darlene Daclan, Director, Academic Affairs Business Systems
- Dr. Karen Simpson-Alisca, Assistant Director, Undergraduate Transfer Programs and Policy

College Board Advanced Placement Tests

College Board Advanced Placement Tests	Minimum Passing Score	Semester Credits Toward GE Breadth Certification	American Institutions and/or GE Breadth Area*	Removal Date for GE Breadth**	Notes
AP Art History	3	3	C1 or C2		
AP Biology	3	4	B2+B3		
AP Calculus AB	3	3	B4		If a student passes more than one AP exam in calculus or computer science, only one examination may be applied to the baccalaureate.
AP Calculus BC	3	3	B4		
AP Calculus BC/ AB Subscore	3	3	B4		
AP Chemistry	3	6	B1+B3	F09	
AP Chemistry	3	4	B1+B3		
AP Chinese Language and Culture	3	3	C2		
AP Comparative Government & Politics	3	3	D		
AP Computer Science A	3	0	n/a		If a student passes more than one AP exam in calculus or computer science, only one examination may be applied to the baccalaureate.
AP Computer Science AB	3	0	n/a		
AP Computer Science Principles	3	3	B4		
AP English Language and Composition	3	3	A2		
AP English Literature and Composition	3	6	A2+C2		
AP Environmental Science	3	4	B2+B3	F09	Students who pass AP Environmental Science earn 4 units of credit. Tests prior to Fall 2009 may apply to either B1+B3 or B2+B3 of GE Breadth. Fall of 2009 or later, those credits may only apply to B1+B3.
AP Environmental Science	3	4	B1+B3		
AP European History	3	3	C2 or D		
AP French Language	3	6	C2	F09	
AP French Language	3	3	C2	F11	
AP French Language and Culture	3	3	C2		
AP French Literature	3	3	C2	F09	
AP German Language	3	6	C2	F09	
AP German Language	3	3	C2	F11	
AP German Language and Culture	3	3	C2		
AP Human Geography	3	3	D		
AP Italian Language and Culture	3	3	C2		
AP Japanese Language and Culture	3	3	C2		
AP Latin Literature	3	3	C2	F09	
AP Latin	3	3	C2		
AP Latin: Vergil	3	3	C2	F12	
AP Macroeconomics	3	3	D		

College Board Advanced Placement Tests

College Board Advanced Placement Tests	Minimum Passing Score	Semester Credits Toward GE Breadth Certification	American Institutions and/or GE Breadth Area*	Removal Date for GE Breadth**	Notes
AP Microeconomics	3	3	D		
AP Music Theory	3	3	C1	F09	
AP Physics 1	3	4	B1+B3		If a student passes more than one AP exam in physics, only six units of credit may be applied to the baccalaureate, and only four units of credit may be applied to a certification in GE Breadth.
AP Physics 2	3	4	B1+B3		
AP Physics B	3	6	B1+B3	F09	
AP Physics B	3	4	B1+B3	F15	
AP Physics C (electricity/magnetism)	3	4	B1+B3		
AP Physics C (mechanics)	3	4	B1+B3		
AP Psychology	3	3	D		
AP Seminar	3	0	n/a		
AP Spanish Language	3	6	C2	S14	
AP Spanish Language and Culture	3	3	C2		
AP Spanish Literature	3	6	C2	S13	
AP Spanish Literature and Culture	3	3	C2		
AP Statistics	3	3	B4		
AP Studio Art - 2D Design	3	0	n/a		
AP Studio Art - 3D Design	3	0	n/a		
AP Studio Art - Drawing	3	0	n/a		
AP U.S. Government & Politics	3	3	D+US-2		
AP U.S. History	3	3	(C2 or D)+US-1		
AP World History	3	3	C2 or D		
			*Areas of GE Breadth (A1 through E) are defined in EO 1100 Revised (August 23, 2017). Areas of American Institutions (US-1 through US-3) are set forth in Sections IA and IB of EO 1061, and at assist.org.	**Students seeking certification in GE Breadth prior to transfer must have passed the test before this date.	

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)	Passing Score	Semester Credits Toward GE Breadth Certification	American Institutions and/or GE Breadth Area*	Removal Date for GE Breadth**	Notes
CLEP American Government	50	3	D		
CLEP American Literature	50	3	C2		
CLEP Analyzing and Interpreting Literature	50	3	C2		
CLEP Biology	50	3	B2		
CLEP Calculus	50	3	B4		
CLEP Chemistry	50	3	B1		
CLEP College Algebra	50	3	B4		
CLEP College Algebra - Trigonometry	50	3	B4		
CLEP College Composition	50	0	n/a		
CLEP College Composition – Modular	50	0	n/a		
CLEP College Mathematics	50	0	n/a		
CLEP English Composition (no essay)	50	0	n/a		
CLEP English Composition with Essay	50	0	n/a		
CLEP English Literature	50	3	C2	F11	
CLEP Financial Accounting	50	0	n/a		
CLEP French Level I	50	0	n/a		<p>For CLEP tests in the same language other than English:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only one exam score may be applied towards the CSU degree. • A passing score of 50 is considered "Level I" and earns six units of baccalaureate credit • A passing score higher than 50 is considered "Level II" and earns additional units of credit and placement in Area C2 of GE Breadth
CLEP French Level II	59	3	C2	F15	
CLEP French Level II	59	3	C2		
CLEP Freshman College Composition	50	0	n/a		
CLEP German Level I	50	0	n/a		<p>For CLEP tests in the same language other than English:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only one exam score may be applied towards the CSU degree. • A passing score of 50 is considered "Level I" and earns six units of baccalaureate credit • A passing score higher than 50 is considered "Level II" and earns additional units of credit and placement in Area C2 of GE Breadth
CLEP German Level II	60	3	C2	F15	
CLEP German Level II	60	3	C2		
CLEP History, United States I	50	3	D+US-1		
CLEP History, United States II	50	3	D+US-1		
CLEP Human Growth and Development	50	3	E		
CLEP Humanities	50	3	C2		
CLEP Information Systems and Computer Applications	50	0	n/a		
CLEP Introduction to Educational Psychology	50	0	n/a		
CLEP Introductory Business Law	50	0	n/a		
CLEP Introductory Psychology	50	3	D		
CLEP Introductory Sociology	50	3	D		
CLEP Natural Sciences	50	3	B1 or B2		
CLEP Pre-Calculus	50	3	B4		
CLEP Principles of Accounting	50	0	n/a		
CLEP Principles of Macroeconomics	50	3	D		
CLEP Principles of Management	50	0	n/a		

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)	Passing Score	Semester Credits Toward GE Breadth Certification	American Institutions and/or GE Breadth Area*	Removal Date for GE Breadth**	Notes
CLEP Principles of Marketing	50	0	n/a		
CLEP Principles of Microeconomics	50	3	D		
CLEP Social Sciences and History	50	0	n/a		
CLEP Spanish Level I	50	0	n/a		If a student passes more than one CLEP test in the same language other than English, then only one examination may be applied to the baccalaureate. For each test in a language other than English, a passing score of 50 is considered "Level I" and earns six units of baccalaureate credit; the higher score listed for each test is considered "Level II" and earns additional units of credit and placement in Area C2 of GE Breadth, as noted.
CLEP Spanish Level II	63	3	C2	F15	
CLEP Spanish Level II	63	3	C2		
CLEP Trigonometry	50	3	B4	F06	
CLEP Western Civilization I	50	3	C2 or D		
CLEP Western Civilization II	50	3	D		
			*Areas of GE Breadth (A1 through E) are defined in EO 1100 Revised (August 23, 2017). Areas of American Institutions (US-1 through US-3) are set forth in Sections IA and IB of EO 1061, and at assist.org.	**Students seeking certification in GE Breadth prior to transfer must have passed the test before this date.	

International Baccalaureate

International Baccalaureate	Passing Score	Semester Credits Toward GE Breadth Certification	American Institutions and/or GE Breadth Area*	Removal Date for GE Breadth**	Notes
IB Biology HL	5	3	B2		
IB Chemistry HL	5	3	B1		
IB Economics HL	5	3	D		
IB Geography HL	5	3	D		
IB History (any region) HL	5	3	C2 or D		
IB Language A Literature HL	4	3	C2		
IB Language A Language and Literature HL	4	3	C2		
IB Language A1 (any language) HL	4	3	C2	F13	
IB Language A2 (any language) HL	4	3	C2	F13	
IB Language B (any language) HL	4	0	n/a		The IB curriculum offers language at various levels for native and non-native speakers. Language B courses are offered at the intermediate level for non-natives. Language A1 and A2 are advanced courses in literature for native and non-native speakers, respectively.
IB Mathematics HL	4	3	B4		
IB Physics HL	5	3	B1		
IB Psychology HL	5	3	D		
IB Theatre HL	4	3	C1		
			*Areas of GE Breadth (A1 through E) are defined in EO 1100 Revised (August 23, 2017). Areas of American Institutions (US-1 through US-3) are set forth in Sections IA and IB of EO 1061, and at assist.org.	**Students seeking certification in GE Breadth prior to transfer must have passed the test before this date.	

Appendix 4: Guidance for Assigning Academic Credit for the Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) Passing Scores

Utilizing the American Council on Education (ACE) recommendations as described below, three lower division semester hours for language shall equate to three semester units (or their quarter equivalent) in CSU GE Breadth Subarea C2. When assigning academic credit using the DLPT, campus articulation officers and credit transfer evaluators should refer to the ACE [National Guide to College Credit for Workforce Training](#). This ACE online guide organizes foreign language test scores and credit recommendations by language, version of test and modality of language. The Guide then provides lower and upper division credit recommendations based on the DLPT test score in the following modalities: *listening, reading, and oral*. Campuses may continue to award additional GE and/or major course credit as they have done in the past. An internal CSU guide for reviewing the DLPT is posted on the CSU Veterans Affairs SharePoint site ([here](#)).

Documentation

The following documents may be accepted to award DLPT GE or course credit:

- Official Defense Language Institute Foreign Language (DLIFLC) Transcripts
- Official Joint Services Transcripts (JST)
- Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) DLPT Examinee Results
- DA Form 330 Language Proficiency Questionnaire

If there are any questions about DLPT test documents or ACE's National Guide to College Credit for Workforce Training as it applies to the DPLT, please contact Dr. Patrick O'Rourke, Director of Active Duty and Veterans Affairs at porourke@calstate.edu or (562) 951-4130.