

MEMORANDUM

TO: Matt Hudelson, Executive Secretary
Faculty Senate

FROM: Becky Bitter, Registrar's Office

FOR: Registrar's Office

DATE: 14 October 2020

SUBJECT: Proposal to Revise Rule 17, Credit for Prior Learning

On October 13, 2020, AAC approved a revision to Rule 17, Credit for Prior Learning. The revision adds a statement specifying that prior learning credit, like other examination credit, does not count in the WSU grade point average.

The inserted statement is similar to the text in Rule 15, Credit by Examination, which states: "...Credits by examination shall yield no grade points."

17. CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

Prior learning is defined as the knowledge and skills gained through informal education and training, work, and life experience. WSU assesses academic credit for prior learning through approved academic department challenge examinations and, under limited circumstances, WSU departmental placement examinations. Students should consult with academic units to determine if such an assessment is warranted and available.

1. Challenge Examinations. Matriculated students currently registered at Washington State University, with permission of their advisor or department chairperson and of the chairperson of the department offering the course, may take challenge examinations for university credit in courses in which they are not registered. Students may not take challenge examinations in courses which they have audited, or in which they have received a final grade. Upper-division students may not receive credit by challenge examination in lower-division courses in their major field. Undergraduate students may not receive credit by challenge examination in any course prerequisite to a course in which they are enrolled or have received a final grade. The maximum credit for challenge examinations is 25% of the credits need for a degree unless permission is obtained from the student's academic dean. Consult the Registrar's Office for challenge exam fees.

2. WSU Placement Assessments. Under limited circumstances, and in accordance with policies established by the university, some departments may grant credit or curricular advancement based on certain placement or proficiency exams. Consult the department for information on eligibility, applicable fees, and other relevant policies.

Academic credit for prior learning is awarded only at the undergraduate level for documented student achievement evaluated by faculty and equivalent to expected learning outcomes for courses within WSU's regular curricular offerings, and it is limited to a maximum of 25% of the credits needed for a degree. Credit that is granted for prior learning is identified on students' transcripts and may not duplicate other credit awarded to the student in fulfillment of degree requirements. Credit awarded for prior learning shall yield no grade points. WSU does not accept academic credit for prior learning as transcribed by other institutions.

At this time, Faculty Senate review and approval is recommended, to be effective fall 2021.