

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Amy Nielsen, Executive Secretary  
Faculty Senate

**FROM:** Becky Bitter, Registrar's Office

**FOR:** Academic Affairs Committee

**DATE:** 16 March 2020

**SUBJECT:** Proposal to Revise Rules 6, 15, 16, and 17

At its meeting on March 10, 2020, AAC approved a proposal to revise Rules 6 (Transfer Credit), 15 (Credit by Examinations), 16 (Military Credit), and 17 (Credit for Prior Learning). The proposal was submitted to update the rules to reflect current policy and practice, as well as to provide further definition to the reader about important terminology. The revision also moves some of the text from one rule to another for greater organizational clarity.

The proposal is supported by the Office of Admissions, the Transfer Clearinghouse, and the Provost's Office.

Each rule is presented with markup copy, followed by the clean copy.

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## 6. TRANSFER CREDIT

For regionally accredited, college-level academic transfer credit, one set of transfer course articulation tables will be used for course evaluation by all campuses in the WSU system. The tables used by all campuses for evaluation of transfer courses is maintained and monitored by WSU Pullman Admissions transcript evaluators and the Transfer Clearinghouse in consultation with academic units. Transfer credit is awarded based on appropriateness for WSU's academic programs and comparableness in nature, content, academic rigor, and quality to WSU's curriculum. Transfer credit equivalencies are subject to change.

- a. Colleges and universities must be regionally accredited for transfer credit to be awarded. Transfer credit awarded from regionally accredited institutions on the quarter system is converted to 0.67 semester credits.
- b. Ninety semester hours shall be the maximum allowed by transfer toward a baccalaureate degree.
- c. The maximum combined lower-division transfer credit allowed [from regionally accredited institutions, CLEP (College Level Examination Program), AP (Advanced Placement), IB (International Baccalaureate), Cambridge International, military, and any other source] shall

be 73 semester credits ~~hours~~ toward a baccalaureate degree irrespective of when those hours were earned.

- d. Junior status, 60 semester credits ~~hours~~, and completion of lower-division University Common Requirements (UCOREs) normally will be granted to students who have been awarded the Direct Transfer Associate (DTA) degree from a Washington state public community college and technical college. Additional courses, up to the 73-semester credit hour limit, will be reviewed for transfer on a course-by-course basis. Certain approved associate degrees may also be considered to have fulfilled The Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer (AAOT) degree from an Oregon community college guarantees completion of the lower-division UCORE for graduation, provided the degree's general education curriculum approximates the disciplinary breadth of WSU's UCORE curriculum, University Common Requirements (UCOREs), but does not guarantee junior status or 60 semester credits hours. Certain approved associate degrees from Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Idaho may also be considered to have fulfilled the lower-division University Common Requirements (UCOREs) for graduation, but do not guarantee junior status or 60 semester credit hours. Completion of lower-division UCORE will be granted to students who have been certified by their institution as having completed the University of California Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education Breadth Curriculum. For details on specific degrees consult the Office of Admissions and the Transfer Clearinghouse.
- e. Reverse transfer allows students to complete an associate's degree after transfer to WSU. Policy details and credit levels vary depending on the community or technical college. Students who enter WSU with at least ~~60~~ 30 transferable quarter credits (~~40-20~~ semester credits) from a Washington state public community college or technical college will receive the support of the Transfer Clearinghouse to complete the steps for reverse transfer. Students who enter WSU and later complete one of the associate degrees listed in Rule 6(d) or (f) will receive the benefits described in Rule 6(d) or (f).
- f. Students who have completed the Associate of Science Transfer (AS-T) degree from a Washington state public community and technical college normally will receive the same priority consideration for admission as they would for completing the Direct Transfer Associate (DTA) and will be given junior status and 60 semester credits ~~hours~~. Up to four additional courses that meet the UCORE University Common Requirements (UCOREs) must be met prior to the completion of a baccalaureate degree, and an individual course completed within the AS-T degree may not satisfy more than one UCORE category. Additional courses, up to the 73-semester credit hour limit, will be reviewed for transfer on a course-by-course basis.
- g. Completion of all UCORE University Common Requirements (UCOREs) and the University Writing Portfolio graduation requirement will be granted to students who have completed a baccalaureate degree from another regionally accredited institution or the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree from an accredited international institution, provided that the general education curriculum program approximates the standards of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities disciplinary breadth of WSU's UCORE curriculum. Approved degrees will also provide senior standing and 90 semester credits.

- h. Completion of lower-division UCOREs University Common Requirements (UCOREs) will be granted to students who have been certified by their institution as having completed the lower-division general education curriculum at their regionally accredited baccalaureate institution, provided the degree's general education curriculum approximates the disciplinary breadth of WSU's UCORE curriculum. Please consult the Office of Admissions or Transfer Clearinghouse for more information. University of California Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education Breadth Curriculum.
- ~~i. Completion of lower-division University Common Requirements (UCOREs) will be granted to students who have been certified as having completed the general education curriculum at their regionally accredited Washington baccalaureate institution.~~
- j. i. Other degrees will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis for fulfillment of requirements, in the absence of an approved articulation. Higher degrees do not necessarily fulfill baccalaureate degree requirements.
  - j. Transfer credit follows WSU policy for repeat credit (see Rule 34), academic forgiveness (see Rule 43), and grades and grade points (see Rule 90). Transfer credit graded below D is considered failing. Transfer credit grades do not count in the WSU grade point average (see Rule 114).

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- d. Junior status, 60 semester credits, and completion of lower-division University Common Requirements (UCOREs) normally will be granted to students who have been awarded the Direct Transfer Associate (DTA) degree from a Washington state public community and technical college. Additional courses, up to the 73-semester credit limit, will be reviewed

for transfer on a course-by-course basis. Certain approved associate degrees may also be considered to have fulfilled the lower-division UCORE for graduation, provided the degree's general education curriculum approximates the disciplinary breadth of WSU's UCORE curriculum, but do not guarantee junior status or 60 semester credits. Completion of lower-division UCORE will be granted to students who have been certified by their institution as having completed the University of California Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education Breadth Curriculum. For details on specific degrees consult the Office of Admissions and the Transfer Clearinghouse.

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- f. Students who have completed the Associate of Science Transfer (AS-T) degree from a Washington state public community and technical college normally will receive the same priority consideration for admission as they would for completing the Direct Transfer Associate (DTA) and will be given junior status and 60 semester credits. Up to four additional courses that meet the UCORE must be met prior to the completion of a baccalaureate degree, and an individual course completed within the AS-T degree may not satisfy more than one UCORE category. Additional courses, up to the 73-semester credit limit, will be reviewed for transfer on a course-by-course basis.
- g. Completion of all UCORE and the University Writing Portfolio graduation requirement will be granted to students who have completed a baccalaureate degree from another regionally accredited institution or the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree from an accredited international institution, provided that the general education curriculum disciplinary breadth of WSU's UCORE curriculum. Approved degrees will also provide senior standing and 90 semester credits.
- h. Completion of lower-division UCOREs will be granted to students who have been certified as having completed the lower-division general education curriculum at their regionally accredited baccalaureate institution, provided the degree's general education curriculum approximates the disciplinary breadth of WSU's UCORE curriculum. Please consult the Office of Admissions or Transfer Clearinghouse for more information.
- i. Other degrees will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis for fulfillment of requirements, in the absence of an approved articulation. Higher degrees do not necessarily fulfill baccalaureate degree requirements.
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## 15. CREDIT BY EXAMINATIONS

CREDIT BY EXAMINATIONS. Subject to standards established in consultation with academic departments concerned, credit may be granted to entering or enrolled undergraduate or professional students via various means including external examinations, ~~institutional examinations, approved military service schools, and prior learning assessment.~~ Approved external examinations include: Advanced Placement (AP) Program examinations of the College Entrance Examinations Board; some general and subject College Level Examination Program (CLEP); the International Baccalaureate (IB) Examinations; and Cambridge International Examinations.

WSU does not accept credit by examination as transcribed by other institutions. Students must ~~provide request~~ request official score reports to be sent directly to WSU. Acceptable scores for receiving credit are published online at ~~<https://transfercredit.wsu.edu/types-of-credit/credit-by-exam/>~~ <https://transfercredit.wsu.edu/types-of-credit/credit-by-exam/> [wsu.edu/advancedcredit.](https://transfercredit.wsu.edu/types-of-credit/credit-by-exam/)

Credits by examination shall yield no grade points. Such credits may partially fulfill University Common Requirements (UCOREs) for graduation. ~~External examinations will include but not be limited to: Advanced Placement (AP) Program examinations of the College Entrance Examinations Board; general and subject College Level Examination Program (CLEP); the International Baccalaureate (IB) Examinations; and Cambridge International Examinations.~~ Duplicate credit for the same subject taken on different exams like Cambridge A-level or A-S level, AP, or IB will not be granted. Advanced credit policies are reviewed on a regular basis and are subject to change.

Students may request to take a course at WSU for which they have been awarded AP, IB, CLEP, or Cambridge International credit. Prompted by the request, the AP, IB, CLEP, or Cambridge International credit is removed from the overall credits awarded by WSU. Only the subsequent enrollment in the WSU course will contribute to the total ~~hours~~ credits earned and grade point average; the AP, IB, CLEP, or Cambridge International credit cannot be reconsidered for credit for the same course. Students submit the request to ask for the WSU course to be allowed and for the AP, IB, CLEP, or Cambridge International credit to be omitted to the Registrar's Office.

(a) Advanced Placement Program. Credit for AP examinations will be granted at the lower-division for scores of 3 and above, as determined in consultation with the specific academic department. The acceptable score for receiving credit is published online at [wsu.edu/advancedcredit.](https://transfercredit.wsu.edu/types-of-credit/credit-by-exam/)

(b) College Level Examination Program (CLEP). General and Subject Examinations: Credit for CLEP will be granted if the examination is passed with scores established in consultation with the academic department concerned. Credit will be granted for scores of 50 or above. Credit will be granted for the comparable Washington State University course, or elective credit may be granted. Not more than 6 semester ~~hours of~~ credits will be granted for each examination.

~~(c) 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 30 semester hours unless permission is obtained from the student's academic dean. Consult the Registrar's Office for challenge exam fees.~~

~~(d) Peace Corps and Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) Credit for training in the Peace Corps or VISTA will be granted for having completed specific courses, under regular catalog course numbers, as shown on a regular transcript from a regionally accredited college or university.~~

~~(e) WSU Placement Examinations. Credit for WSU departmental placement examinations will be granted in accordance with policies established by the university and academic departments.~~

~~(f) (c) International Baccalaureate (IB) Examinations. Credit is awarded for standard and higher-level examinations with a score of 4 or higher with the exception of non-English Language A exams. See [wsu.edu/advancedcredit](http://wsu.edu/advancedcredit) for course-by-course equivalencies. Please contact the Transfer Clearinghouse for additional details.~~

~~(g) (d) Cambridge International Examinations. Credit is awarded for A-level examinations.~~

~~(e) DSST and Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT). See Academic Regulation 16.~~

~~(h) Military Service Credit. See Academic Regulation 16.~~

~~(i) Prior Learning Credit. See Academic Regulation 17.~~

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Students may request to take a course at WSU for which they have been awarded AP, IB, CLEP, or Cambridge International credit. Prompted by the request, the AP, IB, CLEP, or Cambridge International credit is removed from the overall credits awarded by WSU. Only the subsequent enrollment in the WSU course will contribute to the total credits earned and grade point average; the AP, IB, CLEP, or Cambridge International credit cannot be reconsidered for credit for the same course. Students submit the request to ask for the WSU course to be allowed and for the AP, IB, CLEP, or Cambridge International credit to be omitted to the Registrar's Office.

(a) Advanced Placement Program. Credit for AP examinations will be granted at the lower-division for scores of 3 and above, as determined in consultation with the specific academic department. The acceptable score for receiving credit is published online at [wsu.edu/advancedcredit](http://wsu.edu/advancedcredit).

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(d) Cambridge International Examinations. Credit is awarded for A-level examinations.

(e) DSST and Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT). See Academic Regulation 16.

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## 16. MILITARY CREDIT

Credit will be evaluated on the basis of military transcripts received from active duty military and veterans pursuing an education at WSU. Military credit is limited to a maximum of thirty [30] semester credits.

(+) Transcript Credit:

(a) WSU uses the American Council on Education (ACE) "A Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services" as a framework for evaluating transferable credit documented on the military transcripts (Joint Services Transcript and Community College of the Air Force).

(b) ACE recommendations for the amount and level of credit (upper-division or lower-division) are followed if the military course (non-vocational/technical) is applicable to university or departmental requirements.

(-) (c) DSST and DEFENSE LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY DANTES Test Credit: Credit for DSST (formerly DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs) and Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) will be granted for college-level academic subjects (non-vocational/technical) using

the minimum score and credit amount based on ACE recommendations ~~of the American Council on Education~~.

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### **16. MILITARY CREDIT**

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Transcript Credit:

(a) WSU uses the American Council on Education (ACE) "A Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services" as a framework for evaluating transferable credit documented on the Joint Services Transcript.

(b) ACE recommendations for the amount and level of credit (upper-division or lower-division) are followed if the military course (non-vocational/technical) is applicable to university or departmental requirements.

(c) DSST and DEFENSE LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY Test Credit: Credit for DSST (formerly DANTES Subject Standardized Tests) and Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) will be granted for college-level academic subjects (non-vocational/technical) using the minimum score and credit amount based on ACE recommendations.

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### **17. ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING**

ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING. Prior learning is defined as the knowledge and skills gained through informal education and training, work, and life experience. ~~Prior learning assessment (PLA) is the process used to evaluate such experience for academic credit.~~ 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. WSU does not accept academic credit for prior learning as transcribed by other institutions.

~~(a) Prior learning credit is awarded only at the undergraduate level and is limited to a maximum of 25% of the credits needed for a degree.~~

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At this time, Faculty Senate review and approval is recommended, to be effective fall 2020.

