

# Advanced Placement and Transfer of Credit

Incoming students may receive credit toward graduation for three kinds of prior achievement: (1) successful completion of college-level course work in secondary school, as measured by performance on the College Board Advanced Placement Program examination; (2) successful completion of approved liberal arts courses taken while enrolled in high school, for which credit appears on the transcript of an accredited college or university; and (3) work completed in International Baccalaureate programs (see below). Students receiving advanced credit cannot duplicate their coursework while enrolled at Oberlin.

Oberlin does **not** grant credit for CLEP (College Level Examination Program) and other programs of credit by examination where the examination is not tied in with completion of specific courses leading up to the tests. Nor does the College grant academic credit to the incoming student for experiential learning programs unless these programs were approved for credit at the college or university where the student was enrolled at the time. Oberlin does not grant credit for correspondence courses, extension courses, or continuing education.

Specific questions about the transfer of credits to the College should be addressed to: Office of the Registrar, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH 44074, (440) 775-8450.

## INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Oberlin will grant up to a total of 28 hours of credit toward graduation for performance on IB exams. 8 hours of credit are awarded for each higher-level course completed with a score of 6 or 7 and four hours of credit are awarded for each higher-level course completed with a score of 5. The guidelines for approval of IB credit vary from department to department. Please consult the course catalog for departmental practices. Students planning to take additional hours in subjects in which they receive IB credit must negotiate with the depart-

ment involved with respect to meeting major credit and/or other course prerequisites. In some instances it may be necessary for a student to relinquish some IB credit initially earned if the work is to be counted toward a major. In any case, no credit toward an Oberlin degree will be granted for IB work done in Organizational Studies.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT

The guidelines for approval of AP credit vary from department to department. In some cases, a representative or committee of the department makes the final determination of credit; in others, the credit is given automatically for a specified level of achievement.

In the case of departments that review AP exams individually, the examination booklets must be furnished. *First year students* should request that AP score reports be sent to Oberlin; the College will then request the examination booklets directly from the College Board. *Transfer students* must request that score reports and the original test booklets be sent to Oberlin.

For students who have not taken the AP exam, *most departments provide their own placement test* or information mechanisms through which the prepared student may waive introductory course requirements. In such cases, however, *credit toward graduation is not given*.

Following is a summary of current departmental practices:

### Art History

The Department of Art grants no exemptions and no major credit in Art History for AP work, although students earning a score of 5 on the AP test will be granted three (3) general credits on the Oberlin transcript. The Department offers no credit and no exemption for AP work in Studio Art.

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## **Biology**

Students earning a score of 4 on the AP Biology exam will receive four (4) hours of natural science credit applied toward graduation requirements. Four (4) hours of biology major credit, designated as Biology 605, are automatically granted to students earning a score of 5 on the AP exam. Students granted AP credit in biology who intend to major in biology are exempted from taking the introductory sequence (Biology 100/ 101 and 102) but must still complete the 27-hour minimum for the major. Students with AP credit must still take at least five laboratory units.

## **Chemistry**

Students with AP scores of 4 or 5 receive eight (8) hours of credit, (equivalent to 101 and 102. Students earning a 3 receive four (4) hours of credit (equivalent to 101) and have the option of placement in Chemistry 102 or 103.

## **Computer Science**

Students who have received a score of 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement AB exam in Computer Science are awarded eight (8) hours of credit equivalent to Computer Science 150 and 151. Students who have received a score of 3 on the AB exam or a score of 3 or higher on the A examination are awarded four (4) hours of credit equivalent to Computer Science 150. In some cases the AP examination booklet may be reviewed by the Computer Science faculty before credit is granted.

## **English**

Students will receive three (3) hours of Oberlin College credit for a score of 5 on the AP exam in English Literature/Composition or English Language/Composition, and will be eligible for entry into intermediate (200-level) courses in English.

## **Environmental Science**

An AP exam score of 4 or 5 will earn four (4) hours of credit in Natural Sciences and Mathematics only and do not count toward the Environmental Studies Major.

## **French**

Students who have received a score of 4 or 5 on the AP exam in French Language or French Literature will be awarded three (3) hours of Oberlin College credit as French 300 and will be qualified to enter the Oberlin French curriculum at the 300-level. AP credit (French 300) counts toward the French Major.

## **German**

Scores of 4 or 5 on the AP exam will automatically receive three (3) hours of college credit as German 300. All students must take the departmental placement exam to determine the appropriate level for further study.

## **History**

Students with a score of 4 or 5 on the U.S. History AP exam will be awarded four (4) hours of credit. Students with a score of 4 or 5 on the AP European History exam will be awarded three (3) hours of credit. Students with a score of 4 or 5 on the World History AP exam will be awarded three (3) hours of credit.

## **Latin**

A score of 4 or 5 on the AP exam is required for the award of college credit.

## **Mathematics**

Students scoring 4 or 5 on the BC examination receive eight (8) hours of credit, equivalent to Mathematics 133 and 134. Students scoring a 3 on the BC examination in calculus with an AB sub-score of 4 or 5 receive four (4) hours of credit, equivalent to Mathematics 133. Students scoring 4 or 5 on the AB examination receive four (4) hours of credit, equivalent to Mathematics 133. Students scoring 4 or 5 on the examination in statistics receive four (4) hours of credit, equivalent to Mathematics 113.

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## Music

Students with a score of 4 or 5 on the AP exams in Music Theory are granted credit for three (3) hours per exam, which is entered on the transcript as "AP-Music Theory". The credit may be counted only as free elective credit toward requirements for majors leading toward Conservatory degrees.

## Physics

Students earning a score of 4 on the Physics B exam will receive four (4) hours of credit for Physics 103; students earning a score of 5 will receive eight (8) hours of credit for Physics 103 and 104. Students earning a score of 4 or 5 on the Physics C exam (Mechanics) will receive four (4) hours of credit for Physics 110. Students earning a score of 5 on the Physics C exam (Electricity & Magnetism) will receive four (4) hours of credit for Physics 111.

## Politics

Students with a score of 5 on AP examinations in American government, comparative politics, or general political science will be awarded three (3) hours of credit towards graduation and the major. Such credit will count as an introductory course.

## Psychology

Students who receive a 4 or 5 on the AP Psychology exam will be exempt from the requirement to take The Study of Behavior (Psychology 100) and will receive three (3) credit hours at the 100 level toward requirements and graduation.

## Spanish

Scores of 4 and 5 on the Spanish language exam receive three (3) hours of college credit as Spanish 300, qualifying students to work at the 300 level.

## GENERAL POLICY

Oberlin College permits credit earned at other fully accredited colleges and universities to be applied to the requirements for the Oberlin degree, provided that the following two criteria are satisfied:

1. The student has done C level work or better.
2. The course work falls within the scope of a liberal arts/conservatory curriculum.

In the cases where the eligibility of a particular course is unclear, the final decision is made by the chairperson of the appropriate department, program, curricular committee, or Conservatory division director or other designated faculty member.

Special regulations apply to work done in foreign countries or at non-degree-granting institutions (for example, foreign and domestic institutes). For information on these and other special cases, contact the Office of the Registrar.

## TIME LIMITS

Students have one calendar year from the completion of course work or a qualifying event (e.g., receipt of scores from an Advanced Placement exam or an International Baccalaureate) in which to request the credits be transferred.

## NUMERICAL LIMITS

1. An Arts and Sciences student may transfer no more than 16 semester hours of credit for each semester (10 semester hours for each quarter). A Conservatory/double degree student is limited to 17 per semester (11.3 semester hours for each quarter).

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2. Oberlin will not grant more than 30 semester hours credit for work (including Advanced Placement credit and credit for work done in "thirteenth-year" programs such as the International Baccalaureate and French Baccalaureate programs) done before a student has matriculated in a college program. Transfer students may apply a *maximum* of 56 hours for Arts and Sciences and 62 for Conservatory. Double degree students may transfer no more than 76 hours of credit.

## LIMITS TO CREDITS APPLICABLE TOWARD MAJOR

Credit accepted for transfer is *not automatically credit that can be applied toward the major*. Application of credits earned elsewhere toward the completion of major requirements at Oberlin is granted only with departmental, program, Individual Major Committee, or Conservatory division director(s) approval. Students who wish to apply a substantial amount of credit earned elsewhere toward their major should consult with the appropriate department or program when making plans to transfer to Oberlin.

## MUSIC CREDIT

Music credit is granted only for work taken after the student has matriculated in college, except for advanced placement (AP) credit administered by The College Board. For additional information regarding transfer of music credit, see the current Course Catalog.