

## Placement, Credit by Examination and Transfer Credit for Undergraduate Degrees

From [College of William and Mary Undergraduate Program Catalog](#)

### College Board Advanced Placement

Entering students interested in receiving academic credit and/or advanced placement for college level work undertaken before entering William and Mary should take the College Board Advanced Placement Examination. Advanced Placement Examinations may be taken in art, art history, American history, biology, classical languages, chemistry, computer science, economics, English, environmental science, European history, government, human geography, mathematics, modern languages and literatures, music, physics, psychology and statistics. These examinations are graded by the College Entrance Examination Board on a 5 point scale.

The policies in each department governing credit and/or advanced placement for scores on AP examinations vary according to how the material covered by examinations fits the curriculum of the department. Members of the William and Mary faculty are actively engaged with the College Board in the development and grading of AP examinations.

In most departments, academic credit and/or advanced placement is routinely awarded based on the test score. In some cases, the Advanced Placement Examinations are reviewed by the faculty in the appropriate department at William and Mary to determine whether advanced placement and/or academic credit is warranted, using the content of the College's introductory course as a guide.

Credit received through the Advanced Placement program may be applied toward degree requirements, including proficiency, General Education Requirements, minor and major requirements. However, mere exemptions from courses may not be applied toward General Education Requirements. Only awarded credit may apply toward these.

The College of William and Mary grants credit or course exemptions in the following areas for Advanced Placement Examinations:

Advanced Placement Exemption	Score	Course and Credit Granted	Course (No
APIEL (International Departmental Review	4 or 5	Departmental Review	)

English Language)

Art History	5	Art History 251 (3) Art History 252 (3)
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Art Studio Drawing	5	Portfolio Review for Art 211 or 212 (3)
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Art Studio: Art 2-D Design		Portfolio Review
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Art Studio: Art 3-D Design		Portfolio Review
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Biology Biology 200,203,204	5	Biology 100 (3)  Biology 102 (1)
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If a student elects to enroll in Biology 203 and/or 204, the 3 credits will not be applied towards either the major or minor and instead will be applied towards general graduation credit. Likewise, enrollment in BIO 200 converts the 1 biology major or minor credit to general graduation credit.

Chemistry	5	Chemistry 103 (3)  Chemistry 151 (1)  Chemistry 308 (3)  Chemistry 354 (1)
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Chemistry	4	Chemistry 103 (3)  Chemistry 151 (1)
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Computer Science A	4 or 5	Computer Science 141 (4)
Computer Science AB	3, 4, or 5	Computer Science 141 (4)
Microeconomics	4 or 5	Economics 101 (3)
Macroeconomics	4 or 5	Economics 102 (3)
English Composition Writing 101  and Literature	4 or 5	English 201 (3)
English Language Writing 101  and Composition	4 or 5	
Environmental Science	5	Biology 108 (3)
Environmental Science Biology 108	4	
Comparative Government	4 or 5	Government 203 (3)
American Government	4 or 5	Government 201 (3)

Human Geography	4 or 5	Government 381 (3)	
European History	5	History 111 (3) History 112 (3)	
European History 111	4	History 112 (3)	History
European History History 111 and 112	3		
American History	5	History 121 (3) History 122 (3)	
American History History 121 and 122	4		
World History	4 or 5	No exemption; 0 credit	
Latin Literature	5	Latin 202 (3)	
Latin Literature	4	Latin 201 (3)	
Latin Vergil	5	Latin 202 (3)	

Latin Vergil 4 Latin 201 (3)

SAT II Latin Subject Test of 650 or higher will also receive 3 credits for Latin 202.

Latin Literature 5 in both Latin 201 (3)  
and Virgil Combined or 4 and 5 Latin 202 (3)

Latin Literature 4 on both Latin 201 (3)  
and Virgil Combined

SAT II Latin Subject Test of 650 or higher will also receive 3 credits for Latin 202.

Calculus AB 4 or 5 Math 111 (4)

Calculus AB subscore – no credit or exemption

Calculus BC 4 or 5 Math 111 (4)  
Math 112 (4)

Calculus BC 3 Math 111 (4)

French Language 5 French 206 (3)  
or French Literature French 210 (3)

French Language 4 French 206 (3)

French Literature	4	French 210 (3)
French Language or French Literature	3	French 202 (4)
German Language	5	German 205 (3) German 206 (3)
German Language	4	German 206 (3)
German Literature	5	German 205 (3) German 208 (3)
German Literature	4	German 208 (3)
German Language or German Literature	3	German 202 (3)
Spanish Language	5	Hispanic Studies 206 (3) Hispanic Studies 207 (3)
Spanish Language	4	Hispanic Studies 206 (3)

Spanish Literature	5	Hispanic Studies 207 (3) Hispanic Studies 208 (3)
Spanish Literature	4	Hispanic Studies 208 (3)
Spanish Language or Spanish Literature	3	Hispanic Studies 202 (3)
Music Theory	4 or 5	Music Elective (4)
Music Aural & Nonaural subscore – no credit or exemption		
Physics B	5	Physics 107 (4) Physics 108 (4)
Physics CM	5	Physics 101 (4)
Physics CEM	5	Physics 102 (4)
Psychology	5	Psych 201 (3) Psych 202 (3)

Psychology	4	Psych 201 (3)	Psych 202
Statistics	4 or 5	Statistics Elective (3)	Bus 231

### International Baccalaureate

Entering students who have taken the examinations for the International Baccalaureate (IB) may receive academic credit and/or exemption for college level work undertaken before enrolling at William and Mary. The examinations are graded on a 7 point scale. The policies in each department governing credit and/or exemption for scores on IB examinations vary according to how the curriculum covered by an examination fits the curriculum of the department. In most departments, academic credit and/or exemption is routinely awarded based on the test score. In some cases, the IB examination is reviewed by the faculty in the appropriate department to determine whether advanced placement and/or academic credit is warranted. Members of the William and Mary faculty are actively engaged with the International Baccalaureate North America office. Information on current policies is available from the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Credit received through the IB program may be applied toward degree requirements, including proficiency, General Education Requirements, minor and major requirements.

The College of William and Mary grants credit or course exemptions in the following areas for International Baccalaureate Examinations:

International Baccalaureate Exemption	Score	Course and	Course
Higher Level Exam (Credit Granted)		Credit Granted	(No
Art/Design Departmental Review	6 or 7	Departmental Review	
Biology	5, 6 or 7	Biology 100 (3)	
Biology 200, 203, 204		Biology 102 (1)	

Classical Studies Departmental Review	5, 6 or 7	Departmental Review
Chemistry	6 or 7	Chemistry 103 (3) Chemistry 151 (1) Chemistry 308 (3) Chemistry 354 (1)
Chemistry	5	Chemistry 103 (3) Chemistry 151 (1)
Economics	5, 6 or 7	Economics 101 (3) Economics 102 (3)
English Writing 101	6 or 7	English 201 (3)
English Writing 101	5	
World History	6 or 7	History 192 (3) History elective (3)

History Americas	6 or 7	History 104 (3) History elective (3)
History Europe	6 or 7	History 112 (3) History elective (3)
Mathematics	6 or 7	Math 111 (4) Math 112 (4)
Mathematics	5	Math 111 (4)
Music	6 or 7	Departmental Review
French	6 or 7	French 206 (3) French 210 (3)
French	5	French 206 (3)
French	4	Language requirement fulfilled
German	6 or 7	German 205 (3) German 206 (3)

German	5	German 206 (3)
German	4	Language requirement fulfilled
Spanish	6 or 7	Hispanic Studies 206 (3) Hispanic Studies 207 (3)
Spanish	5	Hispanic Studies 206 (3)
Spanish	4	Language requirement fulfilled
Human Geography	6 or 7	Government 381 (3)
Philosophy Departmental Review	5, 6 or 7	Departmental Review
Physics	6 or 7	PHYS107 (4) PHYS108 (4)
Psychology	6 or 7	Psych 201 (3) Psych 202 (3)
Psychology	5	Psych 201 (3)

## Credit by Examination

Students at the College may request academic credit for courses by examination. Interested students should petition the Committee on Degrees for permission to take an examination for credit. If the petition is granted, the department at the College in which the course is normally offered sets an appropriate examination and certifies the results to the registrar. Students may not receive credit by examination after registration for their final semester, when they are enrolled in the course at the time of the request, when upper level course work in the same subject has already begun, or when the same course has previously been failed.

William and Mary does not participate in the College Board CLEP program or in the Subject Standardized Test of the United States Armed Forces Institute.

## Transfer Credit

Transfer of Credit from Institutions in the United States: The Office of the University Registrar is responsible for evaluating domestic transfer credit. Transfer credit is granted for any course taken at an accredited college or university in which the student prior to coming to the College has earned a grade of “C-” or better (or, in the case of a course taken on a Pass/Fail basis, a grade of “P”), provided that the course is comparable to a course offered for academic credit at the College. A course is deemed comparable to a course offered for academic credit at the College if either (a) the course is similar to a course presently offered for academic credit at the College, or (b) it is not similar to an existing course, but is recommended for credit by an existing academic program or department at the College. Thus, it is not necessary that a course exactly match or be similar to a course offered at the College in order to be granted transfer credit. Equivalent credit is granted for courses satisfying condition (a). Elective transfer credit is granted for courses satisfying condition (b). For institutions on the quarter system, two-thirds of the credits will be transferred to the College. Courses given equivalent status may be used to satisfy proficiency, minor, major, or if three or more credits, GER requirements. Courses granted elective transfer credit will count toward the total number of academic credits required for the baccalaureate degree, but they may not be used to meet GER, proficiency, minor or major requirements unless approval has been granted by the College’s Committee on Degrees.

Transfer credit will not be granted for courses which belong in one or more of the following categories: a) correspondence, computer or distance learning courses, b) courses in professional, vocational or sectarian religious study, c) courses below the level of introductory courses at the College, d) modern language courses which repeat the level of courses previously taken in high school or at other colleges, e) freshman English courses of more than one semester which are devoted primarily to writing or composition and f) college orientation courses. The College does not grant credit for attendance in service schools or training programs in the Armed Forces unless it can be demonstrated that such attendance is the equivalent of a course or courses offered at William and Mary.

Academic courses taken while on military service at accredited colleges, universities or language institutes may be transferred in the normal manner. No credit will be granted for general military training, or for work done while a student is not in good standing. (Please refer to the following sections for Transfer Credit from Foreign Institutions and Summer School elsewhere.)

Students transferring with an Associate of Arts, Associate of Sciences or Associate of Arts and Sciences degree in a baccalaureate-oriented program from the Virginia Community College System or Richard Bland College are granted junior status (defined as at least 54 credits). These students are considered to have completed lower-division general education requirements, but are expected to fulfill the College's foreign language proficiency requirement, GER 4B (History and Culture outside the European Tradition), GER 6 (Creative and Performing Arts), and GER 7 (Philosophical, Religious and Social Thought), and all major requirements. Admitted students who are certified by the Virginia Community College System as having completed the "transfer module," achieving no grade below C in the specified courses, will receive 35 credits at the College and will have made significant progress toward meeting the degree requirements. They will still be responsible for meeting all degree requirements including all general education requirements of the College. The Guide for Transfer Students from Virginia Community Colleges provides additional information. Performance information concerning these transfer students will be shared confidentially with the two-year colleges from which they transfer.

Evaluations of credits earned from other institutions are made after a student has been selected for admission and has indicated an intention to enroll. Students may not assume that credit will be granted for all courses completed at their transfer institution. Transfer grades do not affect degree requirements, grade point average or class rank. While there is no limit to the number of courses which may be transferred, William and Mary requires that at least 60 semester credits, including a minimum of 15 credits in the major, be earned in residence at the College in Williamsburg.

Transfer of Credit from Foreign Institutions: Students entering William and Mary from foreign institutions may receive academic credit for college level work undertaken before enrolling at the College. The Office of Academic Advising evaluates each student's record and upon consultation with the Office of Admission and appropriate departments, determines credit to be awarded. Information on current policies is available from the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Students who plan to study abroad should contact the Reves Center for International Studies during the semester prior to the study abroad experience and follow the appropriate procedures for prior approval of transfer credit.

Domestic Study Away (which includes Summer School Elsewhere): Any student of the College who proposes to attend school elsewhere, including a summer session, must have written permission in advance from the Office of the University Registrar in order to insure that credit will be transferred. No retroactive transfer of such credit will be permitted. Forms are available on the website of the University Registrar. After a student enrolls at the College, courses taken at other institutions, either during the regular academic year or in a summer session may not be used to satisfy proficiency, GER, minor or major requirements unless special approval has been granted by the Committee on Degrees. One exception is that modern language courses at the 101, 102 and 201 levels may count toward satisfying the language proficiency requirement even though taken at summer school elsewhere. This exception applies solely to these three language course levels. See also Study Abroad section.

Courses taken in summer school or intersession elsewhere must be at least four weeks long and must meet at least 12.5 hours per semester credit transferred to William and Mary. Courses lasting six weeks or longer must meet for at least 32.5 hours for a three-semester credit course. Other courses will not receive permission of the Committee on Degrees unless the nature of the course and the special educational value of the course to the student's program are demonstrated. A maximum of 14 credits may be transferred for work taken during one summer.