

APC
Resolution Regarding Advanced Placement Credit

1
2
3
4
5 WHEREAS, The original Advanced Placement Credit policy of 1995 awarded a uniform 6 semester of
6 units of university credit for every AP score of 3 or better, although American Council in Education
7 (ACE) guidelines and Executive Order 365 recommend fewer units for some exams, and it did not
8 provide guidance on the use of Advanced Placement credit in General Education; and
9

10 WHEREAS, A revision developed by the Admissions Office and brought to the Academic Senate by the
11 Academic Planning and Policy (APP) Committee in AY 2000-01 was returned to the Academic Senate
12 for revision by the University administration; and
13

14 WHEREAS, Several new Advanced Placement examinations have been developed since the last AP
15 policy was approved; and
16

17 WHEREAS, The increasing number of Advanced Placement examinations being submitted by incoming
18 students for credit highlights the need for an up-to-date policy; and
19

20 WHEREAS, the General Education Committee completed a comprehensive review of Advanced
21 Placement in Fall 2006; and
22

23 WHEREAS, in AY 2006-07 and in Fall 2007, the Academic Policy Committee has reviewed Advanced
24 Placement syllabi, surveyed Advanced Placement practices at other CSU campuses and AP offerings at
25 several local high schools, and consulted Chancellor's Office documents pertaining to Advanced
26 Placement and the most recent ACE recommendations; now, therefore be it
27

28 RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate endorse the proposed Policy and Procedures governing
29 Advanced Placement Credit.
30
31

Definition This policy governs the awarding of credit to students who have taken
Advanced Placement examinations.

Authority

- Executive Order 365 (Systemwide Credit by Evaluation)
- Executive Order 665 (Determination of Competence in English and Mathematics)
- Chancellor's Office Memorandum of September 25, 1997 (Inclusion of Advanced Placement Examinations in General Education-Breadth Certification)

Scope The curriculum of CSU San Marcos.

32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39

40 **Policy:**

41

42 I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

43

44 California State University San Marcos awards graduation credit to students who have received a
45 score of 3, 4, or 5 on a College Board Advanced Placement (AP) examination in accordance with
46 CSU Executive Order 365 (Systemwide Credit by Evaluation), and as described below.

47

48 When a student receives a score of 3, 4 or 5 on an AP examination¹, s/he

49 • Receives credit toward graduation which is recorded on the student's transcript,
50 and, depending on the course, s/he may also

- 51 • Satisfy certain requirements for a major or minor,
- 52 • Satisfy prerequisite requirements for a more advanced course,
- 53 • May be exempt from certain placement examinations, and
- 54 • Satisfy certain General Education and other general graduation requirements.

55 When a student passes an AP exam (i.e., receives a score of 3, 4 or 5), s/he may not also receive
56 graduation credit for taking a course articulated with the AP exam, or a course which is a
57 prerequisite thereto.

58

59

60 II. GRADUATION CREDIT.

61

62 Students receive either 3 or 6 units of credit toward graduation as described in the table below.
63 Generally, 3 units of credit are awarded for passing AP exams corresponding to courses described
64 by College Board as the equivalent of one-semester college courses and 6 units of credit for
65 passing AP exams corresponding to courses described by College Board as equivalent to year-
66 long courses with reductions in awarded credit when students successfully pass overlapping AP
67 exams with scores of 3 or higher.

68

AP Examination passed with a score of 3, 4, or 5	Units of Graduation Credit
Art History	6
Biology	6
Calculus AB	3 (but 0 if the Calculus BC exam is also passed)
Calculus BC	6
Chemistry	6
Chinese Language & Culture	6
Computer Science A	3 (but 0 if the Computer Science AB exam is also passed)
Computer Science AB	6
Economics: Macro	3
Economics: Micro	3
English Language and Composition	6
English Literature and Composition	6
Environmental Science	3

¹ For simplicity, the policy refers throughout to Advanced Placement *examinations*, but in Studio Art, students submit portfolios of completed work in place of sitting for an examination. The Studio Art portfolios are scored on the same scale as the examinations.

European History	6
French Language	6
French Literature	6
German Language	6
Government and Politics: Comparative	3
Government and Politics: United States	3
Human Geography	3
Italian Language & Culture	6
Japanese Language & Culture	6
Latin Literature	6
Latin: Vergil	6
Music Theory	6
Physics B	6 (but 3 if one Physics C exam is passed, and 0 if both Physics C exams are passed)
Physics C: Mechanics	3
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	3
Psychology	3
Spanish Language	6
Spanish Literature	6
Statistics	3
Studio Art – Drawing Portfolio	3
Studio Art – 2-D Design Portfolio	3
Studio Art – 3-D Design Portfolio	3
United States History	6
World History	6

69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93

III. APPLICATION TOWARD SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- Every AP exam will be articulated with CSUSM courses (to the extent possible) in a manner similar to articulation of courses taken at another institution for the purpose of satisfying the requirements for a major or minor. The College Board Course Descriptions will form the basis of these articulation “agreements.”
- The articulation agreements may differentiate between the different AP score levels and assign different course articulations to different scores.
- The course(s) articulated with a level of performance on an AP exam may have a different number of total units than the units of graduation credit as described in the preceding table.
 - If more units are awarded for successful completion of an AP exam than for the articulated course, then the excess units are “free elective” units which can be applied to the minimum number (usually, 120) of units required for a bachelor’s degree.
 - If fewer units are awarded for successful completion of an AP exam than for the articulated course, then the student need not make up the difference provided that s/he still meets the minimum unit requirements for a bachelor’s degree and for the number of units in the major exclusive of units used to meet General Education requirements.
- A student may not receive graduation credit for subsequently taking a course which is articulated with the AP credit that s/he has received, nor for a course which is a prerequisite to such a course.

94 IV. PLACEMENT EXAMINATION EXEMPTIONS

95
96 Students receiving a score of 3, 4 or 5 on either the English Language and Composition or the
97 English Literature and Composition AP examinations are exempt from the requirement of taking
98 the CSU English Placement Test (EPT).

99
100 Students receiving a score of 3, 4 or 5 on either the Calculus AB, Calculus BC, or Statistics AP
101 examinations are exempt from the requirement of taking the CSU Entry Level Mathematics
102 (ELM) Examination.

103
104
105 V. USE IN GENERAL EDUCATION AND OTHER GENERAL GRADUATION
106 REQUIREMENTS

107
108 The General Education Committee shall determine which General Education requirements – if
109 any – are satisfied by sufficiently high scores on AP exams.

110
111 The General Education Committee shall determine which of the other specific graduation
112 requirements over which it has jurisdiction (the U.S. History, Constitution and American Ideals
113 Requirement, the Language Other Than English Requirement, the Computer Competency
114 Requirement, and the Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement) – if any – are satisfied by
115 sufficiently high scores on AP exams.

116
117 **Procedures:**

118
119 I. IMPLEMENTATION

- 120
121 If approved in the 2007-2008 Academic Year,
- 122 ○ Graduation credit will be awarded as in Section II of the Policy for all AP exams taken
123 July 1, 2008 or later;
 - 124 ○ AP credit for exams taken prior to July 1, 2008 will contain to be awarded as currently
125 posted on the Undergraduate Advising Services website
126 (http://www.csusm.edu/Academic_Advising/ap/index.htm); and
 - 127 ○ New course articulations take effect as they are received from academic departments by
128 the campus Articulation Coordinator (See Section III of the policy).

129
130 II. RECORDING OF CREDIT

131
132 Credit earned by examination will be identified as such on the student's permanent record. The
133 name of the examination and the score earned will be included as well.

134
135
136 III. PUBLICATION IN UNIVERSITY NOTICES

- 137
138 The Curriculum and Scheduling Office will publish in the General Catalog a comprehensive table
139 of all Advanced Placement exams indicating
- 140 ○ Units of credit awarded (as stipulated in the policy);
 - 141 ○ Any course articulations which have been approved;
 - 142 ○ Any placement examination requirements that are waived through AP exam scores;
 - 143 ○ Any General Education requirements satisfied through AP exam scores; and
 - 144 ○ Any other general graduation requirements satisfied through AP exam scores.