

Simmons College Transfer of Credit Policies

Transfer Students and Dix Scholars

At Simmons, transfer students and Dix Scholars are able to build on previous coursework and life experiences. We are committed to honoring the hard work you have already put into your education. Below are the policies and procedures we use when reviewing transfer credit.

General Transfer Credit Policies

- Maximum total credits granted – 80
- Maximum summer/short-term/wintersession transfer credits allowed – 16
- Minimum credits to be completed at Simmons – 48
- Minimum grade of ‘C’ is required
Grade of ‘Pass’ must be accompanied by proof that it represents a ‘C’ or better
Grades earned for transfer courses will not be averaged in to the Simmons GPA and will not appear on your Simmons transcript
- Quarter hours will transfer as two-thirds semester hour credits

Transfer credit WILL BE considered for:

- Courses taken at an accredited institution at the undergraduate level
- Courses comparable to ones offered at Simmons

Transfer credit is NOT granted for:

- Developmental, remedial or pre-college courses
- Professional development or skills-based courses
Examples: EMT, CPR, cooking, personal wellness, word processing, computer applications, cooperative courses
- Recreational or physical education courses
- English as a Second Language courses & all Boston Language Institute courses
- Life experience/Credit for Prior Learning portfolios
- Credit given by exam at another institution or transfer credit granted by another institution

Evaluation of Coursework

As a prospective or accepted transfer student or Dix Scholar, you will receive an individualized Transfer Credit Evaluation. Please provide the Office of Undergraduate Admissions with official transcripts from your previous undergraduate institutions for evaluation. The Transfer Credit Evaluation you receive from Simmons will list the total number of transfer credits awarded based on each institution’s transcript. It will also provide you with information regarding which Simmons PLAN Requirements you have already fulfilled. If you are going to be a Nursing or Nutrition major, you will receive a second evaluation with information on fulfillment of major prerequisites.

The number of credits you transfer determines your academic standing upon entering Simmons. If you have fewer than 32 credits you will be a first-year student; 32 to 63 credits you will be a sophomore; 64 or more credits you will be a junior. Individual academic departments will decide which requirements you have fulfilled for your major or minor.

First Year Student Transferring College-Level Credit

If you are a first-year student who has taken some college-level coursework, we will grant you credit for the coursework you completed using the same policies as for transfer students. We will not provide you with a Transfer Credit Evaluation, rather you will automatically receive this credit once you are a Simmons student and an email will be sent to you outlining the courses that were accepted and if any PLAN Requirements were fulfilled. Your transferred coursework can fulfill Key Content Areas, the Quantitative Literacy Requirement and the Math Competency Requirement only. Fulfillment of the Language Requirement is at the discretion of the Modern Language Department Chair.

International Colleges and Universities

For coursework taken at a university or college outside the United States, you will need to provide an official evaluated and translated transcript from one of the following agencies: Center for Educational Documentation or World Education Services. The translated transcript should include all course names in English, the credit must be translated into U.S. semester hours and the grades must be translated to the U.S. grading system.

The Transfer Credit Evaluation procedures are the same as outlined on page 1. Only credit at the level equivalent to an undergraduate degree will be evaluated for transfer credit. Graduate work will not be evaluated for transfer.

Transfer Credit through Examinations & Life Experience

Advanced Placement

Credit will be granted to students who have completed advanced placement exams through the College Board. Exams earn 4 credits for a score of 4 or 5. For some exams, these credits count as a specific course here, but for AP exams without a corresponding Simmons course, the credits count as general elective credit.

For language exams, a score of 3 will earn no academic credit and student is placed into Intermediate II (202) level. A score of 4 or 5 will earn 4 credits and the student is placed in to the Conversation and Composition (245) level.

No more than 32 advanced placement credits will be granted. Advanced Placement can not fulfill any PLAN Requirements.

For transfer students to receive advanced placement credit, they must have taken the College Board advanced placement exams before matriculating at the college you attended as a first-year student. This credit counts toward the 80 maximum transfer credits allowed.

A-Level Exams

A-Level exam credit will be granted as follows: eight credits will be given for each A-Level pass. A, B, or C is passing. A-level exam credit counts toward the 80 maximum transfer credits allowed.

International Baccalaureate

International Baccalaureate credit will be granted for Higher-Level exams only as follows: non-language courses - 4 credits will be given for a score of 5, 6 or 7. For language courses - a score of 5 will earn no credit and the student is placed into the Intermediate II (202) level. A score of 6 or 7 will earn 4 credits and the student is placed in to the Conversation and Composition (245) level. Credit will not be granted for Standard-Level exams. International Baccalaureate credit counts toward the 80 maximum transfer credits allowed.

College-Level Examination Program

Simmons grants credit for the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) through the College Board as follows: four credits for each exam with a score of 55 or better. CLEP credit counts toward the 80 maximum transfer credits allowed and no more than 32 CLEP credits will be granted. CLEP credit is available to only transfer students and Dix Scholars.

Credit for Prior Learning

The Credit for Prior Learning program offers Dix Scholars an opportunity to receive credit for knowledge gained through life experience. The program includes a two-credit seminar which is designed to guide the student through completing a portfolio of life experience. This credit counts toward the 80 maximum transfer credits allowed and no more than 24 Credit for Prior Learning portfolio credits will be granted.