QUICK TIPS

A Guide for Selecting Transferrable Courses

General Questions

Q. What courses will transfer to UMass?
A. Courses that are:
   - Offered at a school that has regional academic accreditation at the post-secondary level (consult the school's catalog)
   - Comparable in content and level to courses offered at UMass Amherst (compare course descriptions/syllabi)
   - Passed with a minimum grade of C- and listed on an official transcript submitted to the Continuing & Professional Education Administration Office, 100 Venture Way, Suite 201, Hadley MA 01035-9430

Q: What courses will generally NOT transfer?
A: Courses which are:
   - Taught by a school which does not have regional academic accreditation at the post-secondary level
   - Repeated, failed, or passed with a grade of less than C-
   - Remedial or developmental (pre-100 level, ESL, basic math, pre-composition, etc.)
   - Skills-oriented (Lotus 1-2-3, study skills, career development, word processing, sales, etc.)
   - Vocational (secretarial, lab technology, real estate, electronics, paralegal, medical assistant, radiology, etc.)
   - Internships, co-ops, field experiences, or practica sponsored by another school
   - Non-credit or offered through certificate programs, professional or community service seminars, etc.
   - Credited with continuing education units (CEUs) instead of semester or quarter credits
Q: How is course credit awarded?
A: Credit systems may vary from school to school. Transfer credit will be awarded in semester-hour equivalents. Quarter-hour credits are generally multiplied by .67 to determine the semester-hour equivalent.

Q: How is the award of credit confirmed?
A: • Newly admitted students receive a Preliminary Transfer Credit Evaluation from Undergraduate Admissions indicating the number of credits awarded.
• Accepted students who indicate their intention to enroll then receive a computerized Transfer Credit Evaluation (TCE) indicating the number of credits awarded, general education designations, and UMass Amherst course equivalents.
• Enrolled UMass students may also print their own degree audits from the UMass SPIRE system.

Q: How will courses be equated?
A: Attempts are made to assign exact UMass Amherst equivalents when we determine that a transfer course’s content sufficiently matches a course offered at UMass. If the course is transferable but no equivalent exists, then 1TRA, 1TRB, 1TRC, etc., will be assigned as the course number.

Q: Why are some courses equated to 1TRA, 1TRB, 1TRC, etc.?
A: The course transfers, but:
• The course content is not equivalent to any existing UMass Amherst course, or
• The related UMass department chooses not to designate an exact equivalent.

Q: How can courses coded 1TRA, 1TRB, 1TRC, etc., be used?
A: Generally:
• Elective credit
• General Education Requirements (if course content warrants it)
• However, UWW advisors may choose to use a 1TRA, 1TRB, 1TRC, etc., course to fulfill a major requirement. The advisor notes this on a Degree Audit Exception Form.
Students who choose to undertake coursework at another school and transfer the credits to their degree program at UMass Amherst may satisfy general education requirements by using the recommendations below. The purpose of Gen Ed is to broaden one’s personal perspective. Most introductory level courses which are broad in scope will satisfy Gen Ed requirements (e.g. “Intro to Environmental Science,” “Intro to Political Science,” “Survey of American Literature”); courses which focus on a narrow range of subject matter generally will not satisfy Gen Ed requirements (e.g. “Solar Energy,” “Marxism,” “World War II”).

**INTRODUCTORY COURSES (100- OR 200-LEVEL) IN THE AREAS LISTED BELOW ARE ACCEPTABLE CHOICES FOR GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES.**

**COLLEGE WRITING (code CW)**
First-year non-remedial composition course

**BASIC MATH SKILLS (code R1)**
Intermediate Algebra (non-credit course)
College Algebra
Pre-Calculus

**ANALYTIC REASONING (code R2)**
Some math courses will fulfill both R1 and R2.
Intro Computer Science (3+ sem cr courses only)
Pascal, BASIC, or Data Structures Programming
Microcomputer courses covering word processing + spreadsheets + databases
Statistics (fulfills both R1 and R2)
Calculus (fulfills both R1 and R2)
Logic
Linguistic Theory
Finite Math (fulfills both R1 and R2)

**BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (code BS,BSL)**
Intro Biology
Ecology
Nutrition
Environmental Science
Anatomy & Physiology
Intro Microbiology
Intro Botany
Intro Zoology

**PHYSICAL SCIENCES (code PS,PSL)**
Intro Chemistry
Intro Physics
Intro Earth Science or Geology
Intro Physical Geography
Intro Astronomy
Intro Oceanography
Intro Meteorology

**LITERATURE (code AL,ALG,ALU)**
Survey Lit courses covering one century or more
Genre Lit courses (Poetry, Short Story, Drama, etc.)
Theme Lit courses (Women in Lit)
Intro Philosophy

**ARTS/LITERATURE (code AT,ATG, ATU)**
Intro Visual Arts, Design, or Basic Drawing
Art Appreciation or Art History
(covering one century or more)
Music Appreciation or Music History
(covering one century or more)
Ethics

**HISTORICAL STUDIES (code HS,HSG,HSU)**
Survey History courses
(covering one century or more; may be history of groups, countries, or world regions)

**SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (code SB,SBG,SBU)**
Intro, Lifespan, or Child Psychology
Psych of Women, Personality, or Aging
Intro Sociology, Social Problems, or Sociology of the Family
Intro Cultural Anthropology
Intro, Micro-, or Macro- Economics
Intro Political Science or International/World Politics
U.S. or State/Local Government

**INTERDISCIPLINARY (code I,IG,IU)**
Intro Women’s Studies
Comparative or World Religion

**SCIENCE INTERDISCIPLINARY (code SI)**
Science for Liberal Arts Majors

**GLOBAL AND U.S. DIVERSITY (code ALG,ALU,ATG,ATU,HSG,HSU,SBG,SBU,IG,IU,G,U)**
Courses which reach beyond the perspectives of mainstream American culture and the Western tradition. Courses which focus on diversity within the U.S. receive a U code; courses which focus on non-Western global diversity receive a G code.

Native American History (HSU)
Asian Literature (ALG)
Psychology of Women (SBU)
Intro Cultural Anthropology (SBG)
Intro Sociology, Sociology of the Family, or Social Problems (SBU)

**INTEGRATIVE EXPERIENCE (code to be determined)**
To be determined Spring 2010
All students must satisfy the following university General Education requirements, in addition to their college/school requirements and their major requirements. Only one course from your major department may be applied below; Gen Eds may need to be reevaluated if you change your major. UMass courses used for Gen Ed may not be taken with a Pass/Fail option. Your fourth Social World course may be satisfied by an interdisciplinary course (codes I, IG, or IU). Gen Ed courses are identified by letter code in the undergraduate catalog and in each semester’s course schedule.

Students who have completed the Commonwealth Transfer Compact (CTC) at a Massachusetts community college will have completed all of the Gen Ed requirements below, but will still need to fulfill their college/school and major requirements, including the Junior Year Writing requirement. Students who have completed the MassTransfer Block (MTB) at a Massachusetts public college will have completed all but two of the Gen Ed requirements below. The remaining requirements will be determined during the Spring 2010 semester, but will include at least one diversity course.

### Writing Requirement (2 Levels)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COLLEGE WRITING course or UMass placement exam (code CW) - 3 credits</td>
<td>UMass major dept. course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNIOR WRITING course - 3 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Basic Math Skills and Analytical Reasoning:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BASIC MATH SKILLS course or UMass placement exam (code R1) - 3 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANALYTICAL REASONING course (code R2) - 3 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Biological and Physical World:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE course (code BS,BSL) - 4 credits**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICAL SCIENCE course (code PS,PSL) - 4 credits**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Social World:

Of the following four courses, one must be a global diversity course and one must be a U.S. diversity course

*(Gen Ed letter codes include a G for global diversity or a U for U.S. diversity)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTS or LITERATURE course (code AT,ATG,ATU,AL,ALG,ALU) - 4 credits**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTORICAL STUDIES course (code HS,HSG,HSU) - 4 credits**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE course (code SB,SBG,SBU) - 4 credits**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL WORLD course (code AL,ALG,ALU,AT,ATG,ATU,SB,SBG,SBU,I,IG,IU,SI) - 4 credits**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Integrative Experience:

INTEGRATIVE EXPERIENCE (code to be determined) - 3 credits

### Additional General Education**:

Two additional courses (3 or more credits) may be selected from the following categories:

Basic Math Skills and Analytical Reasoning; Biological and Physical World; Social World; or Integrative Experience.

**Transfer students—The General Education component includes not only a range of disciplines, but also a certain proportion of degree credits. Transfer students have the flexibility of completing their Gen Ed distribution requirements via either 3- or 4-credit courses, but they must also complete two additional Gen Ed courses to assure that Gen Ed credits are an appropriate proportion of overall degree credits.

******************************************

**College Requirements**

In addition to university Gen Ed requirements, students in the Colleges of Humanities and Fine Arts, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Natural Sciences may also need to fulfill college requirements (including foreign language) and should consult with their academic advisors.