

## **Transfer Credit Policy for University of California, Merced Effective Fall 2014**

The University of California, Merced grants unit credit for college courses completed at United States regionally accredited colleges and universities; or at a university recognized by the Ministry of Education (or higher-education authority/appropriate government agency) in another country that offers university-level academic degree program courses comparable to a U.S. associate's or bachelor's degree.

Courses determined to be essentially the same as courses offered for an undergraduate degree at any UC campus will be granted credit, if the course:

- Is listed in the original institution's catalog/website of official courses offered for the year in which the course was completed, and
- Includes the same or similar content, and
- Requires the same or similar prerequisite course work, and
- Is offered at the same level of instruction.

Courses that further the student's knowledge and understanding in fundamental liberal arts disciplines such as mathematics, natural science, literature, social sciences, fine arts and philosophy are acceptable for transfer if comparable in scope and depth to those offered at the UC.

Courses accepted for transfer must be reported on an official transcript (academic record), which must be provided to UC Merced in a sealed envelope from the original college/university of enrollment, bearing the institution's official seal and registrar's signature.

### **United States Military Service Courses:**

UC Merced may award lower-division (freshman/sophomore level) units for military courses completed if the courses are consistent with the University policy on granting transfer credit when there is an equivalent course taught at a UC campus. UC Merced will consult the American Council on Education (ACE) recommendations for information regarding course content as a guide to the awarding of credit.

UC Merced does not grant credit for: work experience, military/recruit basic training, vocational or technical training, or remedial academic or personal enrichment courses.

### **Notes:**

1. Remedial academic courses in English and Mathematics are not transferable.
2. Courses completed at unaccredited/non-regionally accredited institution will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
3. Courses from enrollment at another UC main campus (not UC Extension) during a regular academic (fall, winter or spring) or summer term are all transferable.
4. Courses from enrollment at any UC Extension are transferable if the course is numbered 1-199; courses numbered 1-99 that include a campus designation (e.g. XB, XSB) are equivalent to the same course offered to undergraduates on that campus.

### **Examination Scores/Grades:**

UC Merced grants credit for examinations as follows:

- College Board Advanced Placement (AP) see [http://catalog.ucmerced.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=51#AP\\_IB](http://catalog.ucmerced.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=51#AP_IB)

- International Baccalaureate (IB) Higher Level see [http://catalog.ucmerced.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=51#AP\\_IB](http://catalog.ucmerced.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=51#AP_IB) (both of these links are the same; does it matter?)
- GCE or Hong Kong Advanced Level (A-Levels) – unit credit may be granted for satisfactory grades and scores.

UC Merced does not grant credit for: College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or DANES Subject Standardized Test (DSST) exams.

**Limitations on Transfer Credits:** Students will be granted up to 70 semester/105 quarter units of credit for lower-division coursework completed at any other institution or any combination of other institutions. For units beyond the maximum allowed, subject credit for appropriate coursework taken in excess of this unit limitation will be granted and can be used to satisfy requirements.

- Units earned through AP, IB and/or A-Level examinations are not included in the limitation and do not put applicants at risk of being denied admission.
- Units earned at any UC campus (Extension, summer, cross/concurrent and regular academic year enrollment) are not included in the limitation but are added to the maximum transfer credit allowed and could put applicants at risk of being denied admission due to excessive units.

In addition, there is a limit to the number of units for which UC Merced grants credit in the following areas:

- English as a Second Language courses: Maximum 8 semester/12 quarter units
- Physical Education activity courses: Maximum 4 semester/6 quarter units

**Duplicative Credit Prohibited:** UC Merced will not grant credit for college courses in which the content duplicates material of a previously completed course or examination for which credit has already been granted, with the exception of the repeat of deficient (D/F) course grades.

#### **Additional Guidance:**

**California Community Colleges:** Every California community college has an agreement with the UC – a Transfer Course Agreement (TCA). The TCA specifies which courses receive UC credit. To find out if college courses from a California Community College are transferable to UC Merced, visit [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org). These lists are updated throughout the year, so check ASSIST periodically to ensure you have the most current information.

**Other 2-year and 4-year Institutions:** The UC does not have transfer course agreements with institutions other than the California community colleges. However, using ASSIST and/or referring to any UC campus' general catalog can provide guidance on the likelihood that courses from other institutions would transfer to UC Merced.

#### **International Academic Records:**

UC Merced does not grant credit for junior/community college programs that are technical or vocational, or programs that do not lead to further academic study at a university in the international country.

- Elementary/intermediate language courses: No credit is granted to students who were instructed in a language during secondary school.

**Final determination on the transferability of coursework for credit will be made by UC Merced's Office of Admissions, based on UC Merced's review (not that of another institution).**