

Transfer of Credit Policies: Transfer Students and Dix Scholars

At Simmons, transfer students and Dix Scholar 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/ winter session 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 into 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
- Courses of two semester credits or more
Exception is a one semester credit lab that is connected to a course taken within the same term

Transfer credit is NOT granted for:

- Developmental, remedial or pre-college courses
- Professional development or skills-based courses
- Example: EMT, CPR, cooking, personal wellness, word processing, medical terminology, cooperative courses
- Recreational or physical education courses
- English as a Second Language & all Boston Language Institute courses

- Life experience/Credit for Prior Learning portfolios
- Nursing courses
Exceptions will be determined by the Nursing Dept. Chair
- 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 Admission 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 Core Requirements you have already fulfilled.

Simmons Core Requirements

- Writing/MCC Requirement – two semesters writing intensive courses
- Language Requirement – proficiency through the 201 or intermediate I level
- Math Competency Requirement – Basic college-level math course taken within the last seven years
- Modes of Inquiry – Students must fulfill each Mode 1-6:
Mode 1 – Creative & Performing Arts
Mode 2 – Language Literature & Culture
Mode 3 – Quantitative Analysis & Reasoning
Mode 4 – Scientific Inquiry
Mode 5 – Social & Historical Perspectives
Mode 6 – Psychological & Ethical Development

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.

International Colleges and Universities

For coursework taken at a university or college outside the United States, we 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 and the credit must be translated into U.S. semester hours.

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

Freshman Transferring College-Level Credit

If you are a freshman 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. However, we will not provide you with a Transfer Credit Evaluation; rather you will automatically receive this credit once you are a Simmons student.

Your transferred coursework can fulfill Modes of Inquiry and the Math Competency Requirement, but cannot fulfill the Writing/MCC Requirement. Fulfillment of the Language Requirement is at the discretion of the Modern Language Department Chair.

Transfer Credit through Examinations & Life Experience

Advanced Placement

Credit may be granted to students who have completed advanced placement exams through the College Board as follows: eight credits will be given for a score of five; four credits will be given for a score of four. No more than 32 advanced placement credits will be granted. Advanced Placement can not fulfill any Core Requirements. It is considered general elective credit.

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 and no more than 32 Advanced Placement credits will be granted.

A-Level Exams

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

International Baccalaureate

International Baccalaureate credit will be granted for Higher-Level exams only as follows: four credits will be given for a score of five; four credits will be given for a score of six; eight credits will be given for a score of seven. Credit will not be granted for Standard-Level Exams. International Baccalaureate credit does count 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 credit allowed and no more than 32 CLEP credits will be granted. CLEP credit is available to 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 does count toward the 80 maximum transfer credits allowed and no more than 24 Credit for Prior Learning portfolio credits will be granted.