

	<i>Responsible Office or Department:</i>	Academic Affairs
	<i>Effective Date:</i>	5/3/2024
<i>Incoming Transfer Credit Acceptance Policy</i>		

PURPOSE:

To define the University's policy on the recognition of academic credits earned at other institutions and applying same towards the completion of Niagara University degree programs.

SCOPE:

Incoming transfer students.

MAIN PROVISIONS:

Individual courses are evaluated on their content, credit-hours, and grade to determine whether the course is eligible for transfer to Niagara University. Course equivalencies are assigned to the transfer courses based on these criteria. Specific Program requirements will further determine which courses are accepted.

1. CREDITS:

- Transfer courses must be 3 or more credit-hours with the exception of 1 hour labs.
- Multiple lower credit courses can be combined to equal one 3 credit-hour course if the course content is equivalent to a Niagara University course.
- If a transfer course is worth more credits than the Niagara University course equivalency, the student will receive the credit-hours of the Niagara University course equivalency.
- Credit will not be given twice for the same course.

2. GRADES:

- Only courses with a letter grade of a C or better will be considered.
- Courses with lower grades do not transfer into Niagara University.
- Satisfactory or Pass/Fail grades are not accepted unless approved by the Dean's office.
- Grades do not transfer in with transfer courses and do not affect the Niagara University grade point average.

3. ACCEPTANCE:

- Niagara University accepts credit from Accredited Colleges and Universities and other specified sources.
- Not all transfer courses may be accepted due to departmental, university or accreditation policies.

- c. Graduate transfer work is evaluated on a program-by program basis with specific requirements and limitations per individual program.
- d. Articulation agreements follow all policies except where exceptions/variations are expressly stated in the agreements.
- e. Students accepted through one of our Dual Admission (2+2) programs will have C- and D grades accepted per our Dual Admission agreements.
- f. NUSTEP courses taken while in High School are Niagara University courses and are NOT considered transfer courses. Therefore, their grades do affect Niagara University grade point average and do not count towards REL/PHI transfer policy (item #7).
- g. Transfer credits are awarded and posted on official transcripts only.

4. **GENERAL EDUCATION**

For the general pool of transfer students, certain courses from the general education requirement may be substituted or replaced depending on the number of transfer credits that the student is bringing in, as follows:

- a. 24-47 transfer credits: VSJ 100 and Artistic Engagement (AE) may be replaced by two free electives.
- b. 48 or more transfer credits: VSJ 100, Artistic Engagement (AE), one Philosophy (PHI), one Religious Studies (REL) may be replaced by four free electives.
- c. For first-year students with 24 or more incoming credits (transfer, AP, etc.): Artistic Engagement and the second Philosophy (PHI) may be replaced by two free electives.
- d. If a department or program (including, but not limited to, Theatre Studies and Fine Arts) is adversely affected by the opening of the AE designation, that department may open the Social Science Inquiry (SSI) requirement instead of AE. This applies to any transfer student with at least 24 incoming credits who is intending to matriculate into the impacted department or program.

Possible Sources of Credit:

NUSTEP	Niagara University Credit offered through local high schools. It should appear on your NU transcript. Ask Admissions if it does not appear on your transfer review.
Transfer Credit – US/Canadian Institutions	Credit taken at other accredited colleges and universities. Official transcripts are required. (C grade and 3+ credits required for review)

Transfer Credit – Institutions Abroad	Credit taken at institutions in countries other than the United States or Canada based on recommendations from agencies that evaluate international academic records. A list of these is available at NACES.ORG. To properly evaluate the coursework from these institutions course descriptions from the catalog, or syllabi must be provided in an official English translation.
Transfer Credit – Consortium Agreements	Evaluation of transfer credit based on previously agreed-upon arrangements with institutions abroad, in the United States, and in Canada.
Advanced Placement (AP) Credit	Exam based credit through high schools. (3+ grade required for review)
College Level Placement Exam (CLEP)	College Board exam-based credit. (50+ grade required for review)
International Baccalaureate (IB)	International Education Program (5+ grade required for review)
Ontario Advanced Credit (OAC)	Students who took OAC courses prior to 2003 may be eligible for up to 15 credits of transfer. (70+ grade required for review)
Military Experience	Submit your DD-214 to ROTC for review for up to 6 credits of military experience.

Current Niagara University Articulation Agreements:

- Erie Community College
- Finger Lakes Community College
- Genesee Community College
- Herkimer Community College
- Humber College
- Jefferson Community College
- Mohawk College
- Mohawk Valley Community College
- Monroe Community College
- Niagara College
- SUNY Niagara
- Seneca College

Students, Faculty, and Staff should be directed to Admissions for further information on any individual articulation agreement.

POLICY HISTORY:

- Originated: 11/21/2016
- Current Effective Date: 5/3/2024
- Next Review Date: **5/3/2027**
- Revision/Renewal Log: