

C. CREDITS, GRADES, and STANDING

All credits earned at Mississippi State University are in semester hours. In most curricula, taking an average load of 16-18 hours for a regular semester will enable a student to make normal progress toward graduation.

Year or quarter hours transferred from another institution are converted into semester hours for purposes of uniformity in determining graduation requirements.

Transfer credits are accepted only from institutions accredited by or in candidate status with a regional accrediting body, such as the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Not more than 25 percent of any curriculum may be earned by advanced standing examinations, College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), evaluated military service credits, tutorial, extension courses, and advanced placement exams (a maximum of 20% of the total degree hours can be correspondence courses). Evaluated military service credits are classified as extension work. Correspondence courses must be approved by the dean before being taken by students in residence. USAFI credits are classified as correspondence work.

1. Credit by Examination

a. Advanced Placement Examinations. Students entering Mississippi State University for the first time are allowed credit on the advanced placement examination administered by the College Entrance Examination Board. Grades of Satisfactory (S) appear on the transcript for courses in which advanced placement credit is earned. These courses do not affect grade-point averages. Applicability of such credit to a specific degree is to be determined by the appropriate dean. The following table provides the details on how credit is presently assigned in the various subject areas by the deans.

AP EXAMINATION	SCORE	HOURS CREDIT	RELATED COURSE
1. ART HISTORY	4 or 5	3	ART 1013
2. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE	4	3	BIO 1123
	5	6	BIO 1123 and BIO 1023
3. CHEMISTRY	3	3	CH 1213
	4 or 5	6	CH 1213 and CH 1223
4. COMPUTER SCIENCE	A Exam	4 or 5	CSE 1233
	AB Exam	3	CSE 1233
		4 or 5	CSE 1233
5. ECONOMICS	Macroeconomics	4 or 5	EC 2113
	Microeconomics	4 or 5	EC 2123
6. ENGLISH	Language & Comp.	3	EN 1103
	Language & Comp.	4 or 5	EN 1103 and 1113
	Literature & Comp.	3	EN 1103
	Literature & Comp.	4 or 5	EN 1103 and 1113
7. FRENCH	Language Level 3	3	FLF 1113,1123, 2133
	Language Level 3	4 or 5	FLF 1113,1123, 2133, 2143
	Literature Level 3	3	FLF 1113,1123, 2133
	Literature Level 3	4 or 5	FLF 1113,1123, 2133, 2143
8. GERMAN	Language Level 3	3	FLG 1113,1123, 2133
	Language Level 3	4 or 5	FLG 1113,1123, 2133, 2143
9. GOVERNMENT and POLITICS	Comparative	4 or 5	PS 1513
	United States	4 or 5	PS 1113
10. HISTORY	American	3	HI 1063
		4 or 5	HI 1063 and HI 1073
	European	3	HI 1213
		4 or 5	HI 1213 and HI 1223
11. LATIN	Vergil	3	FLL 1113,1123, 2133
	Vergil	4 or 5	FLL 1113,1123, 2133, 2143
	Catullus-Horace	3	FLL 1113,1123, 2133
	Catullus-Horace	4 or 5	FLL 1113,1123, 2133, 2143
12. MATHEMATICS	AB Exam	3,4 or 5	MA 1713
	BC Exam	3	MA 1713
		4 or 5	MA 1713 and MA 1723
	Statistics	4 or 5	ST 2113
13. PHYSICS (no lab credit)	B Exam	3 or 4	PH 1113
		5	PH 1113 and PH 1123 or PH 2213
	CI Exam	3	PH 1113
		4 or 5	PH 1113 or 2213
	CII Exam	4 or 5	PH 2223
14. PSYCHOLOGY	4 or 5	3	PSY 1013
15. SPANISH	Language Level 3	3	FLS 1113,1123, 2133
	Language Level 3	4 or 5	FLS 1113,1123, 2133, 2143

Literature Level 3	3	9	FLS 1113,1123, 2133
Literature Level 3	4 or 5	12	FLS 1113,1123, 2133, 2143

As more high schools develop Advanced Placement courses, Mississippi State University will consider their inclusion in this listing for credit.

Advanced Placement credit earned by approved testing may be applied to Honors College credentials if the student successfully completes an MSU honors course in the same subject matter, i.e., both credits for testing and for graded courses may apply to Honors College Phases I and II. (For example: AP credit for Composition I and Honors Composition II or AP credit for Calculus I and Honors Calculus II would yield six hours for each subject area.)

b. Advanced Standing Examinations. Applications for advanced standing examinations must be submitted to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; application forms are available in that office and must be filled out in quintuplicate. Contact the Office of Academic Affairs for information on deadlines, etc. The applicant must be a regularly enrolled student in residence on the campus, when he or she files the application and takes the examination.

Advanced standing examinations must be taken within two weeks from the date of approval by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the grade card (signed by the instructor who graded the examination, the head of the department, and the student's dean), fee slip, a copy of the examination questions, and the examination paper must likewise be filed in the office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs within the same two-week period; otherwise, the student's application becomes null and void.

After an application is approved, the instructor whose name appears on the application form, and the student, will be notified. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor as to the time and place of the examination. The student must appear for the examination on the date agreed upon.

Grades of C or better are passing grades and will be recorded on the student's permanent record. No student is permitted to take more than one advanced standing examination during any semester or summer term, and only 15 hours of credit so earned will count toward graduation.

Credits earned through an advanced standing examination in any course considered prerequisite for an advanced course will be applied toward graduation hours and the grade-point average only if the examination is passed **before** the advanced class has been completed. **Under no circumstances will any credit earned by advanced standing examinations count toward graduation if the student already has credit for the course or its equivalent on his or her high school record.**

c. College-Level Examination Program (CLEP). A total of not more than 25 percent of any curriculum may be earned by advanced placement exams, advanced standing examinations, College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), evaluated military service credits, correspondence, tutorial, extension, and USAFI courses. Evaluated military service credits are classified as extension work, and USAFI credits are classified as correspondence work. Mississippi State University serves as an open testing center for both the General and Subject Examinations. Academic credit on the Subject Examinations is awarded to students who are enrolled at the University and who make a scaled score of 50 or above (see exceptions below). Credit is neither awarded nor accepted for transfer credit for the General Examinations. Credit is considered the same as extension credit and is subject to the same limitations. The applicability of credit toward degree requirements is determined by the dean and/or department head concerned. At present, the only courses for which credit may be obtained through the CLEP Program are these:

MKT 3013	Principles of Marketing	ACC 2013	Principles of Financial Accounting
EC 2113	Principles of Macroeconomics	BIS 1012	Business Computer Systems
EC 2123	Principles of Microeconomics	FLF 1113	French I
HI 1213	Early Western World	FLF 1123	French II
HI 1223	Modern Western World	FLF 2133	French III (requires score of 59)
HI 1063	Early U.S. History	FLF 2143	French IV (requires score of 59)
HI 1073	Modern U.S. History	FLG 1113	German I
MA 1313	College Algebra	FLG 1123	German II
MA 1453	Precalculus	FLG 2133	German III (requires score of 60)
MA 1713, 1723	Calculus I, II	FLG 2143	German IV (requires score of 60)
EPY 2513	Human Growth and Development	FLS 1113	Spanish I
EPY 3503	Principles of Educational Psychology	FLS 1123	Spanish II
CH 1213	Chemistry I	FLS 2133	Spanish III (requires score of 63)
CH 1223	Chemistry II	FLS 2143	Spanish IV (requires score of 63)
PS 1113	American Government		
SO 1003	Introduction to Sociology		

For further information about CLEP and a form for application to take the tests, please write to: Computer Based Testing, P.O. Box 9747, Mississippi State, MS 39762, or call (662) 325-6610.

d. The International Baccalaureate. The International Baccalaureate program is a comprehensive and rigorous two-year curriculum, leading to examinations, for students between sixteen and nineteen years of age. To accommodate differences among cultures regarding academic standards, it is a deliberate compromise between the specialization required in some national systems and the breadth preferred in others. The general objectives of the IB are to provide students with a balanced education; to facilitate geographic and cultural mobility; and to promote international understanding through a shared academic experience. The student who satisfies its demands demonstrates a strong commitment to learning, both in terms of the mastery of subject content and in the development of the skills and discipline necessary for success in a competitive world.

The IB curriculum consists of six subject groups:

Language A	(best language) including the study of selections from World Literature
Language B	(second language) or another Language A
Individuals and Societies	History, Geography, Economics, Philosophy, Psychology, Social Anthropology, Business and Organization
Experimental Sciences	Biology, Chemistry, General Chemistry, Applied Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Systems, Design Technology, Physical and Chemical Systems
Mathematics	Mathematics, Mathematical Methods, Mathematical Studies, Advanced Mathematics
Electives	Art/Design, Music, Latin, Classical Greek, Computing Studies, History and Culture of the Islamic World, Advanced Mathematics, a second subject from the humanities or the sciences, a third modern language, a school-based syllabus approved by the IB

All IB Diplomas candidates are required to offer one subject from each of the groups. At least three and not more than four of the six subjects are taken at the Higher level, the others at the Subsidiary level. Each examined subject is graded on a scale of 1 (minimum) to 7 (maximum). The award of the Diploma requires a minimum total of 24 points and the satisfactory completion of three additional requirements: the Extended Essay of some 4000 words, which provides the first experience of the independent research paper; a course entitled Theory of Knowledge (ToK), which explores the relationships among the various disciplines and ensures that students engage in critical reflection and analysis of the knowledge acquired within and beyond the classroom; the compulsory participation in Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS) extracurricular and community-service activities. Bonus points may be awarded for the exceptional essay or performance in Theory of Knowledge.

Mississippi State University recognizes the IB Program. Advance standing credit will be considered for the higher level subject examinations with scores of 5, 6 or 7 pending approval of the various colleges, schools and major departments of the university

A final official IB transcript will be sent by the International Baccalaureate North America (IBNA) regional office following the grade awarding and upon the request of the student. The document will indicate the level of the subjects, the grade awarded in each, the total point score and the completion of the additional Diploma requirements. Results are available in late July for May session candidates.