

**Proposed Policy on Credit for MOOCs**  
**CSU Faculty Senate**  
**March 11, 2013**

Columbus State University values students' prior learning experiences, both formal and informal, and seeks to award students academic credit for such experiences when it is appropriate to do so.

If a student requests academic credit at CSU based on successful completion of a massively open online course (MOOC) that is offered by an accredited institution and if that institution awards its own students credit for completion of the MOOC, then CSU should accept the course for elective credit. If a student requests that the course be used as a substitute for a particular CSU course, the request should be considered for approval by the appropriate academic department using the normal procedures outlined below under *Transfer Credit*.

If a student requests academic credit at CSU based on successful completion of a MOOC that is not accepted for credit at the course's home institution, then CSU should evaluate the course completion as a non-traditional prior learning experience using the normal procedures outlined below under *Non-traditional Sources of Credit*.

**Transfer Credit**

The university makes every effort to transfer credit for academic work completed at other institutions. In general, courses completed at a regionally accredited college or university will transfer. Courses completed at a non-regionally accredited institution will be reviewed for acceptance based on the student's request and submission of required documentation. Credit is allowed for English 1101 and 1102 if the grade in each course is C or better.

Recognition for placement in advanced courses will be given for previous work that is substantially equivalent to, and at the same level as, prerequisites at Columbus State University. Regardless of the total number of semester credit hours allowed in transfer, a minimum of 30 semester hours must be taken in residence at Columbus State University after the student has qualified as a junior.

Requests for transfer credit will be considered for persons who have gained admission as transfer students and will be based on official transcripts supplied by colleges previously attended. For use in satisfying requirements for a degree, all work evaluated as valid transfer credit is subject to approval by the dean or chair of the academic unit which offers the degree sought. Quarter hours are converted to semester hours by using the formula of one quarter hour equals two-thirds of a semester hour. Students may view their academic record showing transfer course work online by visiting CougarNet.

**Non-Traditional Sources of Credit**

The registrar will evaluate records of work completed through non-residential settings from any combination of the sources listed below, correspondence courses, and extension work. The

credit, which may be used to satisfy degree requirements, is limited to 60 semester hours toward a baccalaureate degree and 30 semester hours toward an associate degree. Deans of colleges and department chairs determine the applicability of all evaluated credits toward degree requirements. Examples of non-traditional sources of credit include:

**Standardized tests.** Successful completion of the general examinations and subject examinations offered by the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) may result in college credit. Students must provide official score reports before credit will be evaluated. Students with a SAT Critical Reading score of 650 or above and a writing sample approved by the Department of Language and Literature will be placed into ENGL 1102. Students will receive credit for ENGL 1101 by registering for ENGL 1101X their first term of enrollment. Courses taken by examination are identified on the student's academic record by an X following the course designation.

**Military service experience.** A maximum of 21 semester hours of credit for successful completion of work in military service schools is awarded for 12 consecutive months or more of active duty service. Students must provide a copy of their DD 214 or a military transcript (AARTS or SMART) for an evaluation of transfer credit. Wellness, to include physical education, requirements will be waived.

**Professional certification.** A maximum of 12 semester hours of credit for successful completion of recognized certification courses or examinations may be awarded. The professional certification courses or examinations must relate directly to the program or course of study the student is pursuing. Credit is granted on an individual basis with the determination of the appropriate number of hours of credit accepted toward a degree and the relevancy of the work to the degree program requirements made by the dean of the college awarding the degree.

**Columbus State University credit examinations.** To demonstrate educational achievement attained outside the traditional classroom, students may arrange to take credit examinations. Examinations are available for some courses in the core curriculum. Deans and department chairs may also approve the preparation of examinations for credit in other courses offered in their departments. Instructions for arranging credit examinations are available in the dean's office of the college offering the course. Courses taken by examination are identified on the student's academic record by an X following the course designation. A grade of K indicates the examination was passed; W indicates the examination was not taken or was not passed. In determining the enrollment status of students receiving veterans' benefits, credit-by-examination courses are not counted as hours taken.

Students whose secondary education was conducted in a language other than English may be awarded up to nine semester hours of foreign language credit toward a BA degree. Students who think they may qualify for this credit should contact the chair of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages. Tuition and fees will be charged for credit awarded.