Transfer Students

Transfer Student Status

In order to be governed by the transfer credit policies and procedures described below, an incoming student must have completed at least one term as a full-time student in a bachelor's degree-seeking program at another college or university prior to matriculating at the University of Chicago.

Transfer Credit for Non-Transfer Students

Current students in the College who wish to take courses elsewhere and transfer the credit back to their UChicago degree program should instead refer to the College's transfer credit policies for non-transfer students (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/transfercredit/currentstudents/).

Transfer Credit Evaluation Process

The College Academic and Student Services Office will evaluate the prior coursework of all incoming transfer students for transfer credit in two phases: preliminary and official. Preliminary transfer credit evaluations are conducted following extension of an offer of admission. Official transfer credit evaluations are conducted following acceptance of the offer of admission. Transfer credit evaluations are not available prior to these phases of the admissions process.

If approved, transfer credit is listed on the student's University of Chicago transcript only as the number of credits approved to transfer. The grades do not appear on the University of Chicago transcript, nor do they count toward the University of Chicago GPA.

Submission of Required Materials

The Office of College Admissions (https://collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/apply/transfer-applicants/transfer-credit/) provides initial information to incoming transfer students about how to submit the materials necessary for an evaluation of previous college coursework for the awarding of transfer credit at UChicago. These materials begin with official transcripts sent directly from all institutions previously attended following the awarding of the student's high school diploma or GED. Both phases of the transfer credit evaluation process require official transcripts from the student, and final official transcripts must include final grades for all courses through the student's final term of enrollment at the previous institution(s).

Following the release of the student's preliminary evaluation, course syllabi from the original college or university may also be required by the College Academic and Student Services Office to determine whether a course is eligible for transfer credit due to no recent history of the course having been approved to transfer to UChicago. Course syllabi must include the following information:

- Subject code, course number, and course title
- Instructor name and title
- Course description and overall learning outcomes
- Detailed meeting schedule with topics covered
- Textbooks and other materials utilized
- Summary of major assignments/exams and grading structure

If a syllabus for a course is not available, alternative documentation may be submitted (e.g., reading lists, exams, etc.). Please note, however, that the potential for credit may be affected.

Required materials should be submitted in accordance with timelines specified by the Office of College Admissions. Delays in submitting official transcripts and other required materials may significantly impact the transfer credit evaluation process, so students are encouraged to submit materials in a timely manner.

NOTE: Incoming students intending to use V.A. benefits for which they may be eligible should also submit final official transcripts from any colleges and universities in which they were enrolled prior to the awarding of their high school diploma or GED as the V.A. requires documentation of these courses be incorporated in the transfer credit evaluation.

Preliminary Transfer Credit Evaluations

Preliminary transfer credit evaluations are conducted only for admitted students and provide specific course articulations, including eligibility for Core credit, for any courses which the College has approved for transfer credit in recent years and remain in alignment with the minimum requirements for transfer eligibility outlined below. Admitted transfer students will be notified when their preliminary evaluation is available shortly after being notified of their acceptance. The College Academic and Student Services Office makes every effort to provide this preliminary evaluation before a student's reply deadline.

Official Transfer Credit Evaluations

Official transfer credit evaluations are conducted only for incoming students and provide specific course articulations, including eligibility for Core (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/thecore/) credit. Official

evaluations will also incorporate the following provided final official transcripts and course syllabi are submitted on time:

- Final grades from any Spring term enrollments
- Determinations from course syllabi submitted by the student

Incoming transfer students will be notified when their official evaluation is available beginning in mid-Summer, prior to pre-registration (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/registration/#pre-registration) for Autumn Quarter. Semester conversion units and prorated quarters of enrollment (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/transfercredit/transferstudents/quarters of enrollment/) will be confirmed and awarded transfer credit applied to each student's academic record shortly thereafter. Students' expected graduation term (EGT) will be updated to reflect their allotted quarters of enrollment at that time.

NOTE: No petitions are to be submitted to faculty for additional review of materials until after the official evaluation process has been completed.

Minimum Requirements for Transfer Eligibility

Courses taken at previously attended institutions must meet all guidelines outlined below to be **eligible** for consideration during the transfer credit evaluation process:

- Be taken at an accredited institution that grants bachelor's degrees
- Be sufficiently similar to course offerings in the College at the University of Chicago in terms of subject area, content, and learning outcomes
- Confer at least three semester hours or four quarter hours of credit (or require a minimum of 30 contact hours for institutions without standard credit hours)
- Be completed with a quality letter grade of C or above (not C- or P)
- Not duplicate credit that students will earn or have already earned for college-level coursework via examination credit (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/examinationcreditandtransfercredit/), transfer credit from another previously attended institution, or course enrollment at UChicago

Courses falling within any of the categories below are considered **ineligible** for the awarding of transfer credit:

- Courses taken prior to the awarding of a high school diploma or GED
- Courses taken elsewhere after matriculating into UChicago, or during the summer immediately prior to matriculation
- Courses taken through a primarily online program or institution
- Courses not considered to be college level in their subject area at UChicago (e.g., pre-calculus)
- Professional or technical courses such as, but not limited to: law, civil/mechanical engineering, speech, education, or leadership
- Course credit granted for independent study, internships, or prior learning (e.g., work experience, professional certifications, etc.)
- Select courses in subjects utilizing a separate placement and/or accreditation examination process for the granting of credit at UChicago

Courses for which all required materials have been submitted and all standards for eligibility have been met as outlined above will, at minimum, be granted general elective credit.

Eligibility for Core Credit

Courses that meet the minimum requirements for transfer eligibility may also be considered on a case-by-case basis for fulfillment of the College's general education (i.e., Core) requirements during the transfer credit evaluation process. Policies and procedures related to the awarding of transfer credit for Core requirements (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/thecore/) and how transfer students should prepare for completing the Core is outlined by subject area below.

Humanities, Civilization Studies, and Social Sciences Core Requirements

Students in the College are expected to fulfill Core requirements in the Humanities (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/humanities/), Social Sciences (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/socialsciences/), and Civilization Studies (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/civilizationstudies/) while in residence at the University of Chicago. Transfer credit cannot be used to fulfill these requirements.

Arts and Writing Core Requirements

Courses that meet the intended learning outcomes and fulfill the spirit in which the Core requirements for Arts (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/artscore/) and Writing (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/writing/) were written will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by designees in the Arts & Humanities Collegiate Division (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/curriculum/#humanitiescollegiatedivision)

and New Collegiate Division (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/curriculum/#newcollegiatedivision) respectively. Courses in the Arts that are highly specialized or limited to studio practice will not be considered for Core credit.

Mathematical Sciences Core Requirement

Credit for prior calculus coursework (MATH 15100 Calculus I and MATH 15200 Calculus II) as a means to fulfill the Core requirement in Mathematical Sciences (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/mathematicalsciencescore/) will be granted only upon successful completion of the Calculus Accreditation Exam (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/accreditationexams/#calculusaccreditationexam) or higher-level coursework as determined on a case-by-case basis by designees in the Physical Sciences Collegiate Division (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/curriculum/#physicalsciencescollegiatedivision). Transfer credit will not be granted for lower-level mathematics courses such as pre-calculus.

Courses in computer science, data science, and statistics will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis for Core course equivalency by designees in the Physical Sciences Collegiate Division (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/curriculum/#physicalsciencescollegiatedivision).

Select scores from official AP, IB, or A-Level exam (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/apibalevelexams/) results are another means for fulfilling Mathematical Sciences Core requirements or securing higher-level placements. Students planning or considering further mathematics study at UChicago can take the Mathematics Placement Exams (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/placementexams/#mathematicsplacementexams) and/or Computer Science Placement Exams (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/placementexams/#computerscienceplacementexams) offered during the summer prior to matriculation to confirm the appropriate placement in combination with the evaluation of their prior coursework.

Physical and Biological Sciences Core Requirements

Courses must have a lab component to be considered for fulfillment of Physical Sciences (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/physicalsciences/) Core requirements. To be considered for fulfillment of the requirement using course equivalency in chemistry (e.g., CHEM 11100 Comprehensive General Chemistry I and CHEM 11200 Comprehensive General Chemistry II), previous courses must be awarded by an institution accredited by the American Chemical Society. To be considered for fulfillment of the requirement using course equivalency in physics (e.g., PHYS 12100 General Physics I and PHYS 12200 General Physics II), previous courses must be calculus-based.

Other courses that meet the intended learning outcomes and fulfill the spirit in which the Core requirements for the Physical Sciences were written will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by designees in the Physical Sciences Collegiate Division (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/curriculum/#physicalsciencescollegiatedivision).

At least one course in the Biological Sciences (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/biologicalsciencescore/) Core requirement must also have a lab component. Courses that meet the intended learning outcomes and fulfill the spirit in which the Core requirements for the Biological Sciences were written will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by designees in the Biological Sciences Collegiate Division (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/curriculum/#spanbiologicalsciencescollegiatedivisionspan).

Select scores from official AP, IB, or A-Level exam (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/apibalevelexams/) results are another means for fulfilling Physical and Biological Science Core requirements or securing higher-level placements. Students planning or considering further chemistry study at UChicago can take the Chemistry Placement Exams (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/placementexams/#spanchemistryplacementexamsspan) offered during the summer prior to matriculation to confirm the appropriate placement in combination with the evaluation of their prior coursework. Students who have taken the Mathematics Placement Exams (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/placementexams/#mathematicsplacementexams) will also have their results reviewed for placement into PHYS 13100 Mechanics or PHYS 14100 Honors Mechanics.

Language Competence Core Requirement

Completion of an intermediate- or advanced-level course in a language other than English with a resulting quality grade of B or above will satisfy the Core requirement in Language Competence (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/languagecompetency/). Alternatively, completion of coursework equivalent to one year of introductory-level study in a language other than English with a resulting quality grade of C or above will qualify the student for the Language Competency Assessment (https://languageassessment.uchicago.edu/competency/competency-registration/) offered on-campus during Winter Quarter, which may result in satisfaction of the requirement.

Select scores from official AP, IB, or A-Level exam (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/apibalevelexams/) results are another means for fulfilling the Language Competence requirement. Finally, transfer students who have lived and attended school in another culture and wish to provide documentation for fulfillment of their Language Competence requirement have the option to submit a Language Petition (https://college.uchicago.edu/advising/tools-forms/) requesting a waiver.

Students planning or considering further language study at UChicago should take the Language Placement Exam (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/placementexams/#languageplacementexams) offered during the summer prior to matriculation to confirm the appropriate placement in the language they wish to pursue.

Eligibility for Departmental Credit

Departmental credit may be useful for incoming transfer students hoping to meet specific course prerequisites or satisfy certain requirements in an intended major or minor. Incoming students may be granted approval for transfer credit equivalent to a specific UChicago course beyond the Core or fulfilling a specific major/minor requirement in one of two ways:

- Department approval granted during the transfer credit evaluation process under the terms outlined on the relevant department's Catalog page under Programs of Study (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/programsofstudy/), or
- Following the release of their official transfer credit evaluation, seeking departmental approval by submitting a General Petition (https://college.uchicago.edu/advising/tools-forms/) to the department contact listed in the Catalog

Students intending to use transfer credit toward fulfillment of a major or minor requirement must abide by the residency requirements outlined under the College's degree requirements (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/degreerequirements/).

Semester Conversion Units

For students transferring from a college or university utilizing a semester-format academic calendar, two standard semester-length courses are ordinarily considered equivalent to three standard quarter-length courses at the University of Chicago. This conversion rate will be incorporated into the official transfer credit evaluation as either general elective credit or as the third course in an awarded three-course sequence.

Total Unit Limits

Transfer students may not be awarded more than 1200 units of transfer credit (including semester conversion units) per academic year of enrollment at a previous institution. Similarly, transfer students may not be awarded more than 400 units of transfer credit (including semester conversion units) per individual term of enrollment, including summer, at a previous institution.

Residency Requirements

Starting with the summer immediately prior to enrollment at the University of Chicago, transfer students may not earn additional credit from colleges and universities other than the University of Chicago. To meet the College's degree requirements (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/degreerequirements/), a transfer student must be "in residence" as a degree-seeking student in the College for the equivalent of at least six quarters (excluding summers) and must successfully complete a minimum of 1800 units of credit (i.e., 18 100-unit courses) by enrollment in UChicago courses. Additionally, at least half of the requirements for any majors or minors must be completed in residence.

Course credit approved to transfer will count toward the 3800-unit credit minimum students are required to earn via course enrollment. Faculty-led study abroad programs (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/offcampusstudyprograms/#faculty-ledprograms) sponsored by the College may be used to meet both the 1800-unit residency requirement and 3800-unit course enrollment requirement. Transfer students will be allowed to participate in direct enrollment study abroad programs (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/offcampusstudyprograms/#directenrollmentprograms) affiliated with the College, but these courses cannot be used to satisfy the residency requirement.

Quarters of Enrollment

Ordinarily, non-transfer students in the College are granted a total of 12 quarters of enrollment (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/gradingandacademicstatus/#quartersofenrollment) (i.e., four years if taken consecutively) to complete their degree requirements (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/degreerequirements/). Transfer students will be allotted a prorated number of quarters based on the total units awarded to them during the transfer credit evaluation process. All transfer students will be granted a minimum of six quarters of enrollment in order to meet the College's 1800-unit residency requirement. Click here to review how allotted quarters impact student levels. (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/gradingandacademicstatus/#levels)

Summer Quarters and quarters of non-enrollment (e.g., leave of absence, suspension) do not count against the quarters allotted. Examination credit (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/examinationcreditandtransfercredit/), credit earned during the Summer Session, and courses not successfully completed by the student may also affect the rate at which a student moves toward completion of their degree. As they approach graduation, transfer students may submit an Additional Quarter of Enrollment Petition (https://college.uchicago.edu/advising/tools-forms/) for additional quarters of study if academically necessary for completion of the degree.

Enrollment Holds

During the transfer credit evaluation process (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/transfercredit/transferstudents/#transfercreditevaluationprocess), incoming transfer students are required to submit final official transcripts to the Office of College Admissions (https://collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/apply/transfer-applicants/transfer-credit/) for all institution(s) previously attended following the awarding of the student's high school diploma or GED. An enrollment hold preventing course registration for subsequent quarters will be applied during Autumn Quarter for any new transfer students who have not submitted these materials and will only be removed upon receipt of the missing transcript(s).

NOTE: Incoming students intending to use V.A. benefits for which they may be eligible should also submit final official transcripts from any colleges and universities in which they were enrolled prior to the awarding of their high school diploma or GED as the V.A. requires documentation of these courses be incorporated in the transfer credit evaluation. Holds may also be applied to these students in Autumn Quarter should the transcript(s) not be submitted.