Advanced Placement Credit

Revised: January 1, 2011

Entities Affected by this Policy

All Incoming Freshmen

Issuing Office

Office of the Provost

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I. Introduction

Drexel University recognizes the significance of superior scores earned by incoming freshmen on Advanced Placement (AP) examinations administered by the College Board. Consideration of AP performance may accelerate a student's progress in his/her respective degree program. Students should arrange to have their scores sent directly to Drexel University from the College Board, the code is 2194.

II. Student Options

Incoming freshmen who have received a score of 4 or 5 on any AP examination have the option of receiving credit and/or placement according to the departmental guidelines established in the AP Credit Crosswalk and the requirements for their major. With the approval of their academic advisor, they may:
1. be placed in an advanced course in that AP subject,
2. substitute another course or credit-bearing activity in its place,
3. waive the course and receive course credit towards graduation requirements according to the departmental guidelines established in the AP Credit Crosswalk. Please note that the Crosswalk represents a general overview of AP credit equivalencies and evaluation as of the last modified date reflected on this policy. All departments reserve the right to re-evaluate the content of exams and to change the assignment of credit and course equivalencies. Furthermore any new exams offered by the College Board after February 15th may or may not be evaluated by the appropriate department. Placement into advanced courses will be deliberated, given advanced course demands, between student and advisor. Students are encouraged to meet with their advisor to explore the most current AP assessments.

III. Credit Evaluation

Students’ AP scores and credit are evaluated the year in which they matriculate according to the AP equivalency and evaluation standards in place for that year. It is expected that students will have their AP scores submitted for evaluation prior to matriculation to facilitate a timely assessment of their scores and equivalent coursework for program planning. Students may not apply for AP credit after they matriculate as AP credit will not be assigned to the academic record retroactively.

Students may not receive AP credit for an equivalent course taken at Drexel or elsewhere. If a student earns credit in a course equivalent to an AP exam for which he or she has already earned credit, the AP credit will be deleted from the academic record.

IV. Accelerated Programs

Students enrolled in a Drexel accelerated degree program – e.g. BS/MS, BS/PhD, or BS/MD, BA/JD, BS/MBA - may, with the approval of their academic advisor, decide to complete coursework or waive selected courses in which AP scores of 4 and 5 have been earned and apply the course credits to meet graduation requirements.

V. Restrictions

The University reserves the right to refuse certain AP credits if issues regarding the likelihood of success or progression within the program of study arise or if program requirements dictate. Certain departments such as mathematics, physics and chemistry have separate criteria for placement in courses. All entering freshmen are expected to participate in placement exams to ensure that they possess critical skills and knowledge in the content area. Placement examination scores will be evaluated against AP scores to ensure students are enrolled in courses for which they are well prepared. AP Credit may
impact student status and consequently billing status (please see billing guidelines). Students’ program and co-op plans are developed on a case by case basis.