

International Baccalaureate (IB) Course Assessment for Awarding College Credit

Procedure Number: 203.20
Date Adopted: 12/7/17
Approved by: ASCRC and Faculty Senate

References:

1. <http://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/>
2. <https://admissions.umt.edu/admissions/advanced-credits/ib.php>
3. <http://www.ibo.org/programmes/find-an-ib-school/>
4. [BOR policy 301.19.II.B.2](#) Prior Learning Assessment
5. Faculty Senate [PLA Guidelines 203.30](#)

Intent of Document

The International Baccalaureate® (IB) is a non-profit educational foundation that offers a range of educational opportunities for students 3-19 years of age in a variety of public and private schools. IB courses and programs represent one form of advanced options available to high school students that the University of Montana and the Montana Board of Regents recognize for college credit through prior learning assessment. This policy establishes the methods for UM assessment of IB courses for acceptance and awarding course credit at the University.

Guidelines for Assessment and Awarding Credit for IB courses and programs

The University of Montana's IB policy is administered through the Office of Enrollment Services-Admissions. Admissions maintains an online list of IB courses and exams, acceptable exam scores, the applicable IB levels (standard level "SL" or high level "HL"), the UM equivalent course, credits and any general education application. Admissions determines these parameters using criteria consistent with transcript evaluation for course transfers in the admissions process. Faculty Senate recognizes the expertise and propriety of the Admissions Office for administration of IB as partners in shared governance.

University of Montana IB policy

- College credit may be granted for each High Level (HL) exam passed with an examination score of four or higher. The admissions website lists the HL exams for which credit is granted.
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- Credit may be granted for Standard Level (SL) exams passed with an examination score of four or higher. The admissions website lists the SL exams for which credit is granted.
- The University of Montana may offer a maximum of 30 credits (sophomore equivalent standing) to all incoming students who have received a Diploma with a score of 30 or better, with no individual exam scores lower than four.
- IB equivalent credits are normally distributed as electives, although students who desire credit for specific UM courses may petition the applicable department for IB course application toward a degree.

- IB credits may be used to satisfy General Education requirements as listed on the web site.
- IB Credits cannot be used toward upper-division coursework.
- Enrollment Services-Admissions shall provide students with an evaluation of their IB-UM credits upon receipt of official scores and the IB-UM credits shall be transcribed according to UM policies.

Procedure for Modification of UM International Baccalaureate Course List

1. Inquiries should be referred to the UM Admissions Office, or information can be found by checking the [IB Policy and list](#) available on the UM Admissions web site.
2. Any listed IB Examination (HL or SL) that is completed by obtaining the listed score (or greater) may be accepted for equivalent credit (as listed under UM credits) for the UM courses listed. The UM equivalent course may also be used to satisfy General Education (UM Gen Ed) requirements for the categories listed (e.g. X, L, N, etc.).
3. Students and IB schools should be advised to check with UM Admissions for the UM procedure to gain IB credits for listed exams that they may have completed.
4. If the IB exam of interest does not appear on the current UM IB list posted on the UM Admissions web site for equivalent credit, then the IB student or school may request addition of the exam to the UM IB list by forwarding a request to UM admissions.
5. Upon receipt of the request, UM Admissions will decide whether the addition is appropriate. The UM Admissions Office shall immediately notify Faculty Senate/ASCRC and the relevant academic departments of any proposed changes to the IB list including a justification for the proposed changes. The academic unit has one week to respond, but can request an extension of up to 30 days. If the academic unit does not respond, the Admissions Office will implement the proposed change. If the academic unit and the Admissions Office cannot come to an agreement, ASCRC will decide the issue at its next meeting; representatives of the academic unit and of the Admissions Office will be invited to attend this meeting.
6. Faculty Senate reserves the right to review the IB list at any time and make revisions in consultation with the UM Admissions Office.