

# Northern Illinois University

## *Credit by Examination*

Northern Illinois University provides a variety of opportunities for students enrolled at NIU to obtain college Credit by Examination (CBE).

Credit may be awarded through the Advanced Placement Program (AP), the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), the DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) Program, International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, and NIU proficiency examinations.

This brochure is intended as an overview of NIU's CBE program. The examinations, passing scores, course credit, and examination fees are subject to change.

### Advanced Placement

The Advanced Placement Program (AP) is a series of national examinations that measures the knowledge and skills acquired by students who have taken AP courses. The courses and examinations are administered by high schools and the resulting examination scores are sent to colleges of the students' choice. Students with sufficiently high scores on certain AP examinations may be eligible for specific NIU course credit. NIU awards credit according to the following schedule:

| APP Exam   | Score   | NIU Credit                               |
|--|---------|--|
| Art History  | 4, 5    | ARTH 282                                 |
| Studio Art, Drawing  | 4, 5    | Art Studio Elective, 3 hrs.              |
| Studio Art, 2-D Design   | 4, 5    | Art Studio Elective, 3 hrs.              |
| Studio Art, 3-D Design   | 4, 5    | Art Studio Elective, 3 hrs.              |
| Note: No more than 3 sem. hrs. of studio elective credit may be awarded through the AP.  |         |  |
| Biology  | 4, 5    | BIOS 208, BIOS 210, BIOS 209, & BIOS 211 |
| Students wishing to substitute BIOS 103 and BIOS 105 for BIOS 208, BIOS 210, BIOS 209, & BIOS 211 credit should submit a written request to Testing Services within 30 days of being notified of their eligibility for credit. |         |  |
| Biology  | 3       | BIOS 103 & BIOS 105                      |
| Calculus AB  | 3, 4, 5 | MATH 229                                 |
| Calculus BC  | 4, 5    | MATH 229 & 230                           |
| Calculus BC  | 2, 3    | MATH 229                                 |

| APP Exam (continued)  | Score   | NIU Credit                               |
|---|---------|--|
| Chemistry   | 5       | CHEM 210, CHEM 211, CHEM 212, & CHEM 213 |
| Chemistry   | 4       | CHEM 210 & CHEM 212                      |
| Computer Science A  | 3, 4, 5 | CSCI 205                                 |
| Computer Science AB   | 3, 4, 5 | CSCI 205 & 240                           |
| Computer Science AB   | 2       | CSCI 205                                 |
| English Lang. and Comp. <b>or</b> English Lit. and Comp.  | 4, 5    | ENGL 103 & 203                           |
| English Lang. and Comp. <b>or</b> English Lit. and Comp.  | 3       | ENGL 103                                 |
| Students with credit in ENGL 204 or enrolled in 204 cannot receive credit in ENGL 103 or 203. However, students with an AP English exam score of 3 who are eligible to take ENGL 204 based on the English Core Competency Exam may substitute 3 hours of English Elective Credit for credit in ENGL 103. Students wishing to make this substitution must submit a written request to Testing Services within 30 days of being notified of their eligibility for credit. |         |  |
| Environmental Science   | 4, 5    | GEOG 253                                 |
| Foreign Lang. & Lit.  |         |  |
| Spanish   | 3       | FLSP 101 & 102                           |
|   | 4       | FLSP 101, 102 & 201                      |
|   | 5       | FLSP 101, 102, 201 & 202                 |
| French  | 3       | FLFR 101 & 102                           |
|   | 4       | FLFR 101, 102 & 201                      |
|   | 5       | FLFR 101, 102, 201 & 202                 |
| German  | 3       | FLGE 101 & 102                           |
|   | 4       | FLGE 101, 102 & 201                      |
|   | 5       | FLGE 101, 102, 201 & 202                 |
| Chinese   | 3       | FLCH 101 & 102                           |
|   | 4       | FLCH 101, 102 & 201                      |
|   | 5       | FLCH 101, 102, 201 & 202                 |
| Human Geography   | 4, 5    | Geography Elective, 3 hrs.               |
| Government & Politics, U.S.   | 3, 4, 5 | POLS 100                                 |
| Government & Politics, Comp.  | 3, 4, 5 | POLS 260                                 |
| History, World  | 4, 5    | HIST 170 & 171                           |
| History, U.S.   | 4, 5    | HIST 260 & 261                           |
| History, European   | 4, 5    | HIST 111 & 112                           |
| Macroeconomics  | 4, 5    | ECON 261                                 |
| Microeconomics  | 4, 5    | ECON 260                                 |
| Physics B   | 3, 4, 5 | PHYS 210 & 211                           |
| Physics C, Mechanics  | 3, 4, 5 | PHYS 253                                 |
| Physics C, Elect. Magn.   | 3, 4, 5 | PHYS 273                                 |
| Psychology  | 3, 4, 5 | PSYC 102                                 |
| Statistics  | 4, 5    | STAT 301                                 |
| Students wishing to substitute STAT 208 for STAT 301 should submit a written request to Testing Services within 30 days of being notified of their eligibility for credit.  |         |  |
| Statistics  | 3       | STAT 208                                 |

## College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

Like AP, the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) measures knowledge and skills learned prior to, or exclusive of, college enrollment. Students who receive sufficiently high scores on certain CLEP examinations may be eligible for credit at NIU.

As of July 1, 2001, all CLEP exams are administered on computer. Scores for exams taken after July 1, 2001 (computer-based examination delivery) are reported differently than exams taken before July 1, 2001 (traditional paper-and-pencil examination delivery). Credit eligibility scores for both computer-based and paper-and-pencil examination deliveries are reported below.

### Computer-Based CLEP Examination Administration (CLEP Exams Taken AFTER July 1, 2001)

| CLEP General Exam  | Score | NIU Credit                               |
|--|-------|--|
| College Composition<br>(replaces English Composition with Essay as of 7/1/10)  | 50    | ENGL 103                                 |
| Humanities   | 56    | Humanities & the Arts, 6 hrs.            |
| Natural Sciences   | 56    | Sciences & Mathematics, 7 hrs.           |
| Social Sciences & History  | 56    | Social Sciences, 6 hrs.                  |
| CLEP Subject Exam  | Score | Course                                   |
|  | 50    | BIOS 103 & BIOS 105                      |
| Biology  | 66    | BIOS 208, BIOS 210, BIOS 209, & BIOS 211 |
| Students wishing to substitute BIOS 103 and BIOS 105 for BIOS 208, BIOS 210, BIOS 209, & BIOS 211 credit should submit a written request to Testing Services within 30 days of being notified of their eligibility for credit. |       |  |
| Chemistry  | 50    | CHEM 210, CHEM 211, CHEM 212, & CHEM 213 |
| Principles of Macroeconomics   | 50    | ECON 261                                 |
| Principles of Microeconomics   | 50    | ECON 260                                 |
| American Literature  | 50    | ENGL 116                                 |
| English Literature   | 50    | ENGL 115                                 |
| Human Growth and Development   | 50    | FCNS 280                                 |
| College Level French   | 66    |  |
| College Level German   | 61    |  |
| College Level Spanish  | 61    |  |
| Students eligible to receive CLEP credit in foreign language must also take NIU's Foreign Language Placement Exam to determine the specific course credit to be awarded. Contact Testing Services for more information.        |       |  |
| Calculus   | 50    | MATH 229                                 |
| American Government  | 61    | POLS 100                                 |
| Introductory Psychology  | 52    | PSYC 102                                 |
| Introductory Sociology   | 50    | SOCI 170                                 |

### Paper-and-Pencil CLEP Examination Administration (CLEP Exams Taken BEFORE July 1, 2001)

| CLEP General Exam   | Score | NIU Credit                               |
|---|-------|--|
| English Composition with Essay  | 480   | ENGL 103                                 |
| Humanities  | 550   | Humanities & the Arts, 6 hrs.            |
| Natural Sciences  | 550   | Sciences & Mathematics, 7 hrs.           |
| Social Sciences & History   | 550   | Social Sciences, 6 hrs.                  |
| CLEP Subject Exam   | Score | Course                                   |
|   | 46    | BIOS 103                                 |
|   | 50    | BIOS 104                                 |
| General Biology   | 55    | BIOS 208, BIOS 210, BIOS 209, & BIOS 211 |
| General Chemistry   | 47    | CHEM 210, CHEM 211, CHEM 212, & CHEM 213 |
| Principles of Macroeconomics  | 44    | ECON 261                                 |
| Principles of Microeconomics  | 41    | ECON 260                                 |
| American Literature   | 46    | ENGL 116                                 |
| English Literature  | 46    | ENGL 115                                 |
| College Level French  | 45    |  |
| College Level German  | 41    |  |
| College Level Spanish   | 48    |  |
| Students eligible to receive CLEP credit in foreign language must also take NIU's Foreign Language Placement Exam to determine the specific course credit to be awarded. Contact Testing Services for more information. |       |  |
| Calculus w/ Elementary Functions  | 41    | MATH 229                                 |
| American Government   | 53    | POLS 100                                 |
| Introductory Psychology   | 50    | PSYC 102                                 |
| Introductory Sociology  | 47    | SOCI 170                                 |

### CLEP Examination Fees

Due to extensive technical difficulties with the CLEP Online Examination program, NIU Testing Services is suspending the administration of all CLEP exams until further notice. We will continue to accept CLEP scores for credit as outlined in this brochure.

## DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST)

In addition to the CLEP subject examinations, NIU also accepts certain DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) scores in consideration of NIU credit. NIU awards DSST credit according to the following schedule:

| DSST                                      | Score | Course   |
|---|-------|----------|
| General Anthropology                      | 47    | ANTH 120 |
| Art of the Western World                  | 48    | ART 282  |
| Physical Geology                          | 46    | GEOL 120 |
| Astronomy                                 | 48    | PHYS 162 |
| Life-Span Developmental Psychology        | 51    | PSYC 225 |
| Principles of Statistics                  |       |          |
| Prior to 7/15/08:                         | 50    | STAT 208 |
| Effective 7/15/08 due to new score scale: | 400   | STAT 208 |

## DSST Examination Fees

Testing Services requires two separate fees for each DSST administered at NIU. There is a non-refundable service fee of \$30.00 for each examination. This fee is payable either in exact cash or a check made payable to NIU. This fee is due on the examination date.

DSST requires a fee of \$80.00 per examination, which is due on the examination date. This fee is payable to DSST by credit card, certified check, or U.S. money order. DSST does not accept personal checks. Students interested in taking a DSST examination should contact the NIU Office of Testing Services for information.

## International Baccalaureate Organization Examinations

Similar to AP, the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, offers a series of rigorous, two-year high school courses leading to internationally prepared examinations at the conclusion of the program. Students with sufficiently high scores on certain IB examinations may be eligible for NIU course credit. NIU awards credit according to the following schedule:

| IB Exam  | Level    | Score      | Course                                     |
|--|----------|------------|--|
| Social & Cultural Anthropology   | High     | 4          | Anthropology Elective                      |
|  | High     | 5, 6, 7    | ANTH 220 and Anthropology Elective         |
| Biology  | Standard | 5, 6, 7    | BIOS 103 & BIOS 105                        |
|  | High     | 5, 6, 7    | BIOS 208, BIOS 210, BIOS 209, and 211      |
| Students wishing to substitute BIOS 103 and BIOS 105 for BIOS 208, BIOS 210, BIOS 209, & BIOS 211 credit should submit a written request to Testing Services within 30 days of being notified of their eligibility for credit. |          |            |  |
| Chemistry  | Standard | 5, 6, 7    | CHEM 210 and CHEM 212                      |
|  | High     | 5, 6, 7    | CHEM 210, CHEM 211, CHEM 212, and CHEM 213 |
| Economics  | Standard | 6, 7       | ECON 260 and ECON 261                      |
|  | High     | 5, 6, 7    | ECON 260 and ECON 262                      |
| Geography  | High     | 5, 6, 7    | General Geography Elective                 |
| Philosophy   | High     | 5, 6, 7    | PHIL 101                                   |
| Physics  | High     | 4, 5, 6, 7 | Requires Departmental Review               |

# NIU Proficiency Examinations

NIU Proficiency Examinations are also a part of NIU's CBE program. The NIU Office of Testing Services administers proficiency tests for the following courses.

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| AHCD 318     | Medical Terminology                          |
| BIOS 103/105 | General Biology                              |
| CHEM 110     | Chemistry                                    |
| CHEM 210/211 | General Chemistry                            |
| FCNS 201     | Human Nutrition                              |
| FCNS 207     | The Consumer                                 |
| FCNS 230     | Child Development                            |
| FCNS 280     | Human Development, The Family, and Society   |
| FCNS 284     | Introduction to Family Relationships         |
| MATH 201     | Foundations of Elementary School Mathematics |
| POLS 100     | American Government and Politics             |

Students interested in attempting any of the above examinations should contact the NIU Office of Testing Services for information. There is no fee for these exams. Information about proficiency examinations for courses other than those identified above may be obtained from the specific academic department office.

## Note:

Credit awarded will be entered on the student's record subject to the following conditions:

1. The student must be enrolled at NIU to receive CBE.
2. All CBE awarded by NIU will be posted to the student's record with the symbol CR and will not be entered until after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the student's first semester. No specific grade is attached to this credit.
3. CBE will not be awarded for courses in which NIU credit has already been granted or for courses which substantially overlap or are prerequisites to courses in which a student is enrolled or are prerequisites to courses for which credit has already been granted. Credit may already have been granted on the basis of transfer, other credit by examination, or courses taken at NIU. Exceptions to these restrictions could occur in cases in which a student passed a credit-by-examination test prior to credit being granted in (or the student enrolling in) a course that would normally render the student ineligible for credit by examination. For example, a student enrolled in MATH 230 could be eligible to receive credit for MATH 229 based on an AP examination taken the previous May. Other restrictions specified in the NIU *Undergraduate Catalog* may also apply.

Additional information about NIU's CBE program is contained in the NIU *Undergraduate Catalog* in the "Academic Regulations" section.

## Testing Services

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Northern Illinois University is an equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status, national origin, disability, or status as a disabled or Vietnam-era veteran. The Constitution and Bylaws of Northern Illinois University afford equal treatment regardless of political views or affiliation, and sexual orientation.