



Credit by Examination at UNO

Credit by Examination is a program allowing students the opportunity to gain academic credit for prior learning they have acquired by self-study or experience. Tests may be taken in many subject areas, and credit may be earned by achieving acceptable scores on these tests. Benefits include saving tuition dollars and shortening the time it takes to earn a degree.

Two types of examinations may be taken for credit at UNO: The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) and UNO's Special Examination Program.

Many postsecondary institutions now offer credit on the basis of CLEP examinations annually. The CLEP exams include General Examinations and Subject Examinations. Both are designed to measure factual knowledge and understanding, problem-solving ability, and mastery of college-level, introductory course content in a wide range of disciplines.

UNO's Special Examination procedure involves "challenging" one of the courses taught at this University by attempting a Departmental Examination. These examinations are constructed by the Department for the purpose of measuring knowledge in a particular course being offered at UNO. Credit is granted for the course upon successful completion of the examination.

The following questions and answers will help you understand more about Credit by Examination.

1. *Who is eligible for Credit by Examination?*

Students who are enrolled in any College at UNO may apply credits earned by examination toward their degree. There are no age limitations. Students are cautioned, however, that only those who feel confident of their knowledge in specific subject areas are encouraged to attempt the examinations. Although there is no penalty for taking an exam and failing it, the same exam may not be attempted more than once for credit at UNO. (Credit by Examination may not be earned in any course taken on an audit basis.)

2. *What might disqualify me from taking examinations for credit?*

The rules governing Credit by Examination vary from department to department. The following are some limitations that apply to the University as a whole:

THE UNO CLEP CODE IS 6420

- An examination may not be attempted more than once.
- A student who has failed to earn credit in an attempted college course may not receive Credit by Examination in the same course. Neither will credit be granted to raise a grade earned in any course.
- A maximum of 30 hours Credit by Examination (the College of Business has a limit of 24 hours) may be applied toward graduation, i.e., CLEP, by Challenge, etc.

- Credits earned by examination may not be used as part of the terminal residency requirements, so you should check the requirements of your college.
- Students taking Departmental Examinations must be registered at UNO at the time they attempt the exam. (Registration is not required to take CLEP exams.) You must be a UNO student to have the credit applied to UNO.
- Students attempting Credit by Examination in courses which they are currently enrolled must do so before they have completed one month of the course.
- Credit through examination will not be given for courses that are prerequisites for courses that the student has already earned credit. For exceptions, check with the Department.
- Credit earned on a General Examination will be reduced by the amount of comparable credit already earned in the division.

3. *What subjects are offered in the Credit by Examination program at UNO?*

The courses presently approved for Credit by Examination (via CLEP) are as follows:

Test Title	Equivalent UNO Course	UNO Required Score	Credit Granted
GENERAL EXAM:			
Humanities	Area Credit	50	6
SUBJECT EXAMS:			
Principles of Microeconomics	ECON 2200	55	3
Principles of Macroeconomics	ECON 2220	55	3
History of U.S. I*	American History 1110 (to 1865)	50	3
History of U.S. II*	American History 1120 (since 1865)	50	3
College Algebra	MATH 1310	45-51	3
	MATH 1320	52 and up	3
Pre-Calculus	MATH 1340	50	4
Calculus	MATH 1950	50	5
Biology	BIOL 1020	55	5
General Chemistry**	CHEM 1180, 1184	50	3 or 4
General Chemistry**	CHEM 1190	50	3
Introductory Psychology	PSYC 1010	53	3
Western Civilization I*	HIST 1510	50	3
Western Civilization II*	HIST 1520	50	3

**Departmental Essay Required*

***Credit will be granted for Chemistry 1190 only to students who enroll in Chemistry 1194. A student performing satisfactorily on the Chemistry test may choose to obtain credit: i) for just 1180; ii) for 1180 and 1184; or iii) with enrollment in Chemistry 1194 for 1180, 1184, and 1190.*

4. *What are my chances of receiving credit if I take the exams?*

If you have studied the subject in high school or in your field of work and feel fairly confident in your knowledge of the area, then you would probably stand a good chance of receiving some credit. You are the best judge of your proficiency in a particular area of study, so the decision is up to you.

5. *Are the credits that I earn from these examinations transferable to other colleges and universities?*

As mentioned previously, many colleges accept CLEP credits. However, each college and University has its own standards of acceptance. If you have any idea to which college you may be transferring, contact the college and ask about their requirements.

6. *How will the credit be recorded?*

Credit earned by examination will be recorded as "CR" on the transcript, and this credit will not be used in calculating grade point average.

7. *What is the cost for an examination for credit?*

The fee for each CLEP exam is \$85.00, plus a separate nonrefundable service fee of \$25.00. There is a \$10.00 fee for optional essays. You must pay separately for each exam you take. CLEP exams and optional essays are free for military personnel with proper ID (the Center's \$25 fee is still required). There is a \$25.00 charge for each Departmental Exam (Challenge Exam). In addition to the cost of taking the examinations, payment for recording hours earned through Challenge Exams shall be assessed at the rate of one-half resident tuition per credit hour. **(This does not apply to CLEP Exams).** The \$25.00 fee for Departmental Exams is applied to the overall payment for credit earned. Visit clep.collegeboard.org to see the CLEP informational bulletin for more details.

(Fees are subject to change.)

8. *How long do the examinations last?*

Each CLEP exam is about 90 minutes long and, except for College Composition and College Composition Modular, is made up primarily of multiple choice questions; however, some exams do include other types of questions. Most Departmental Challenge examinations take about two hours.

9. *Where and when are the exams administered?*

CLEP examinations are available by appointment at the UNO Testing Center. Special arrangements must be made with Academic Departments for Departmental Challenge exams.

CLEP exams have moved from pencil/paper administration to a computer-delivered system. Benefits of computerization include immediate scoring and a common recommended credit-granting score of 50. However, each college or university sets their own credit-granting scores based on their own curriculum and grading standards. (For UNO, see table on page 2.)

10. *How do I apply?*

Advance registration for CLEP Exams are requested by phone (402.554.4800) or in person (KH 522). To apply for Departmental examinations, you should pick up a Challenge Exam form at the Testing Center. You will then contact the departmental chairperson for approval and referral to the proper professor. You pay for the exam and schedule the test with the professor, who will notify the Testing Center of any credit you receive. (Departments may opt not to offer an exam.)

Examinees with a documented hearing, learning, physical, or visual disability should check with the Testing Center at least 10 working days in advance of the exam regarding testing accommodations. (For UNO, see the table on page 2.)

11. How will I be notified of my score and the credit I have earned?

You will receive an “instant” report for most computerized CLEP exams. If you designate UNO as a score recipient (6420), the Testing Center will notify you and the Registrar of the hours of credit earned through examination.

A Department administering a student an exam for Credit by Examination is responsible for reporting the credit to the Testing Center. The time lapse shall not be greater than the semester following the time the examination was given. The Testing Center will then forward official notice of credit as outlined above.

12. What can I do to study for these tests?

Information about the “Official Study Guide” for CLEP examinations is available on the College Board Website clep.collegeboard.org in the CLEP Information for Candidates bulletin. Bookstores, libraries, and textbooks used in the courses are other valuable resources.

13. How can I learn more about Credit by Examination?

If you have additional questions, feel free to stop by or call the Testing Center. Questions regarding the Departmental Challenge Examinations other than those noted in this brochure should be directed to the appropriate department.

14. What is the Advanced Placement Program?

The Advanced Placement Program is based on the belief that many students are capable of completing college level courses while still in high school. The College entrance Examination Board assists high schools in planning such courses and provides examinations for them. UNO participates in the Advanced Placement Program and, based upon a student’s performance, may grant credit toward graduation. However, Advanced Placement credit so granted is not considered as Credit by Examination and, therefore, does not count as part of the maximum number of Credit by Examination hours a student may apply toward graduation. Contact the UNO Registrar’s office with any questions about the Advanced Placement Program.

Please note: Policies in this brochure apply to computer-delivered CLEP exams introduced in 2001. UNO will also accept official score reports for pencil/paper CLEP exams using its pre-CBT score requirements as long as the exams are still approved by the University. Please contact the Testing Center if you have any questions.

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Document revised: 09/17