

External Exam Credit Quick Guide

College of Marin 2025-2026

College of Marin grants credit towards Associates Degrees (AA/AS), Associates Degrees for Transfer (ADT), and General Education Certification for Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and College-Level Examination Placement (CLEP). To receive credit, students must:

1. Have successfully completed 12 units of residency at College of Marin
2. Submit a Student Petition to Enrollment Service
3. Have an **official copy** of their test scores sent to Enrollment Services

Important Notes about External Exams:

- **VERY IMPORTANT:** Course credit and units granted at COM may differ from credit awarded at transfer institutions. Each university determines how exams will apply toward credit will apply in a specific major. **Many transfer schools do not accept AP as preparation for the major!**
Please see a counselor to discuss your specific major and transfer institution.
- Duplicate credit limitations: Students who receive AP credit and then take the comparable College of Marin course will NOT receive duplicate credit at COM or their transfer institutions. For example, a student will receive credit for one of the following: AP English Language or ENGL 150 @ COM, not both.
- For all Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) a score of 3 or higher is acceptable for credit for a comparable course in the ADT major. Students must be advised, however, that this does NOT mean it will be accepted at all transfer institutions as major preparation (see note above).

Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Credit

College of Marin grants credit towards Associate Degrees (AA/AS), Associates Degrees for Transfer (ADTs), and Cal-GETC, IGETC or CSU Breadth Certification with a score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP exam. An acceptable AP score for Cal-GETC, IGETC or CSU Breadth equates to either 3 semester or 4 quarter units for certification purposes. Each AP exam may be applied to one GE area as satisfying one course requirement, except for Language other Than English (LOTE) and laboratory requirements.

Students who have earned credit from an AP exam should not take a comparable college course because transfer credit will not be granted for both.

Please see a counselor about using AP exam scores and credits to meet graduation and/or transfer requirements.

AP Examination	Cal-GETC AREA	COM Local GE AREA
Art History	3A or 3B	3
Biology	5B and 5C	5
Calculus AB	2	2
Calculus BC	2	2
Calculus BC/AB subscore	2	2

Chemistry	5A and 5C	5
Chinese Language and Culture	3B	3
Comparative Government & Politics	4	4
Computer Science A	N/A	N/A
Computer Science AB	N/A	N/A
Computer Science Principles	N/A	2
English Language and Composition	1A	1A
English Literature and Composition	1A or 3B	1A or 3
Environmental Science	5A and 5C	5
European History	3B or 4	3 or 4
French Language and Culture (Previously French Language or French Literature)	3B	3
German Language and Culture (Previously German Language)	3B	3
Human Geography	4	4
Italian Language and Culture	3B	3
Japanese Language and Culture	3B	3
Latin Literature (Previously Latin Literature or Latin: Vergil)	3B	3
Macroeconomics	4	4
Microeconomics	4	4
Music Theory (if taken before FA09)	N/A	N/A
Physics 1, Physics 2, Physics B, or Physics C (electricity/magnetism or mechanics)	5A and 5C	5
Precalculus (New 2023)	N/A	N/A
Psychology	4	4
Seminar	N/A	N/A
Spanish Language and Culture (Previously Spanish Language or Spanish Literature)	3B	3
Spanish Literature and Culture (Previously Spanish Language or Spanish Literature)	3B	3
Statistics	2	2
Studio Art – 2D Design	N/A	3
Studio Art – 3D Design	N/A	3
Studio Art - Drawing	N/A	3
U.S. Government & Politics	4 and US-2	4
U.S. History	(3B or 4) and US-1	3 or 4
World History – Modern	3B or 4	3 or 4

AP Resources:

Cal-GETC Standards 1.2

CSU: <https://www.calstate.edu/apply/transfer/pages/advanced-placement-ap.aspx>

UC: <https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/ap-exam-credits/ap-credits/>

IGETC Standards 2.4: https://icas-ca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/IGETC_Standards_2023_2v4.pdf

For students who started prior to Fall 2025 (and maintained catalog rights), the following chart shows how AP Exams can be applied to IGETC, CSU Breadth and the previous version of COM's local GE:

AP Examination	IGETC AREA	CSU Breadth AREA	COM Local GE AREA
Art History	3A or 3B	C1 or C2	C
Biology	5B and 5C	B2 and B3	A
Calculus AB	2A	B4	E
Calculus BC	2A	B4	E
Calculus BC/AB subscore	2A	B4	E
Chemistry	5A and 5C	B1 and B3	A
Chinese Language and Culture	3B and 6A	C2	C
Comparative Government & Politics	4	D	B
Computer Science A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer Science AB	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer Science Principles	N/A	B4	E
English Language and Composition	1A	A2	D
English Literature and Composition	1A or 3B	A2 and C2	C and D
Environmental Science	5A and 5C	B1 and B3 (B2 and B3 if taken prior to F09)	A
European History	3B or 4	C2 or D	B or C
French Language and Culture (Previously French Language or French Literature)	3B and 6A	C2	C
German Language and Culture (Previously German Language)	3B and 6A	C2	C
Human Geography	4	D	B
Italian Language and Culture	3B and 6A	C2	C
Japanese Language and Culture	3B and 6A	C2	C
Latin Literature (Previously Latin Literature or Latin: Vergil)	3B and 6A	C2	C
Macroeconomics	4	D	B
Microeconomics	4	D	B
Music Theory (if taken before FA09)	N/A	C1	C
Physics 1, Physics 2, Physics B, or Physics C (electricity/magnetism or mechanics)	5A and 5C	B1 and B3	A
Precalculus (New 2023)		B4	E
Psychology	4	D	B

Seminar	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spanish Literature and Culture (Previously Spanish Language or Spanish Literature)	3B and 6A	C2	C
Statistics	2A	B4	E
Studio Art – 2D Design	N/A	N/A	C
Studio Art – 3D Design	N/A	N/A	C
Studio Art - Drawing	N/A	N/A	C
U.S. Government & Politics	4 and US-2	D and US-2	B or C or F
U.S. History	(3B or 4) and US-1	(C2 or D) and US-1	(B or C) and F
World History – Modern	3B or 4	C2 or D	B or C

International Baccalaureate (IB)

College of Marin will grant credit for International Baccalaureate exams. A score of 5,6, or 7 on a Higher-Level exam is required to grant credit for Cal-GETC, IGETC or CSU Breadth Certification. An acceptable IB score for Cal-GETC or IGETC equates to either 3 semester or 4 quarter units for certification purposes.

Students who have earned credit from an IB exam should not take a comparable college course because transfer credit will not be granted for both.

Please see a counselor about using IB exam scores and credits to meet graduation and/or transfer requirements.

International Baccalaureate (IB)	Cal-GETC AREA	COM Local GE AREA
IB Biology HL	5B	5
IB Chemistry HL	5A	5
IB Economics HL	4	4
IB Geography HL	4	4
IB History (any region) HL	3B or 4	3 or 4
IB Language A: Literature (any language, except English) HL	3B	3
IB Language A: Language and Literature (any language, except English) HL	3B	3
IB Language A: Literature (any language) HL	3B	3
IB Language A: Language and Literature (any language) HL	3B	3
IB Language B (any language) HL	N/A	N/A
IB Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches HL	2	2
IB Mathematics: Applications and Interpretations HL	2 (select UCs only)	2
IB Physics HL	5A	5
IB Psychology HL	4	4

IB Theatre HL	3A	3
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For students who started prior to Fall 2025 (and maintained catalog rights), the following chart shows how AP Exams can be applied to IGETC, CSU Breadth and the previous version of COM's local GE:

International Baccalaureate (IB)	IGETC AREA	CSU Breadth AREA	COM Local GE AREA
IB Biology HL	5B	B2	A
IB Chemistry HL	5A	B1	A
IB Economics HL	4	D	B
IB Geography HL	4	D	B
IB History (any region) HL	3B or 4	C2 or D	C or B
IB Language A: Literature (any language, except English) HL	3B and 6A	C2*	C*
IB Language A: Language and Literature (any language, except English) HL	3B and 6A	C2*	C*
IB Language A: Literature (any language) HL	3B	C2*	C*
IB Language A: Language and Literature (any language) HL	3B	C2*	C*
IB Language B (any language) HL	6A	N/A	N/A
IB Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches HL	2A	B4*	E*
IB Mathematics: Applications and Interpretations HL	2A (select UCs only)	B4*	E*
IB Physics HL	5A	B1	A
IB Psychology HL	4	D	B
IB Theatre HL	3A	C1*	C*

*Score of 4 is acceptable for CSU Breadth credit and COM's local GE pattern

IB Resources:

CSU: <https://www.calstate.edu/apply/transfer/pages/international-baccalaureate-ib.aspx>

UC: <https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/ap-exam-credits/ib-credits.html>

IGETC Standards 2.4: https://icas-ca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/IGETC_Standards_2023_2v4.pdf

College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) is a credit-by examination program that measures a student's level of comprehension of introductory college-level material and consecutively earn college credit. The CSU requires a passing score of at least 50 on the CLEP exam. Each campus in the CSU system determines how it will apply external examinations towards credit in the major.

CLEP cannot be used on Cal-GETC

CLEP cannot be used on IGETC.

For students who started prior to Fall 2025 (and maintained catalog rights), the following chart shows how CLEP Exams can be applied to CSU Breadth and the previous version of COM's local GE:

CLEP Exam	Passing Score	CSU Units	CSU Breadth AREA	COM Local GE AREA
American Government	50	3	D	4
American Literature	50	3	C2	3
Analyzing and Interpreting Literature	50	3	C2	3
Biology	50	3	B2	5
Calculus	50	3	B4	2
Chemistry	50	3	B1	5
College Algebra/Algebra-Trigonometry	50	3	B4	2
College Composition/Composition-Modular	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
College Mathematics	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
English Composition w/ or w/o essay	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
English Literature	50	3	C2	N/A
Financial Accounting	50	3	N/A	N/A
French Level I**	50	6	N/A	N/A
French Level II** (until FA15)	59	12	C2	3
French Level II** (after FA15)	59	9	C2	3
Freshman College Composition	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
German I**	50	6	N/A	N/A
German II** (until FA15)	60	12	C2	3
German II** (after FA15)	60	9	C2	3
History, United States I	50	3	D & US-1	4
History, United States II	50	3	D & US-1	4
Human Growth and Development	50	3	E	4
Humanities	50	3	C2	3
Information Systems and Computer Applications	50	3	N/A	N/A
Introduction to Educational Psychology	50	3	N/A	N/A
Introductory Business Law	50	3	N/A	N/A
Introductory Psychology	50	3	D	4
Introductory Sociology	50	3	D	4
Natural Sciences	50	3	B1 or B2	5
Pre-Calculus**	50	3	B4	2
Principles of Accounting	50	3	N/A	N/A
Principles of Macroeconomics	50	3	D	4

Principles of Management	50	3	N/A	N/A
Principles of Marketing	50	3	N/A	N/A
Social Sciences and History	50	0	N/A	N/A
Spanish Level I**	50	6	N/A	N/A
Spanish Level II** (until FA15)	63	12	C2	3
Spanish Level II** (after FA15)	63	9	C2	3
Spanish with Writing I**	50	6	N/A	N/A
Spanish with Writing II**	63	9	C2	3
Trigonometry**	50	3	B4	2
Western Civilization I	50	3	C2 or D	4
Western Civilization II	50	3	D	4

**If a student passes more than one CLEP test in the same language other than English (e.g., two exams in French), calculus, computer science, or physics then only one examination may be applied to the baccalaureate

CLEP Resources:

[Cal-GETC Standards 1.2](#)

IGETC Standards 2.4: https://icas-ca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/IGETC_Standards_2023_2v4.pdf

CSU: <https://www.calstate.edu/apply/transfer/pages/college-level-examination-program.aspx>

Additional Resources:

[CSU External Exam Policy](#)

[UC External Exam Policy](#)

UC Quick Reference: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/_files/documents/quick-reference.pdf

Questions:

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