

Title:	Credit for Prior Learning/Prior Learning Assessment Policy
Effective Date:	August 15, 2022
Date of Last Revision:	May 20, 2022
Review Date:	May 26, 2022
Cancellation:	N/A
Office:	Academic Affairs

Credit for Prior Learning/Prior Learning Assessment Policy

Policy

South Louisiana Community College (SLCC) recognizes that learning - the acquisition of skills and competencies- occurs in many settings and contexts and is not limited to formal educational processes provided by colleges and universities. Accordingly, SLCC proactively offers students the opportunity to earn credit for college-level learning acquired through various resources.

Purpose:

SLCC acknowledges that CPL methods validate college-level knowledge, skills, and competencies acquired through many avenues. For example, students may demonstrate life experience, work experience, military experience, civic engagement, individual study, and participation in classes or training sponsored by business and industry, professional organizations, or government agencies through evidence of experience already acquired that meets the course objectives.

Students will receive credit for demonstrated mastery of learning objectives equivalent to the learning objectives of courses offered for credit.

Eligibility:

All degree-seeking students enrolled in a degree, diploma, or certificate program within SLCC who meet the requirements established in this policy shall be eligible and awarded college-credit equivalents. Students must be enrolled (fully admitted) at SLCC when applying for any prior learning assessments leading to the award of non-traditional credits.

Requirements:

- a. Credits may be requested only for courses SLCC offers.
- b. Students, irrespective of the CPL method chosen, must satisfactorily demonstrate a minimum of 75% of the required college-level knowledge. In some cases, dictated by accreditation standards, 80% must be achieved to be awarded non-traditional credit. Credit examinations once failed may not be repeated.

- c. Students may only apply once per course for the recognition of prior learning credit. If denied, an appeal must be filed following the appeal process detailed in the catalog.
- d. Credit for prior learning (non-traditional) credit cannot be awarded in a course that a student has previously completed or enrolled in at any college or university for which the student earned a grade of "C" or higher.

Recording:

- a. Credit hours earned through these options are assigned a grade of "S."
- b. No quality points are earned, and the grade is not used to compute the grade point average.
- c. Up to 40% of credit hours from non-traditional sources (CPL/PLA) may be used to satisfy required major courses and up to 50% from non-traditional sources (CPL/PLA) may be used to satisfy the total degree requirements except for specific programs governed by outside accrediting agencies. Note: CTC's are exempt from this rule.
- d. No fee shall be charged for reviewing credit for prior learning, which is included on the matrix and entering them on the student's transcript. Students may be assessed a fee for the administration of examinations and review of the portfolio. This fee is waived for veterans, active military personnel, and their spouses and dependents. This fee may also be waived, by the Dean of the course, when partnering with SLCC's non-credit division or an outside agency.
- e. If credit for prior learning is awarded, it will be added to the student's transcript. If a student remits enrollment after CPL has been granted for the applicable semester, then the credits will be removed from the student's transcript. Students in this situation may reapply to the college and begin the process again at a later date.
- f. Hours earned through non-traditional credits may not be used to reduce the college's residence requirements.
- g. Removal of excessive credits awarded through non-traditional sources (CPL/PLA) may be requested by completing the CPL removal form. Note: removal of credits awarded via non-standardized means will not refund any administration fees assessed.

Students who plan to use these non-traditional credits to meet degree requirements of other institutions should contact those institutions for their policies regarding acceptance; the receiving institution often reevaluates this type of credit.

Evaluations:

SLCC is committed to offering qualified students appropriate opportunities to demonstrate mastery of college course content, skills, and competencies through the following Credit for Prior Learning/Prior Learning Assessment evaluations:

Standardized:

- Advanced Placement via ACT and SAT
- College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Credit,
- College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Subject Examination
- Industry-Based & Professional Certification Recognition
- Credit for Military Education or Police Academy courses
- DSST exams (formerly DANTES)

Non-Standardized

- Credit is awarded based on the evaluation of a portfolio of professional or life experience or based on a faculty-developed institutional challenge exam.

Publication:

The procedures and requirements for each of the above CPL/PLA methods are published periodically in the College Catalog and include:

1. The list of courses for which college credits may be earned;
2. The number of credits that may be earned for each course; and
3. The minimum standards necessary to earn college credits via all available non-traditional means.

This policy, the types of CPL available, and the specific procedures for each are subject to periodic review and revision; such activity is initiated by the Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs, who, as advised by the Academic Divisions and the Academic Standards Committee, may amend this main policy and the offered CPL procedures. Such revisions aim to ensure alignment with evolving best practices, quality pedagogy, and compliance with all appropriate related LCTCS policies and regional accreditation standards.

Attachments

N/A

Reference:

1. LCTCS Policy #1.023 – LCTCS Policy on Credit for Prior Learning
2. SASCCOC Comprehensive Standards 3.4.8
3. Louisiana Board of Regents Academic Affairs Policy 2.23: Prior Learning Assessment

Policy Reference:

N/A

Review Process:

	Reviewing Committee/Entity	Review Date(s)	Approval Date	Effective Date
x	Committee for Institutional Policy Review	Initial N/A Rv. 1 -06/27/2018	Initial N/A Rv. 1 -06/27/2018	N/A
x	Executive Committee	Initial N/A Rv. 1 -05/26/2022	Initial 01/26/2012 Rv. 1 -06/09/2022	Initial -Maymester 2011 Rv. 1 -08/15/2022

Chancellor's Signature/Approval

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

Vincent G. June, Ph.D.
Chancellor

Final Distribution:

Electronic: posted to College's website and sent via email to College personnel

Hard copy: Original to Executive Assistant to the Chancellor for Master Policy Binder, copy to Chair of Committee of Institutional Policy Review

under this policy. A copy of the Independent study contract must be submitted with the course payment contract.

Students are limited to 6 credits or two major courses via independent study toward their degree. Vice-Chancellor approval may be sought to allow for additional credits.

South Louisiana Community College reserves the right to limit the number and availability of independent studies offered; considerations may include fiscal constraints, the student's ability to benefit, and the appropriateness of course content for the independent study format.

Attachments

N/A

Reference:

N/A

Policy Reference:

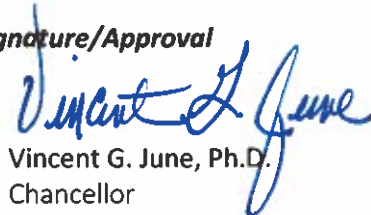
N/A

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x	Committee for Institutional Policy Review	Initial N/A Rv. 1 -05/20/2022	Initial N/A Rv. 1 -05/20/2022	N/A
x	Executive Committee	Initial 04/18/2011 Rv. 1 -05/26/2022	Initial 01/26/2012 Rv. 1 -06/09/2022	Initial -Maymester 2011 Rv. 1 -08/15/2022

Chancellor's Signature/Approval

SIGNATURE:


Vincent G. June, Ph.D.
Chancellor

DATE:

6/10/2022

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