Quick Overview of Course Approvals from Study Away for Advisors/Departments

Credits/Grades from Study Away

All courses that appear on a student’s transcript come back to UAF with their equivalent grades; credits and grades will impact student GPA and Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements. International grade equivalents are based on WES guidelines or study abroad provider. Credit equivalents vary based on country and/or institution, but guides can be provided by International Programs & Initiatives on request.

Grade conversions: https://applications.wes.org/country-resources/

Common credit equivalencies:
- 2 ECTS = 1 UAF credit
- 15 contact hours = 1 UAF credit

Quarter credits from other U.S. institutions are usually converted to semester credits by multiplying the number of quarter credits by 2/3.

All credits are counted as resident UAF credits. Study away credits are treated the same as UAF credits (for example, a course evaluated as a specific UAF course can exclude prior attempts of that class at UAF).

All credits and grades from the host transcript will appear on student accounts eventually; the timeline varies depending on the program:

- NSE: credits appear after we have received an official transcript from their semester away. Any courses that appear on the transcript that do not have an Advising Agreement on file will be evaluated by the Registrar at their discretion.
- International: Students have two years from the semester away to evaluate their credits. If we do not receive evaluations by the end of the 2nd year, evaluations will be determined by the Registrar.
- We cannot post credits to a student’s account until we receive the official transcript from the host institution. Sometimes, transcripts take several months before arriving to UAF; if students need documentation for Satisfactory Academic Progress, scholarships, pre-requisites, etc., our office can produce a memo in support, but students must notify us of this request.

What can courses count as?

Course equivalencies are determined by UAF department approval with use of the Advising Agreements. Departments can approve courses as particular UAF courses listed in the catalog, or they can be evaluated as -96 courses (196, 296, 396, 496, 696). Departments can approve these non-specific courses to fulfil/replace other degree-requirements with petition or indication on the Advising Agreement.

If a course is approved as a specific UAF course, all attributes of the course are also applied (for example, W or O components).

Courses can also fulfil GER/CORE requirements. International Programs & Initiatives or the Office of the Registrar can evaluate courses for GER equivalents. These type of courses tend to give students the most flexibility, and generally follow the table of GER substitutions: http://catalog.uaf.edu/getting-
started/transferring-credits/#NonUAlnstitutions. For example:

Hawaiian Coral Reefs with lab counts as Natural Resources with lab GER, posting as MSL 196
Course in Danish Culture counts as a humanities GER, posting as HUM F196

It is the student’s responsibility to provide the following to departments when they are requesting equivalencies:

- Completed Advising Agreement
- Course descriptions, at minimum, and if required by department: course syllabus, course assignments, etc. for the department to make a better evaluation
- Credit and grade equivalency guidelines provided by our office
- Host transcript

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