Study at Other Colleges and Transfer Credit

Students may receive transfer credit for work completed at another accredited college, university, or technological institute in the United States or from institutions of higher education outside the United States.

At the time of admission to Case Western Reserve University and upon presentation of an official transcript from each institution previously attended, credit will be awarded for courses equivalent or comparable to those offered by the University and completed with a grade of C or better. Any such courses taken prior to the student’s graduation from high school must be listed in the college’s catalog among courses offered for degree credit to the college’s undergraduates, taken in the company of matriculated college students, and organized and taught by college faculty. In addition, to be considered for transfer credit, such courses must not have been used to fulfill high school graduation requirements. The awarding of transfer credit is determined by the Office of Undergraduate Studies in consultation with the appropriate department.

After matriculation at Case Western Reserve University, students are permitted to earn at other accredited colleges or universities or through an approved program of study abroad no more than 38 credit-hours toward the totals required for the degree, including courses taken through the cross-registration program, with no more than 15 credit-hours taken as part of domestic programs or as summer study in a student's home country; any off-campus study credits beyond 15 may only be taken through approved programs of study abroad. Any additional credit earned at other institutions after matriculation at Case Western Reserve beyond 15 domestically or as summer study in a student's home country and beyond a total of 38 including study abroad will raise the total number of credit-hours required for the degree by a corresponding number.

Permission of a dean in the Office of Undergraduate Studies must be obtained in advance if the student wishes to enroll elsewhere. Further, if a student wishes to take elsewhere a course to satisfy a major or minor requirement, it must also be approved by the department chair or academic representative. Upon presentation of an official transcript from each institution previously attended, credit will be awarded for courses equivalent or comparable to those offered by the University and completed with a grade of C or better. Credit earned elsewhere after matriculation at Case Western Reserve University is not applied toward the residence requirement of a minimum of 60 credit-hours, including at least 15 after a student has earned a total of 105 credit-hours, earned at Case Western Reserve. The Off-Campus Study Request Form is available in the Office of Undergraduate Studies, 357 Sears Bldg.

Credit is not awarded for work done at an unaccredited institution in the United States except by proficiency examination in those departments of Case Western Reserve University offering that opportunity. The awarding of transfer credit for work done at institutions outside the United States is subject to departmental evaluation.

A student separated for poor scholarship may not earn transfer credit for courses taken in the first two sessions after that dismissal.
Grades for courses taken at other institutions will not be entered on the student’s record nor will they be computed in the student’s grade point average.

In addition to the regulations concerning transfer credit outlined above, the following special restrictions apply to credit for summer courses taken at other colleges, universities, or technical institutes:

1. Students ordinarily will not be permitted to take elsewhere in Cuyahoga County courses offered at Case Western Reserve University. Exceptions to this policy will be permitted only in the event of significant extenuating circumstances. Students who desire the opportunity to take elsewhere in Cuyahoga County a course being offered at Case Western Reserve must petition the Office of Undergraduate Studies in advance for permission to do so.

2. Students must be in good standing. If a student is placed on probation between receiving permission and the start of off-campus enrollment, the student is no longer eligible to enroll for and receive transfer credit for this work. Students on probation require special approval and should contact a dean in the Office of Undergraduate Studies.

3. Students may register for no more than 12 credit-hours. One quarter-hour equals two-thirds of one credit-hour at CWRU.

4. Students may transfer credit only for courses in which a semester’s work is completed in a minimum of three weeks.