ACADEMIC ALERT #2017-25

DATE: **September 2017**

DECISION: **Office of the Provost (NLU); Academic Credit Policy**

Acceptance of International Baccalaureate (IB) Credit
National Louis will accept International Baccalaureate (IB) credit toward advanced standing in the institution's undergraduate programs for students entering the institution in Fall 2017.

Acceptance of Seal of Biliteracy
National Louis will accept Seal of Biliteracy credit toward advanced standing in the institution's undergraduate programs for students entering the institution in Fall 2017.

RATIONALE: The Illinois General Assembly passed legislation in 2015 requiring that all public universities and all public community colleges in the State of Illinois must begin awarding college credit to students to incoming students with scores of 4, 5, 6, and 7 on the International Baccalaureate (IB) exams beginning in the 2017-18 academic year. In order to provide students with the equivalent credit at National Louis, this policy allows students to have these credits recognized by the university. Additionally, in 2013, the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy was passed into law for the recognition of credit based on foreign language equivalencies completed successfully in accredited schools.

APPROVAL(S): Undergraduate College
Stephanie Poczos, EdS, Associate Dean, General Education
College of Professional Studies and Advancement:
Judah Viola, PhD, Dean
National College of Education:
Rob Muller, EdD, Dean
Provost Office:
Stephen Neer, Vice Provost and University Registrar

IMPLEMENTATION DATE:
Effective date is Fall 2017. Students who enrolled at the institution prior to this term may request advanced standing for completed IB exams.

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Vice Provost and University Registrar
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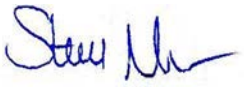
SIGNATURE:



Stephen Neer
Vice Provost

1. Program Description: International Baccalaureate (IB)

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme is a two-year, holistic educational program roughly corresponding to the junior and senior years of high school in the American school system.

Students earning the IB diploma have to study from six subject groups, three at the Standard Level and three at the Higher Level; study at least two languages; and complete a compulsory core composed of three elements (a course on the theory of knowledge, an extended essay of some 4000 words that functions as an independent research project, and "creativity, activity, and service" which entails 150 hours of community service).

The Higher Level and Standard Level exams are taken in May or November, are partially graded by their teachers and partially graded by external examiners, and are scored on a scale of 1 to 7. The approximate meaning of the final scores is as follows:

- 1 means “Very rudimentary knowledge and understanding of the questions or tasks”
- 2 means “Superficial knowledge and understanding of the questions or tasks”
- 3 means “Some knowledge and some understanding of the questions or tasks”
- 4 means “Adequate knowledge; some ability to develop ideas"
- 5 means “Good understanding; logical answers but not fully developed”
- 6 means "Very good understanding; well-developed answers"
- 7 means "Excellent understanding and critical thinking; detailed explanations"

As of July 2017, there are 36 schools in Illinois offering the IB Diploma Programme.

2. Acceptance of IB Credit by National Louis University and IB Credit Equivalencies

The Illinois General Assembly passed legislation in 2015 requiring that all public universities and all public community colleges in the State of Illinois must begin awarding college credit to students to incoming students with scores of 4, 5, 6, and 7 on the International Baccalaureate (IB) exams beginning in the 2017-18 academic year. Additionally, multiple private institutions of higher education already award such credit toward their lower-level undergraduate requirements.

Effective Fall 2017, in order to provide students with the equivalent credit at National Louis University and in line with the University’s long-standing approach to recognizing college-level learning that takes place outside of the collegiate classroom, the University will begin awarding credit for IB examinations. Credit will be awarded based on the credit equivalency guide in Attachment A to this *Academic Alert*.

Students must submit their official IB transcript to the Office of Admissions for review of credit.

3. Seal of Biliteracy

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by a school, school district or county office of education in recognition of students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high

school graduation. The Seal of Biliteracy takes the form of a gold seal that appears on the transcript or diploma of the graduating senior and is a statement of accomplishment for future employers and for college admissions. It marks attainment of high-level mastery of two or more languages. Effective Fall 2017, National Louis University will award credit to students who enroll with the Seal of Biliteracy on their transcripts.

Students must request course equivalency credit from the Seal of Biliteracy within three years of high school graduation. Students will be awarded 10 QH of lower-level (100/200) Humanities credit applicable toward general education requirements or general electives, as appropriate.

4. Procedures

The following policies and procedures are established for assessing, recording, and transcripting IB credit:

- There are no grades or quality points associated with the awarding of IB credit. IB course credit does not impact college GPA.
- If a student chooses to take an equivalent course at NLU, the IB credit will be removed from the NLU transcript to avoid duplicative credit for substantially similar coursework.
- Students must request course equivalency credit from the Seal of Biliteracy within three years of high school graduation. Students will be awarded 10 QH of lower-level (100/200) Humanities credit applicable toward general education requirements or general electives, as appropriate.
- All other policies on credit hour transfer and University residency apply.

5. Implementation

Upon issuance of this Alert, the following actions will be implemented:

- Registrar's Office:
  - Update the 2017-18 Academic Catalog with all policy changes;
  - Enter changes in Banner, CAPP and/or NLU web pages as appropriate;
  - Update all manuals and operating procedures with revised information and guidance;
- Advising:
  - Train all undergraduate advisors on program revision and policy changes;
- Marketing:
  - Update all webpage and marketing materials, where appropriate, with the new requirements;
  - Create a webpage publicizing acceptance of IB credit and listing IB credit equivalencies;
- Enrollment, Admissions:
  - Schedule and deliver training for all enrollment advisors on acceptance of IB credit;
- Undergraduate Faculty:
  - Review Academic Alert and be prepared to advise students and applicants;
- CPSA Office of the Dean and Undergraduate College:
  - Coordinate the scheduling of the program.

Appendix A to Academic Alert #2017-25

International Baccalaureate (IB) Equivalency Guide

Note: IB Course/Exam Levels are: SL = Standard Level; HL = Higher Level

IB GROUP 1: Language and Literature				
IB Subject	**IB Level**	**Required Score**	**NLU Equivalent**	**Quarter Credit Hours**
Language A: Language and Literature (English)	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAE 101, English Composition I, **or** ENG 101, Beginning English Composition	5 QH
Language A: Language and Literature (English)	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	LAE 101, English Composition I, **or** ENG 101, Beginning English Composition	5 QH
Language A: Literature (English)	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	200-level LAE/ENG elective (may not transfer in as ENG210)	5 QH
Language A: Literature (English)	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	200-level LAE/ENG elective (may not transfer in as ENG210)	5 QH
Literature and Performance (English)	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAT220, Introduction to Theatre	5 QH

IB GROUP 2: Language Acquisition				
IB Subject	**IB Level**	**Required Score**	**NLU Equivalent**	**Quarter Credit Hours**
National Louis University will accept all IB modern and classical language examinations (with the exception of English), as elective humanities credit, subject to the following criteria				
Language B	SL	SL 4, 5	100/200-level elective in HUM (Humanities)	10 QH
Language B	SL	SL 6, 7	100/200-level elective in HUM (Humanities)	15 QH
Language B	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	100/200-level elective in HUM (Humanities)	15 QH

IB GROUP 3: Individuals and Societies				
IB Subject	**IB Level**	**Required Score**	**NLU Equivalent**	**Quarter Credit Hours**
Business and Management	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	BUS101, Principles of Business	5QH
Business and Management	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	BUS101, Principles of Business	5QH
Economics	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	ECO100, Introduction to Economics	5 QH
Economics	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	ECO100, Introduction to Economics; **and** LAS/ECO254, Global Economics.	10 QH

			or ECO200, Macroeconomics for Today's Professionals; **and** LAS/ECO254, Global Economics.	
Geography	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAN225, Human Impact on the Environment.	5 QH
Geography	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	LAN225, Human Impact on the Environment; **and** 100/200-level LAS (Social Science) elective.	10 QH
Global Politics	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAS (Social Science) elective.	5 QH
Global Politics	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAS (Social Science) elective.	5 QH
History	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	HIS103, History across the Globe	5 QH
History	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	HIS103, History across the Globe	5 QH
Information Technology in a Global Society	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAS (Social Sciences) elective	5 QH
Information Technology in a Global Society	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAS (Social Sciences) elective	5 QH
Philosophy	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	PHI101, Philosophy in Today's World	5 QH
Philosophy	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	PHI101, Philosophy in Today's World	5 QH
Psychology	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAP100, General Psychology **or** PSY101, Introduction to Psychology	5 QH
Psychology	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	LAP100, General Psychology **or** PSY101, Introduction to Psychology	5 QH
Social and Cultural Anthropology	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAS110, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	5 QH
Social and Cultural Anthropology	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	LAS110, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	5 QH
World Religions	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAS (Social Sciences) elective	5 QH

IB GROUP 4: Sciences				
IB Subject	**IB Level**	**Required Score**	**NLU Equivalent**	**Quarter Credit Hours**
Biology	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAN110, General Biology **or** SCI103, Survey of Biological Science with Lab	5 QH

			or SCI 102, Biology with Lab	
Biology	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	LAN110, General Biology **or** SCI103, Survey of Biological Science with Lab **or** SCI 102, Biology with Lab	5 QH
Chemistry	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAN (Natural Science) elective	5 QH
Chemistry	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAN (Natural Science) elective	5 QH
Computer Science	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level MIS (Management Information Systems) elective	5 QH
Computer Science	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	100/200-level MIS (Management Information Systems) elective	5 QH
Design Technology	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level general elective	5 QH
Design Technology	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	100/200-level general elective	5 QH
Environmental Systems and Societies	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAN 225, Human Impact on the Environment	5 QH
Physics	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	SCI 101, Physical Science **or** LAN150, Survey of Physical Science	5 QH
Physics	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	SCI 101, Physical Science **or** LAN150, Survey of Physical Science	5 QH
Sports, Exercise, and Health Science	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAN (Natural Science) elective	5 QH

IB GROUP 5: Mathematics				
IB Subject	**IB Level**	**Required Score**	**NLU Equivalent**	**Quarter Credit Hours**
Mathematical Studies	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAM100, Introductory and Intermediate Algebra **or** MTH 101, Introduction to Mathematical Concepts	5 QH
Mathematics	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAM100, Introductory and Intermediate Algebra **or** MTH 101, Introduction to Mathematical Concepts	5 QH
Mathematics	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	LAM100, Introductory and	10 QH

			Intermediate Algebra **AND** LAM110, Application of Mathematical Ideas	
Further Mathematics	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	LAM100, Introductory and Intermediate Algebra **AND** LAM110, Application of Mathematical Ideas	10 QH

IB GROUP 6: The Arts				
IB Subject	**IB Level**	**Required Score**	**NLU Equivalent**	**Quarter Credit Hours**
Dance	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAT (Theatre) elective	5 QH
Dance	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAT (Theatre) elective	5 QH
Film	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAT (Theatre) elective	5QH
Film	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAT (Theatre) elective	5QH
Music	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAU (Music) elective	5QH
Music	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	100/200-level LAU (Music) elective	5QH
Theatre	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAT220, Introduction to Theatre	5QH
Theatre	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	LAT220, Introduction to Theatre	5QH
Visual Arts	SL	SL 5, 6, 7	LAA101, Art Appreciation I (2QH) *and* LAA102, Art Appreciation II (3QH) **or** ART101, Basic Art Appreciation	5QH
Visual Arts	HL	HL 4, 5, 6, 7	LAA101, Art Appreciation I (2QH) *and* LAA102, Art Appreciation II (3QH) **or** ART101, Basic Art Appreciation	5QH