

AI Students: Everything you wanted to know, but were afraid to ask about
College Level “Credit” for Your A Level Work

Every fall, AI students are worried about taking courses that “have credit” or will “get credit” at various colleges and universities. **Remember that this is a SEPARATE issue from choosing courses that will make you a strong applicant.**

1) Realign your thinking about this process. The “course” will not “get” credit for you – YOU can sometimes earn college level credit by demonstrating a high level of knowledge in a subject.

1. The A Level course content must be equivalent to a full college-level course in that subject, and
2. You must demonstrate that you have mastered it by earning a good grade on your A Level exam, and
3. You must request advanced placement from the university you attend by showing your A Level result and the syllabus for the course. You may need to sit a placement exam before credit is awarded and/or you are allowed to take advanced classes.

2) Do not choose or change your courses based on the potential for college level credit.

Such choices are ill founded – you cannot know in advance who will give you credit for what. You also cannot know how these courses will contribute towards your university distributional or degree requirements. Finally, it is much more important to study what you will need and what you will do well in than whatever you imagine will “give” credit.

3) Choose courses based on your interests and aptitude, as well as what you will need to be admitted to the university and program of your choice.

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Credit might be given (It is best to ask the school for “advanced standing,” not “credit.”):

US - Under the right circumstances you could receive college level credit for any course taught at The Lyceum. On the other hand, there are situations in which you might not get credit, again for any course, especially if your result is poor, or if that subject is not taught at the undergraduate level at the school you attend. (Ex: accounting) Or, it may be given credit but not counted towards major, minor or distributional requirements. You must apply to the university itself for advanced standing after you have been admitted and are in attendance.

CANADA - Most Canadian institutions will grant college level credit for A Level passes, some require specific grades.

Credit will not be given:

PAKISTAN and

The UK - There is no university level credit given for any A level work in either Pakistan or the UK, as everyone must have minimum A level qualifications even to be considered for admission.

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If you have specific questions or concerns, do not rely on hearsay, but please speak directly to a College Counsellor.