

McGILL UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

CREDIT FOR ECONOMICS COURSES TAKEN ELSEWHERE

This document deals with credit for economics courses taken elsewhere. Included in this category are: Advanced Placement courses taken prior to joining McGill, summer school courses or courses taken in other universities as an exchange or visiting student. The students may want credit for such courses in order to satisfy the requirements for our Majors or Minors Programs or to satisfy their elective credit requirements.

General Principles

In general, the Department grants credit for a course taken elsewhere if its structure is comparable to that of courses given by the Department and if the student has earned the equivalent of a C or better in it. Two criteria are used to determine the comparability of the course structure:

1. Comparability of contact hours

Since McGill 3-credit courses generally involve 39 contract hours, the Department normally grants only 3 credits for a course taken elsewhere if it involves approximately 39 contact hours.

In cases where a course involves fewer than 39 hours, the Departmental advisor may or may not accept the course for transfer credits. If it is accepted for transfer credits, it may be allocated 3 credits or less than 3 credits, with 3 credits being allocated only if there is evidence that the course involved a substantially greater workload outside of the classroom.

2. Comparability of reading lists and grading practices

The comparability of reading lists, course requirements and grading practices relative to the Departmental norms is taken into account in deciding whether the credit given is at the 200, 300 or 400 level. For example: to be treated as a 400-level course, a course taken elsewhere should involve a paper.

To determine whether this criteria is satisfied, the student has to provide a copy of the course syllabus. Course descriptions in university catalogues lack sufficient detail.

NOTES:

- (a) Transfer credits can be given even for economics courses dealing with subjects not covered by the courses currently offered by the Department. Examples: Regional economics, Economic History of Spain, etc.
- (b) It is the student's responsibility to provide the information needed to determine whether credit should be given.
- (c) For the Majors Program, students can receive at most 12 credits for courses taken elsewhere; for the Minors Program, students can receive at most 6 credits for courses taken elsewhere.

Limits on total number of credits being transferred:

The maximum number of credits transferred to a program (Honours, Majors or Minors) of the Department will not normally exceed one-third of the total number of credits required for the program.

macro theory are treated just like courses taken by McGill students visiting another university (see above).

In the case of a transfer student who has done a year of micro or macro in another university prior to transferring to McGill, the Departmental advisor may grant exemption from ECON 230D and/or ECON 330D. However, if such exemption is granted, the student may be required to do a 400 level theory-related course to satisfy the Majors requirements. Examples: For micro, the requirement might be to do ECON 405 or ECON 447; for macro, ECON 423.

Honours Students

Honours students are normally expected to take all courses needed to satisfy the Honours requirements at McGill itself. When beginning to consider studying abroad, Honours students should consult an Honours Advisor.

Advanced Placement Economics courses

New students sometimes have earned an advanced placement in economics prior to admission. Typically, these are students who have gone to a private school abroad or done an International Baccalaureate diploma. When they are admitted to McGill, they receive credit for advanced placement in various fields. As a result, they are required to