

# New curriculum graduation requirements for transfer students

Starting with the class of 2020, students will graduate with 32 units. The limits on transfer units that can be counted towards the 32 units have changed as well. The following chart shows all the details of the new curriculum for students who start at Vassar as transfer students.

|  | Old curriculum    | New curriculum   |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>These rules are changing</b>  |                   |                  |
| Units needed for graduation  | 34                | 32               |
| Maximum normal load in a semester                                      | 5                 | 4.5 <sup>1</sup> |
| Minimum units outside major  | 17                | 16               |
| Minimum units outside major division (AP units don't count)            | 8.5               | 8                |
| Maximum transfer units   | 17                | 16               |
| Maximum units of test-based pre-matriculation credit (AP, IB, etc)     | 4                 | 2                |
|  |                   |                  |
| <b>These rules aren't changing</b>                                     |                   |                  |
| Maximum ungraded units   | 5 <sup>2</sup>    | 5 <sup>2</sup>   |
| Maximum NRO units  | 4 <sup>2</sup>    | 4 <sup>2</sup>   |
| Overlap between double majors  | 2<br>(ordinarily) | 2                |
| Overlap between major/corr or corr/corr                                | 1<br>(ordinarily) | 1                |
| Maximum Vassar tuition-free summer units                               | 2                 | 2                |
| Maximum physical activity course units in PE counted toward graduation | 2                 | 2                |

All Vassar credit, including Vassar summer work and credit earned from Vassar study away programs, will count towards the 32 units for graduation. However, some transfer units posted on transcripts will not apply towards the 32 units toward graduation because of the new limits. The following steps will allow you to identify which transfer units will count.

1. Find the test-based pre-matriculation credit on your transcript. These include credit for AP and IB exams as well as credit for A Levels, French Baccalaureate, German Abitur, and CAPE. A maximum of 2 units of this type can be used towards the 32 units for

<sup>1</sup> There is a limit of 4 units of classroom courses as well.

<sup>2</sup> Reduced by 1 unit for each year of advanced standing awarded

graduation. If you have more than 2 units listed on your transcript, cross out those above the 2 unit limit.

2. Find all of the transfer credit on your transcript. This includes the test-based pre-matriculation credit from step 1 and any transfer credit that you earned before or after starting at Vassar. A maximum of 16 units of this type can be earned toward the 32 units for graduation. If you have more than 16 units listed on your transcript, cross out those above the 16 unit limit. Do not count units that you crossed out in step 1.

Here are two specific examples of how this would affect some imaginary students:

Example 1: Yuko is a member of the class of 2020 who transferred to Vassar as a junior. Yuko has 17 units of transfer credit on her transcript. Only 16 transfer units will count towards the 32 units that Yuko needs to graduate. All 17 units of transfer credit will remain on the transcript, so Yuko and her advisor should make sure to count only 16 of these units towards the 32 units needed for graduation.

Example 2: Zach is member of the class of 2021 who transferred to Vassar. He has 3 units of AP credit and 6 additional units of transfer credit from college courses taken at another college or university. Only 2 units of AP credit will count towards the 32 units that Zach needs to graduate, and Zach can transfer in up to 8 additional units of credit. All 3 units of AP credit will remain on the transcript, so Zach and his advisor should make sure to count only 2 of these units towards the 32 units needed for graduation.