

**RETROACTIVE CREDIT FOR HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDY:  
A SUMMARY OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES  
IN WISCONSIN COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES**

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
Madison, WI 53707-7841

(Survey of May 1998 - Updated February 2013)

College, University or Technical College	Credit Given for Prior High School Coursework or Other Preparation?	Intermediate/Advanced College-Level Work Required to Receive Credit for Prior High School Work?	Minimum Grade Required	Credit Listed on Transcript?	Maximum Credit Given: Semester Hours
<b>UNIV. OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM:</b>					
UW-Eau Claire <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	16
UW-Green Bay <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	B (for full retro credit); BC or C (for one-half retro credit)	Yes	14
UW-La Crosse <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	16
UW-Madison <sup>1</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	16-24

Retroactive credits (retro credits) at UW-Madison are available to students only if they enroll in an approved foreign language course for earning retro credits based on their placement test score. Students must take the course they place into or not more than one course lower, and only if the course they use to establish retro credits is taken as part of their first two semesters and/or prior to earning 30 credits at the college/university level and completed with a grade of "B" or higher. Students transferring to UW-Madison should note that retro credits earned at other institutions had to have been granted exactly as the UW-Madison policy states in order for those credits to transfer to UW-Madison.

Retro credits may be earned for a number of languages offered at UW-Madison. For more information, see [www.languageinstitute.wisc.edu/content/uw\\_students/retroactive\\_credit\\_policy.htm](http://www.languageinstitute.wisc.edu/content/uw_students/retroactive_credit_policy.htm).

<b>UW-Milwaukee<sup>4</sup>:</b>					
Arabic, Chinese, Classical Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, Latin, Polish, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Swedish, Yiddish <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B-	Yes	11-164
French & Italian <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	14
German <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	B-	Yes	14

Spanish, Portuguese <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	14
UW-Oshkosh <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	16
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UW-Parkside <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Students can earn retro credits from 104 (2nd semester) through 5th semester, but then number of credits earned differs.	B-	Yes	16
UW-Platteville <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	16
UW-River Falls <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	14
UW-Stevens Point <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B-	Yes	16
UW-Stout <sup>3</sup>	Yes	No	B	Yes	16-CLEP
UW-Superior <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	B-	Yes	12
UW-Whitewater <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	16
UW-Colleges: Two-Year Campuses (all 13) <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	16
PRIVATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES:					
Alverno College <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	15
Beloit College <sup>3</sup>	Yes (via AP)	Yes	4 or 5 on AP	Yes (AP Credit)	4

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Cardinal Stritch University <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	C	Yes	12
	Also honors CLEP exams to place students into 3rd or 5th semester (6 credits given). AP exam would also be honored.				
Carroll University <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	16
	Retro credit received if student passes a higher level course. Also awards 16 credits with an AP score of 3-5 plus passage of 301 course with a grade of B. CLEP credit also available. Credit through NYU Proficiency Exam in a variety of languages also available as an option.				
Carthage College <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	C	Yes	12
	Also awards 4-12 credits with an AP score of 3-5. CLEP credit available.				
Concordia University <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	C	Yes	14
	Also awards 3 credits for AP score of 3-5. CLEP credit available.				
Edgewood College <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	16
	CLEP and AP credit are also available.				
Lakeland College <sup>2</sup>	Yes (via CLEP)	8 credits for CLEP exam score of 49 or more. AP credit also available.			
Lawrence University <sup>4</sup>	Yes (via AP or IB)	No	4 or 5 on AP; 5,6, or 7 on IB	Yes (via AP or IB)	3-4 per exam
	A student can take a foreign language placement exam and, if she or he does well enough, place into a higher level foreign language class				
Marian College <sup>3</sup>	Yes (via AP, CLEP)	Yes Passing 201 with B-	B-	Only AP and CLEP plus passing 201 with B-	6-AP (for score of 4 or 5) 12-CLEP

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Marquette University <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	6
	Students with AP score of 3 are placed in 3rd semester; students with score of 4 into 4th semester; students with score of 5 into 5th semester. In addition, students may receive 0-4 credits.				
Mount Mary College <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	15
	AP score of 3-5 is awarded 4 semester credits; CLEP score of 41 or above also awarded 4 semester credits.				
Mount Senario College <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B	Yes	12
	On basis of CLEP exam, 3-12 credits awarded, and student is placed into semester 2 or 3.				
Northland College <sup>3</sup>	Yes	No		Yes	16
	Students with AP score of 3 or 4 are credited with 1 year of language study (8 credits); students with AP score of 5 are credited with 2 years of language study (16 credits). CLEP credit also available.				
Ripon College <sup>4</sup>	Yes (via AP and CLEP)	Ripon College grants 4 semester credits for a score of 4 or 5 on an AP exam. Retro credits: students who enroll in a language course above 111 (first-semester) , will, upon completing the course with a B or higher, receive credit for previous courses in the sequence. Max 12 credits for any one language. Credit may be earned for more than one language. Credits, ungraded, count towards the degree			
St. Norbert College <sup>2</sup>	Yes (via AP and CLEP)	Up to 8 credits awarded through CLEP exam. Based on college's own departmental examination, advanced standing would be awarded.			
Silver Lake College <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	B+	Yes	12
	Also awards credits through CLEP exam.				
Viterbo College <sup>4</sup> <a href="#">Viterbo University Placement exam.docx</a>	Yes (Via Placement exam, AP, CLEP or IB)	Yes	C	Yes	14

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Wisconsin Lutheran College <sup>4</sup>	Yes (via AP)	Yes	B	Yes	11
<b>TECHNICAL COLLEGES:</b> Many Wisconsin Technical Colleges offer language coursework to support studies in such fields as human services, police science, and world trade. Three (Madison, Milwaukee, Nicolet) offer college transfer foreign language coursework. Agreements have been signed linking Wisconsin's technical colleges with similar institutions in Hessen (Germany) and Québec.					
Blackhawk Tech.-Janesville <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Chippewa Valley Tech.-Eau Claire <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Fox Valley Tech.-Appleton <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Fox Valley Tech.-Oshkosh <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Gateway Tech. - Kenosha <sup>2</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Lakeshore Tech. -Cleveland <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Madison Area Tech.-Madison <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes Offers college-transfer foreign language coursework	B	Yes - on request	12
Mid-State Tech.-Wisconsin Rapids <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Milwaukee Area Tech.-Milwaukee <sup>3</sup>	Offers college-transfer foreign language coursework; proposal under consideration to offer retroactive credit, modeling UW System policies; currently offering Spanish and French language instruction; study tours and nursing internships in Mexico				
Moraine Park Tech.-Fond du Lac <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Nicolet Area Tech.-Rhinelander <sup>2</sup>	Offers college-transfer foreign language coursework				
Northcentral Tech.-Wausau <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				

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Northeast Wisc. Tech.- Green Bay <sup>2</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Southwest Wisc. Tech.- Fennimore <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Waukesha County Tech.- Pewaukee <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Western Wisc. Tech.- La Crosse <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				
Wisconsin Indianhead Tech.- Shell Lake <sup>3</sup>	N/A - Offers no college-transfer foreign language coursework.				

<sup>1</sup> No information provided from these institutions.

<sup>2</sup> Information provided to DPI in **September 1992**.

<sup>3</sup> Information updated in **May 1998**.

<sup>4</sup> Information updated in **October 2011**.

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<sup>i</sup> Information updated in **February 2013**.

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