

Prior Learning Assessment: Meeting Program Needs

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Wright State University



- Regional Comprehensive Research University
- 80+ graduate programs: 9 doctorates, ~25 graduate certificates, ~50 master's degrees
- ~4000 graduate students
- Access-Mission institution serving the Dayton/
Miami Valley region



Where is Dayton?

Ohio



Existing Policy: Disused



- Sounds Great, But Nobody Uses It:

A graduate student may be awarded graduate credit by an academic unit based on the successful completion of an examination prepared by that academic unit or portfolio assessed by that academic unit. The development and offering of such an examination or portfolio assessment is at the **discretion of the individual academic unit**. To apply for credit by examination you must: be admitted to a graduate program and registered at Wright State University; complete the **appropriate form** (available from the Office of the Registrar, Raider Connect, academic departments or the Graduate School); receive **approval from both the graduate program director and the department administering the exam or portfolio assessment**; schedule the examination or portfolio assessment with the participating academic unit; pay a **non refundable \$150 fee** at the Office of the Bursar; take and pass the examination with at least a grade of “B” or receive a course equivalent portfolio assessment. **Signatures of the examiner or portfolio assessor and the department chair** are required to indicate course equivalency based on completion of the examination or portfolio assessment.

- Maximum 8 Credit Hours

New Approach: Serving Graduate Programs



- Approached by our MPA Program with a specific need: AF students w/ workshop experiences
- Developed policy to fit these students using ACE blessing as a standard
- Expanding Transfer Credit Rules
- Blessing to Waive Elective Courses >30 cr

Adjusted Policy



Students may transfer courses (credits) completed at another academic institution to their Wright State academic record and apply those courses toward the requirements of graduate degree and certificate programs. The courses must have prior approval from the Wright State program accepting the transferred credits and must have been completed at an appropriately accredited academic institution or at an academic institution with high academic standards deemed appropriate and acceptable by the Wright State academic program accepting the transferred credits. **The sources of such transferred credits may include any military institution or military-related experience deemed equivalent to graduate course credit by the American Council of Education in its Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services, provided that the graduate program officials in question agree that such credits meet the requirements of that particular degree program.**

Recruitment Opportunity



- To date, MPA has had 3-4 students either transfer in DAU credits or waive elective courses in the program
- MPA leadership is using flexibility as a recruitment tool – has gotten 2-3 students from WPAFB