

Transfer Equivalencies for U.K. Courses

This document provides guidance to Missouri State department heads as they consider transfer equivalency requests from education abroad students who will study in the United Kingdom. Credits in the U.K. system are not equivalent to U.S. credits. A full-time student in the U.K. will carry 60 credits per semester, which is usually the equivalent to 15 U.S. credits.

Most modules for study abroad students are worth 20 U.K. credits, though some may be worth 10 or 40 credits. To check the credit value of a module, refer to the three digits in the middle of the module code. For example:

ABC**010**123A = 10 credits

XYZ**020**789S = 20 credits

In most cases, 4 U.K. credits = 1 U.S. credit.

Please note: it is common for third- or fourth- year U.S. students to take first- and second-year courses at a U.K. university. The curriculum in these courses is not considered introductory or lower level because U.K. students tend to specialize in their field of study early and may even start specializing in their majors during the final year of high school. General education or basic concept courses are not as common at U.K. universities because that material was covered at an earlier level of schooling.

When students are requesting transfer credit for a 20 U.K. credit course, they will most often select a course that is a 3 U.S. credit course, even though the 20 U.K. credit course is the equivalent of 5 U.S. credits. In this situation, students have the option of requesting 300-level 2 credit departmental elective and work with their academic advisor to determine how that elective can function in their degree audit.

Please contact Morgan Marler at MorganMarler@MissouriState.edu if you have questions about transfer requests.