

Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate Higher Level (IBH), and A-level Exams, 2024–2025

The University of California awards unit credits for designated exams completed with the following scores or grades:

- Advanced Placement (AP) – score of 3, 4, or 5
- International Baccalaureate Higher Level (IBH) – score of 5, 6 or 7
- GCE and Singapore-Cambridge Advanced Level (A-level) – grade of A, B or C

Not all AP, IBH and A-level exams have been approved to earn unit credits. Credit is also not granted for IB standard or subsidiary level exams.

Designated exams awarded unit credits may additionally be applied to graduation requirements for specific subjects and/or for general education requirements.¹ No credit is granted for lower division language and literature other than English if the exam is the student's native language and/or the student has completed at least nine years of education in that language. Credit and/or placement listed below is based on exams taken in 2023–2024.

Students will not receive duplicate credit for multiple exams in the same subject area, such as AP Biology and IBH Biology. Students may receive credit for exams and college courses in the same subject area, such as AP Biology and a college-level introductory biology course, but only if the exam is taken before the college-level course. Exams taken after college courses in the same subject area will not be awarded duplicate credit.

Advanced Placement (AP)					
AP Exam	Score	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
African American Studies	3, 4, 5	4			For exams taken May 2025 or later
Art and Design: 2-D Art and Design	3, 4, 5	8	IM	ART 10D	Maximum of 8 quarter units awarded for all three exams. 2-D and 3-D Art and Design exams completed prior to Fall 2023 satisfy the PR-C GE.
Art and Design: 3-D Art and Design	3, 4, 5	8	IM	ART 10E	
Art and Design: Drawing	3	8	PR-C		
	4, 5	8	PR-C	ART 15	
Art History	3, 4, 5	8	IM		<p>Art BA: satisfies one Europe and the Americas HAVC requirement.</p> <p>HAVC BA: does not satisfy requirements for this major.</p>

¹ AP Mathematics: Precalculus, AP Research, and AP Seminar are not awarded unit credit, but may be used to satisfy graduation requirements. See the specific exams listed below for detailed information.

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AP Exam	Score	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
Biology	3, 4	8	SI		
	5	8	SI	BIOL 20A BIOE 20B	
Chemistry	3, 4, 5	8	SI		
Computer Science: A	3	8	MF	CSE 10	
	4, 5	8	MF	CSE 5J	
Computer Science: Principles	3, 4, 5	8	MF	CSE 10	
Economics: Microeconomics	3	4	PE-H		Both Economics exams may be taken for credit.
	4, 5	4	PE-H	ECON 1	
Economics: Macroeconomics	3	4	PE-H		
	4, 5	4	PE-H	ECON 2	
English: Language and Composition	3, 4, 5	8			Satisfies the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) .
English: Literature and Composition	3, 4, 5	8			Maximum of 8 quarter units awarded for both Language and Composition and Literature and Composition exams.
Environmental Science	3, 4, 5	4	PE-E		
Government and Politics: United States	3, 4, 5	4			Both Government and Politics exams may be taken for credit.
Government and Politics: Comparative	3, 4, 5	4	CC		

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AP Exam	Score	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
History: United States	3, 4, 5	8			United States exam satisfies American History and Institutions (AH&I) requirement. All three History exams may be taken for credit.
History: European	3, 4, 5	8	CC		
History: Modern World	3, 4, 5	8	CC		
Human Geography	3, 4, 5	4			
Language and Culture: Chinese	3, 4, 5	8			Each Language and Culture exam may be taken for credit.
Language and Culture: French	3, 4, 5	8			
Language and Culture: German	3, 4, 5	8			
Language and Culture: Italian	3, 4, 5	8			
Language and Culture: Japanese	3, 4, 5	8			
Language and Culture: Spanish	3, 4, 5	8			
Language: Latin	3, 4, 5	8	TA		8 quarter units awarded for exams taken May 2013 and beyond.
Literature and Culture: Spanish	3	8	TA		Latin American and Latino Studies B.A. and minor : Satisfies lower-division elective requirement.
	4, 5	8	TA		
Mathematics: Precalculus	3, 4, 5	0	MF	MATH 3 <i>Allows enrollment in Math 11A or 19A.</i>	Exams taken May 2024 or later award GE and course equivalency. Unit credits are not awarded for this exam.

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AP Exam	Score	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
Mathematics: Calculus AB <i>(or AB subscore of Calculus BC exam)</i>	3, 4, 5	4	MF	AM 3 MATH 3 MATH 11A MATH 19A	Maximum of 8 quarter units awarded for both Calculus AB and Calculus BC exams. Students who take the Calculus BC examination and earn a subscore of 3 or higher on the Calculus AB portion will receive 4 quarter units for the Calculus AB examination, even if they do not receive a score of 3 or higher on the BC examination.
Mathematics: Calculus BC	3	8	MF	<i>Allows enrollment in Math 11B, 16A, 19B or 20A.</i>	
	4, 5	8	MF	AM 3 MATH 3 MATH 11A MATH 11B MATH 19A MATH 19B <i>Allows enrollment in Math 20A, 22 or 23A.</i>	
Music Theory	3, 4, 5	8			Credit is awarded for the full Music Theory exam. Students who earn only a subscore do not receive exam credit.
Physics: 1	3, 4, 5	8	SI		Maximum of 8 quarter units awarded for all Physics exams.
Physics: 2	3, 4, 5	8	SI		
Physics: C Mechanics	3	4	SI		
	4, 5	4	MF	PHYS 6A and 6L	
	5	4	MF	PHYS 5A and 5L	
Physics: C Electricity and Magnetism	3	4	SI		
	4, 5	4	SI	PHYS 6C and 6N	
	5	4	SI	PHYS 5C and 5N	

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AP Exam	Score	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
Psychology	3	4	PE-H		
	4, 5	4	PE-H	PSYC 1	
Research	3, 4, 5	0			Satisfies the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) for students entering the university fall 2023 and later. Unit credits are not awarded for this exam.
Seminar	3, 4, 5	0			Satisfies the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) for students entering the university fall 2023 and later. Unit credits are not awarded for this exam.
Statistics	3	4	SR		
	4, 5	4	SR	PSYC 2 SOCY 3B STAT 5	

International Baccalaureate Higher Level (IBH)

IBH Exam	Score	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
Anthropology, Social and Cultural	5, 6, 7	8	PE-H		
Biology	5, 6, 7	8	SI		
Business Management	5, 6, 7	8			

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IBH Exam	Score	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
Chemistry	5, 6, 7	8	SI		
Computer Science	5, 6, 7	8	MF	CSE 5J	
Dance	5, 6, 7	8	IM		
Economics	5, 6, 7	8	PE-H		
Film	5, 6, 7	8	IM		
Geography	5, 6, 7	8	PE-E		
Global Politics	5, 6, 7	8	CC		
History: Africa	5, 6, 7	8	CC		
History: Americas	5, 6, 7	8			
History: Southeast Asia & Oceania	5, 6, 7	8	CC		
History: Europe & The Islamic World	5, 6, 7	8	CC		
History: Europe & The Middle East	5, 6, 7	8	CC		
History: World History (20th Century)	5, 6, 7	8	CC		
Language A: Language and Literature (all languages)	5, 6, 7	8			<p>English A: Literature or English A: Language and Literature exams satisfy the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR).</p> <p>Maximum of 8 quarter units awarded for both English A: Literature and English A: Language and Literature exams.</p>
Language A: Literature (all languages)	5, 6, 7	8			

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IBH Exam	Score	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
Language B (all languages)	5, 6, 7	8			
Mathematics (last offered Fall 2020)	5, 6, 7	8	MF	AM 3 MATH 3 MATH 11A MATH 19A <i>Allows enrollment in Math 11B, 19B or 20A.</i>	If Topic 9-Calculus is completed, students can petition Math Department for MATH 11B or MATH 19B credit.
Mathematics Analysis and Approaches* (2021 and later)	5, 6, 7	8	MF	MATH 3 MATH 11A MATH 11B MATH 19A <i>Allows enrollment in Math 19B or 20A.</i>	<p>*No credit is awarded for the Mathematics Applications and Interpretations exam offered 2021 and later.</p> <p>Students can petition Math Department for MATH 19B credit.</p>
Mathematics, Further (last offered Spring 2020)	5, 6, 7	8	MF	AM 3 MATH 3 MATH 11A MATH 19A <i>Allows enrollment in Math 11B, 19B or 20A.</i>	Students can petition Math Department for MATH 11B or MATH 19B credit.
Music	5, 6, 7	8	PR-C		
Philosophy	5, 6, 7	8	TA		
Physics	5, 6, 7	8	SI		
Psychology	5, 6, 7	8	PE-H		
Theatre Arts	5, 6, 7	8	PR-C		
Visual Arts	5, 6, 7	8	PR-C		

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A-level Exams					
A-level Exam	Grade	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
Accounting	A, B, C	12			
Afrikaans	A, B, C	12			
Arabic	A, B, C	12			
Art and Design	A, B, C	12			
Biology	A, B, C	12			
Chemistry	A, B, C	12			
Chinese	A, B, C	12			
Classical Studies	A, B, C	12			
Computing	A, B, C	12			
Economics	A, B, C	12			
English - Language	A, B, C	12			
English - Literature	A, B, C	12			
French	A, B, C	12			
Geography	A, B, C	12			
German	A, B, C	12			
Hindi	A, B, C	12			
History	A, B, C	12			
Marathi	A, B, C	12			
Marine Science	A, B, C	12			
Mathematics	A, B, C	12			

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A-level Exam	Grade	Quarter Units Awarded	General Education (GE) Requirement	UC Santa Cruz Course Equivalent	Additional Information
Mathematics - Further	A, B, C	12			
Music	A, B, C	12			
Physics	A, B, C	12			
Portuguese	A, B, C	12			
Psychology	A, B, C	12			
Putonghua	A, B, C	12			
Sociology	A, B, C	12			
Spanish	A, B, C	12			
Tamil	A, B, C	12			
Telugu	A, B, C	12			
Urdu	A, B, C	12			
Urdu - Pakistan only	A, B, C	12			