

Advanced Placement Credit: Application to College and Major Requirements, 2020–21

The University of California grants credit for all College Board Advanced Placement Tests (AP) on which a student scores 3 or higher. The credit may be subject credit for use on a minor or prerequisite to a major, or credit toward general-education requirements or elective units toward graduation.

The number of units granted for AP tests are not counted toward the maximum number of credits required for formal declaration of an undergraduate major or the maximum number of units a student may accumulate prior to graduation. Students who enter the university with AP credit do not have to declare a major earlier than other students, nor are they required to graduate earlier.

A student cannot receive credit for a UC San Diego course that duplicates AP credit. Where the chart says “exempt” or “equal to a UC San Diego course number,” that course may not be taken for credit. Students who are fluent in a language other than English that was not their high school language of instruction should not overlook the opportunity to get AP credit by taking the foreign/literature exams.

Note: Please see a college academic adviser for clarification of any questions you may have. Credit and/or placement listed is based on 2019–20 exams.

EXAM AND UNITS FOR UNIVERSITY CREDIT	UC SAN DIEGO COURSE EXEMPTIONS (FOR USE ON MAJOR)	REVELLE COLLEGE	JOHN MUIR COLLEGE	THURGOOD MARSHALL COLLEGE	EARL WARREN COLLEGE	ELEANOR ROOSEVELT COLLEGE	SIXTH COLLEGE	SEVENTH COLLEGE
Art Drawing—8 2D Art and Design—8 3D Art and Design—8 (8-unit maximum for all tests)	None	Meets fine arts requirement.	Elective credit only	Meets lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	2 courses toward visual arts or humanities PofC or 1 course toward visual arts or humanities area study	Meets the 1-course fine arts requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward art making.	Meets arts requirement.
Art History —8	None	Meets fine arts requirement.	Elective credit only	Meets fine arts requirement and 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	2 courses toward visual arts or humanities PofC or 1 course toward visual arts or humanities area study	Meets the 1-course fine arts requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward narrative, aesthetic, and historical reasoning.	Meets arts requirement.
Biology —8	Score of 3 = BILD 10; may take BILD 1, 2, 3 for credit. Score of 4 or 5 = exempts BILD 1, 2, and 3.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 meets Revelle biology requirement and 1 course of natural science requirement.	Score of 3 counts as BILD 10 as part of a biology natural science GE sequence. Score of 4 or 5 may be petitioned to count as BILD 10 and one other course in a biology natural science GE sequence.	Meets biology/natural science requirement and 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	Score of 3 = 2 courses toward fundamentals of biology or science and technology PofC. Score of 4 or 5 = 2 courses toward biology, fundamentals of biology, or science and technology PofC.	Meets the 2-course natural science requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward analytical methodologies/scientific method.	Meets natural science and engineering requirement.
Chemistry —8	Score of 3 = exempts Chem 4. Score of 4 = exempts Chem 4; Chem 6AH, 6BH, 6CH recommended; may take Chem 6A, 6B, 6C for credit. Score of 5 = exempts Chem 6A, 6B, 6C; Chem 6AH, 6BH, 6CH encouraged for those continuing in chemistry or for professional school.	Meets chemistry requirement and 1 course of natural science requirement.	Refer to “UC San Diego Course Exemptions.”	Meets chemistry/natural science requirement and 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	Score of 3 or 4 = 2 courses toward science and technology PofC. Score of 5 = 2 courses toward chemistry or science and technology PofC.	Meets the 2-course natural science requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward analytical methodologies/scientific method.	Meets natural science and engineering requirement.
Computer Science A (Java Programming)—8 Computer Science Principles—8	AP CS A: Score of 4 or 5 = exempts CSE 8A; student should take CSE 11. AP CS Principles: Score of 4 or 5 = exempts CSE 3.	CS A exam = 8 units of elective credit. CS Principles exam = 8 units of elective credit.	Elective credit only	A exam = meets 1 computer programming and logic course. CS Principles exam = 8 units of elective credit.	Each exam = 2 courses toward Formal Skills requirement and/or science and technology PofC (3 courses maximum toward PofC).	Meets the 2-course quantitative/formal skills requirement.	Score of 4 or 5 = 1 course toward information technology fluency requirement. Score of 3 = elective credit.	CS A exam meets quantitative reasoning requirement. CS Principles exam meets quantitative reasoning requirement.
Economics Microeconomics—4 Macroeconomics—4	Score of 5 AP Micro = Econ 1. Score of 5 AP Macro = Econ 3.	Each score of 3, 4, or 5 meets 1 course of social science requirement.	Refer to “UC San Diego Course Exemptions”; score of 3 or 4 does not clear any general-education requirements.	Each score of 3, 4, or 5 meets 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	Each score of 3 or 4 = 1 course toward perspectives of social science PofC. Each score of 5 = 1 course toward perspectives of social science or economics PofC or economics area study.	Elective credit only	Score of 4 or 5 = 1 course toward social analysis. Score of 3 = elective credit.	Each score of 3, 4, or 5 satisfies 1 course toward social science requirement.

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English Composition and Literature—8 Language and Composition—8 (8-unit maximum for both tests)	Score of 3, 4, or 5 meets Entry Level Writing requirement.	8 units of elective credit and clears Entry Level Writing requirement (8 units maximum for both tests).	8 units of elective credit and clears Entry Level Writing requirement (8 units maximum for both tests). Does not clear any general-education requirements.	8 units of elective credit and clears Entry Level Writing requirement (8 units maximum for both tests).	8 units of elective credit and clears Entry Level Writing requirement (8 units maximum for both tests). Composition and Literature score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward humanities or literature PofC or 1 course toward humanities or literature area study.	8 units of elective credit and clears Entry Level Writing requirement (8 units maximum for both tests).	8 units elective credit and clears Entry Level Writing requirement (8 units maximum for both tests).	8 units of collective credit and clears Entry Level Writing requirement.
Environmental Science —4	Score of 4 or 5 = exempts ESYS 10.	Elective credit only	Refer to “UC San Diego Course Exemptions”; score of 3 does not clear any general-education requirements.	Meets physics/natural science requirement or 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	1 course toward science and technology PofC	Meets 1 of 2 courses toward natural science requirement.	Score of 4 or 5 = 1 course toward analytical methodologies/scientific method. Score of 3 = elective credit.	1 course toward natural science and engineering requirement
Government and Politics: United States —4	Score of 3, 4, or 5 satisfies American History and Institutions. Score of 5 = exempts POLI 10.	1 course for social science requirement	Refer to “UC San Diego Course Exemptions”; score of 3 or 4 does not clear any general-education requirements.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 meets 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	1 course toward perspectives of social science or political science PofC or area study	Elective credit only	Score of 4 or 5 = 1 course toward social analysis. Score of 3 = elective credit.	Elective credit only
Government and Politics: Comparative —4	Score of 5 = exempts POLI 11.	1 course for social science requirement	Refer to “UC San Diego Course Exemptions”; score of 3 or 4 does not clear any general-education requirements.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 meets 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	1 course toward perspectives of social science or political science PofC or political science area study	Elective credit only	Score of 4 or 5 = 1 course toward social analysis. Score of 3 = elective credit.	Elective credit only
History: United States —8	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = exempts 2 quarters US history; may take HILD 2A, 2B, or 2C. Satisfies American History and Institutions.	Meets social science requirement.	Refer to “UC San Diego Course Exemptions”; may take HILD 2A, 2B, or 2C to complete GE sequence.	Meets lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	2 courses toward history or humanities PofC or 1 course toward history or humanities area study	Elective credit only	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward narrative, aesthetic, and historical reasoning.	Meets humanities requirement.
History: European —8	None	Elective credit only	Elective credit only	Meets lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	2 courses toward history or humanities PofC or 1 course toward history or humanities area study	May apply as 1 course toward Europe regional specialization. See ERC academic counselor for details.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward narrative, aesthetic, and historical reasoning.	Elective credit only
History: World —8	None	Elective credit only	Elective credit only	Meets lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	2 courses toward history or humanities PofC or 1 course toward history or humanities area study	Elective credit only	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward narrative, aesthetic, and historical reasoning.	Elective credit only
Human Geography —4	None	Elective credit only	Elective credit only	Elective credit only	Elective credit only	Elective credit only	Elective credit only	Elective credit only

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Language other than English Chinese—8 French—8 German—8 Italian—8 Japanese—8 Spanish—8	Score of 3 = exempts LIFR/LIGM/LIIT/LISP 1C/ICX. Score of 4 = exempts LIFR/LIGM/LIIT/LISP 1D/1DX or LTFR/LTGM/LTSP/LTIT 2A. Score of 5 = exempts LTFR/LTGM/LIIT/LTSP 2B.	Score of 4 or 5 meets language proficiency requirement. Score of 3 = 8 units of elective credit. Take 4th quarter level course to meet proficiency requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 counts as 2 courses in a foreign language GE sequence. Final course must be in same language and at a higher level than exempted by AP credit.	Meets lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	French, German, Italian, or Spanish: Score of 3 = 2 courses toward foreign language and culture PofC or 1 course toward foreign language and culture area study. Score of 4 = same as score of 3 or 1 course toward humanities or literature PofC or area study. Score of 5 = same as score of 3 or 2 courses toward humanities or literature PofC or 1 course toward humanities or literature area study. Chinese or Japanese: Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward foreign language and culture or Chinese or Japanese studies PofC or 1 course toward foreign language and culture or Chinese or Japanese studies area study.	Score of 3 = 8 units of elective credit. Take 4th quarter level course to meet proficiency requirement. Score of 4 or 5 meets language proficiency requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward narrative, aesthetic, and historical reasoning.	Score of 3 satisfies 1 course toward humanities requirement. Score of 4 or 5 meets humanities requirement.
Latin Latin: Virgil—4 Latin: Literature—4	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = exempts LTLA 1, 2, 3.	Usually prepares student to take LTLA 100 to meet proficiency requirement. 4 units of elective credit for each exam.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 will satisfy a general education sequence in foreign language.	Meets 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	Each exam = 1 course toward classical studies, humanities, or literature PofC or area study.	Usually prepares student to take LTLA 100 to meet proficiency requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = each 4 units satisfies 1 course toward narrative, aesthetic, and historical reasoning.	Each score of 3, 4, or 5 satisfies 1 course toward humanities.
Literature Spanish—8	Score of 3 = exempts LISP 1D/DX or LTSP 2A. Score of 4 = exempts LTSP 2B. Score of 5 = exempts LTSP 2C.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 meets proficiency requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 counts as 2 courses in a foreign language GE sequence. Final course must be in same language and at a higher level than exempted by AP credit.	Meets lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	Score of 3 = 2 courses toward foreign language and culture PofC or 1 course toward humanities or literature PofC or 1 course toward foreign language and culture, humanities, or literature area study. Score of 4 or 5 = 2 courses toward foreign language and culture, humanities, or literature PofC or 1 course toward foreign language and culture, humanities, or literature area study.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 meets proficiency requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward narrative, aesthetic, and historical reasoning.	Meets humanities requirement.
Mathematics Calculus AB—4 Calculus BC—8 (8-unit maximum for both tests)	Score of 3 on AB exam = exempts Math 10A. Score of 4 or 5 on AB exam = exempts Math 20A or 10A. Score of 3 on BC exam = exempts Math 20A or Math 10A, 10B. Score of 4 or 5 on BC exam = exempts Math 20A, 20B or 10A, 10B.	AB exam = 1 course of math requirement; BC exam = 2 courses of math requirement.	Refer to "UC San Diego Course Exemptions."	AB exam = meets 1 mathematics, advanced statistics. BC exam = meets 2 mathematics, advanced statistics.	Score of 3 on AB exam = 1 course toward formal skills requirement. Score of 4 or 5 on AB exam = 1 course toward formal skills requirement and/or math PofC; BC exam = 2 courses toward formal skills requirement and/or math PofC.	AB exam = 1 of 2 courses toward quantitative/formal skills requirement. BC exam meets the 2-course quantitative/formal skills requirement.	AB or BC exam = score of 3, 4, or 5 meets 1 course toward structured reasoning.	AB exam satisfies 1 course toward quantitative reasoning requirement. BC exam meets quantitative reasoning requirement.
Music Theory—8	None	Meets fine arts requirement.	Elective credit only	Meets lower-division disciplinary breadth requirement if noncontiguous to major.	2 courses toward humanities or music PofC or 1 course toward humanities or music area study	Meets the 1-course fine arts requirement.	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 2 courses toward art making.	Meets arts requirement.

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Physics Physics 1 or 2—8 Physics C Mechanics—4 Physics C Electricity and Magnetism—4 (8-unit maximum for all three tests)	1 or 2 exam = elective credit and exempts Phys 10. C exam (Mech) Score of 3 = exempts Phys 1A. Score of 4 or 5 = exempts Phys 1A or 2A. C exam (E&M) Score of 3 = exempts Phys 1B. Score of 4 or 5 = exempts Phys 1B or 2B.	1 or 2 exam = meets physics requirement. C exam (Mech or E&M) = each 4 units can meet physics requirement or 1 course of the natural science requirement.	Refer to "UC San Diego Course Exemptions."	If 4 units earned = meets physics/natural science requirement or 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major. If 8 units earned, meets physics/natural science requirement and 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	1 or 2 exams = 2 courses toward science and technology PofC. C exam (Mech and E&M): each score of 3 = 1 course toward science and technology PofC. Each score of 4 or 5 = 1 course toward physics or science and technology PofC.	1 or 2 exam meets the 2-course natural science requirement. C exam (E&M) = 1 of 2 courses for the natural science requirement; C exam (Mech) = meets 1 of the 2 courses for the natural science requirement.	Physics C exam score of 3, 4, or 5 = each 4 units satisfies 1 course toward analytical methodologies/scientific method.	1 or 2 exam meets the natural science and engineering requirement. C exam (Mech) satisfies 1 course toward the natural science and engineering requirement. C exam (E&M) satisfies 1 course toward the natural science and engineering requirement.
Psychology —4	Score of 4 or 5 = exempts Psychology 1.	1 course for social science requirement	Refer to "UC San Diego Course Exemptions"; score of 3 does not clear any general-education requirements.	Meets 1 lower-division disciplinary breadth if noncontiguous to major.	1 course toward perspectives in social science or psychology PofC or psychology area study	Elective credit only	Score of 4 or 5 = 1 course toward social analysis. Score of 3 = elective credit.	Elective credit only
Statistics —4	None	1 course toward math requirement	Elective credit only	Elective credit only	1 course toward formal skills requirement	1 of 2 courses toward quantitative/formal skills requirement	Score of 3, 4, or 5 = 1 course toward exploring data.	1 course toward quantitative reasoning requirement