

Ensuring Transfer Success 2011
Understanding UC International Evaluation

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Understanding
UC International Evaluation

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This session will cover:

- International Records and UC Applicants
- How Does UC Evaluate Non-U.S. Coursework?
- Helping Applicants Prepare for UC
- Academic Record Examples
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Useful Resources

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International Records and UC Applicants

- International record ≠ international student
 - International student: permanent address outside of the United States; studying on a visa
 - Most UC applicants with foreign records are permanent residents/recent immigrants



- In fall 2011, of the 31,032 California Community College transfers who applied to UC, 1,656 indicated they studied outside the U.S. for high school or college level work.

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How Does UC Evaluate Non-U.S. Coursework?

- Uses course descriptions and consults faculty as necessary
- Applies same evaluation guidelines used for domestic coursework
- Degree applicability is generally determined by academic department at UC campus after transfer
- No transfer credit for lower-division language courses completed in the US, in a previous language of instruction.
- International coursework may not be used to fulfill IGETC (except language other than English)

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Helping Applicants Prepare for UC

- Beginning with high school, what is the student's complete academic history?
 - What credential(s) does the student hold?
 - How old was he/she when credential was obtained?
 - What was language of instruction beginning with 9th grade?
- How does this pertain to the application?
 - Educational history section: report all institutions attended and language of instruction



Omitting academic history is a serious academic integrity issue!

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Helping Applicants Prepare for UC

- What did the student study and for how long?
 - Does the student hold a degree, or partial university or postsecondary credential from abroad?
- How does this pertain to the application?
 - Report all courses on the self-report section of the application
 - Report international grades, units and/or credit hours exactly as they appear on foreign transcript
 - Be prepared to submit a copy of the record, credential and course descriptions

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Royal Institute of Technology

- Institution in Sweden
- One year non-transferable university program
- Student attended Royal Institute of Technology in 2002-04
- The year covered basic courses in math and science for students who completed a nontechnical secondary school curriculum
- The PIER book indicates "but no credit towards a university program is given."

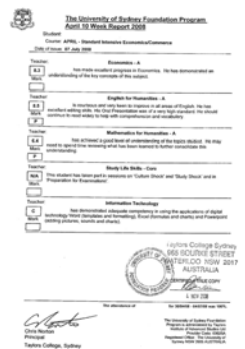
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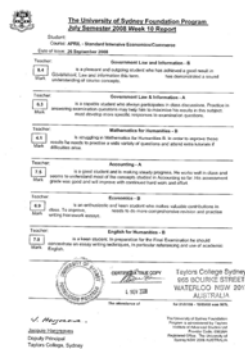
School of Information of Renmin University

- Recognized institution in China
- 1 year preparation (part of 1+3 program at a specific institution)
- Courses not applicable to Renmin degree
- No UC credit



University of Sydney Foundation Program





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University of Sydney Foundation Program

- Recognized institution in Australia
- 1 year foundation program
- Not applicable to University of Sydney degree
- No UC credit

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I disregard my non-U.S. coursework and start over?

A: No. Students may not ignore postsecondary coursework completed at recognized institutions, either in the U.S. or outside the U.S.

- Don't presume no credit will be awarded
- If extensive coursework was completed (more than 3 years or degree), explore senior standing, second-baccalaureate and/or graduate programs
- Refer to licensing boards as appropriate for requirements to practice in the U.S. (M.D., Pharmacy, Architecture, etc.)

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How does UC determine English proficiency?

A: Refer to "Advising Students with International Records" document on minimum TOEFL, transferable English composition requirements, IELTS and SAT Writing scores by campus

Q: What is a "gap in education"?

A: Any period since high school graduation, excluding summers, when a student was not enrolled in school. Student must explain all gaps in education on the application.



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Do I need to get my foreign transcript evaluated by an agency?

A: UC does not accept evaluations done by a credentials evaluation agency. International specialists on each campus determine transferability of coursework when a student applies. If the transcript is not in English, a word-for-word translation, may be required.

Q: How much credit will I get for my foreign coursework?

A: Each record is reviewed on a course-by-course basis, but a year abroad is generally comparable to a year in U.S. (approximately 30 semester units).

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Useful Resources - Online

- AACRAO: aacraoedge.aacrao.org (need subscription to access)
- Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE): www.ece.org
- International Association of Universities – World Higher Ed Database: www.iau-aiu.net/online-databases/ (free)
- International Education Research Foundation (IERF): www.ierf.org (credentials evaluation service)
- International directory for Ministry of Education websites: www.chea.org/intdb/international_directory.asp (you must agree to the waiver)
- NAFSA: www.nafsa.org
- World Education Services: www.wes.org/ewenr

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Useful Resources - Publications

- **Publications:**
 - *The New Country Index (Volume II): Making Sense of International Credentials*
www.ierf.org/index.php/institutions/country_index_vol_ii/
 - *The AACRAO International Guide: A Resource for International Education Professionals*
(\$80 member/\$110 nonmember)
www.aacrao.org/publications/catalog/international.cfm
 - AACRAO Country Series & PIER/World Education Series
www.aacrao.org/publications/catalog/ies.cfm

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Useful Resources - Publications

- *Online Guide to Educational Systems Around the World* (website use is free; for credentials before 1999, order CD of information)
http://www.nafsa.org/publication.sec/epublications/online_guide_to/
- *International Handbook of Universities*, The International Association of Universities (IAU) (Palgrave Macmillan)
<http://www.iau-aiu.net/directories/handbook.html>
- International specialist at your local UC campus!

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Questions?

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Quick Tips for Your International Students

- Complete English requirements as early as possible
- No credit for courses in language that was primary language of instruction in high school
- Don't "repeat" course work in which you had previously earned C or better grades
- Don't enroll in lower-level courses if you have already completed higher-level elsewhere
- Have course descriptions available for appropriate course placement
- Report A-level results (GCE A-level, Singapore A-level, HKALE) in the Additional Academic Comments section

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