

## Concurrent Cross-Institutional Learning Policy

### 1.0 Introduction and background

- 1.1 This regulation applies to applications for the transfer of credit to University of Northampton awards in respect of concurrent cross-institutional learning.

### 2.0 Purpose and scope

- 2.1 To explain the possibilities and processes for concurrent cross-institutional learning. This policy must be considered alongside, and is subservient to, the Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL)/Credit Transfer Policy.
- 2.2 This policy applies to all applicants and students, including those who apply to study or are studying at partner institutions.

### 3.0 Definitions

- 3.1 Concurrent Cross-Institutional Learning – learning at another institution that is occurring at the same time as learning at the University of Northampton and that is approved for credit transfer into the University's award.

### 4.0 Key principles

- 4.1 This policy must be considered alongside, and is subservient to, the Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL)/Credit Transfer Policy and the principles concerning credit transfer and maximum levels of credit transfer contained therein.
- 4.2 The fundamental principle to be applied in determining whether credit should be granted from concurrent cross-institutional learning is whether the topic in question is substantially equivalent in terms of content, skills and type of educational experience to that which would be expected of a topic offered at the same level by the University of Northampton.

Educational experience takes into account the manner of teaching, the materials available, the modes of assessment and, in particular, whether the topic offers students the opportunity for reading, research and reflection which is expected of students undertaking topics offered by the University.

- 4.3 Cross-institutional study will not be permitted in respect of topics which the student could have undertaken at the University of Northampton or which are offered or reasonably likely to be offered by the University prior to the student's projected completion date for the award on which the student is enrolled.

- 4.4 The academic regulations of the University of Northampton relating to the award on which the student is enrolled will take precedent over the regulations of the institution where the other units are being delivered.
- 4.5 Where it is determined that credit should be granted, the number of units of credit granted for topics completed at another tertiary institution will normally be that number of University of Northampton credits as represents the proportion of a full-time annual load which the topic would comprise were it offered by the University. The amount of specified credit granted in respect of any topic will not exceed the number credit allocated to corresponding University of Northampton topic.

## **5.0 Key responsibilities**

- 5.1 Students wishing to demonstrate compelling reasons in support of an application for credit transfer for cross-institutional study must apply to the APL Committee at the point of admissions or at the point at which modules are selected for a further stage of study.

Decisions on credit transfer rest ultimately with the University's APL Committee. Appeals against decisions may be lodged in accordance with the appeals process set out in the APL/Credit Transfer Policy.

- 5.2 Decisions on the validity of a request for the transfer of credits for concurrent cross-institutional learning will be made according to the following:
- the proposed cross-institutional study topic must meet the requirements of the University of Northampton award for which the student is enrolled;
  - if the topic is designated by the Award Map as part of an unacceptable combination, no credit will be granted;
  - if the topic duplicates learning already credited by the University of Northampton then further credit will not be granted;
  - if the topic was completed prior to the student being accepted onto the University of Northampton award then the APL Policy should be applied;
  - a decision on credit will be made based according to the applicable criteria and limitations set out in this policy or any other relevant policy;
  - if the topic is offered by the University of Northampton (or one of our partner institutions) then no credit will be granted;
  - the student must have applied for the accreditation of the cross-institutional credit prior to the commencement of study at the other institution;

5.3 All decisions which have been made involving the grant of credit will be reported to the appropriate Assessment Board(s). The Board will not normally be involved in making decisions on individual applications for credit transfer.

## **6.0 Links to related UN Policies/Guidance/Regulations**

6.1 Academic Regulations

6.2 APL/Credit Transfer Policy and Guidance

## **7.0 Links to related external documents (e.g. QAA)**

7.1 UK Quality Code

## **8.0 Appendices**

8.1 Summary Sheet

## Summary Sheet:

<b>Policy Title:</b>	
Concurrent Cross-Institutional Learning	
<b>Purpose of Policy and to whom it applies (please specify cohorts):</b>	
To explain the possibilities and processes for concurrent cross-institutional learning. This policy must be considered alongside, and is subservient to, the Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL)/Credit Transfer Policy	
All students, including those studying on provision involving Education with Others	
<b>Owner and Department:</b>	
Dawn Mains, Head of Admissions	
<b>Principal contact:</b>	
Dawn Mains, Head of Admissions	
<b>Dissemination and implementation plan:</b>	
Via web Via SEC and SSECs	
<b>Date of initial committee approval (state committee name):</b>	Senate
<b>Date of Senate approval:</b>	December 2008
<b>Date for implementation and cohorts to which it applies:</b>	2014 for new and continuing students
<b>Proposed date of annual update:</b>	June 2022
<b>Date of last annual update:</b>	June 2023
<b>Proposed date of full review:</b>	June 2025
<b>Date of last full review:</b>	June 2018
<b>Version number and date:</b>	3.0 (June 2018)