

UNSW LAW

Credit Transfer Rules and Regulations

Bachelor of Laws

These rules apply to the LLB program only. The rules for the JD program can be found in *UNSW Law Credit Transfer Rules: Juris Doctor*

What is Credit Transfer?

- Credit Transfer recognises prior learning at another tertiary institution or in another UNSW degree. Credit Transfer can be granted as **advanced standing**, or as an **exemption** from a requirement to complete a compulsory course.
- **Advanced Standing** will be recorded on your UNSW transcript either in relation to a specific course, with a UOC value (usually 6 UOC per course) or as Unspecified Credit in electives (up to a maximum of 42 UOC). Advanced Standing expedites your progression through your program by reducing the UOC you need to complete.
- An **exemption** will be recorded on your transcript in relation to a specific course but with a UOC value of 0 UOC. Exemptions do not expedite your progression by reducing the UOC you need to complete.
- **Exclusions:** If you have been granted Credit Transfer in relation to a specific course (either as advanced standing or as an exemption), and that course is listed on your transcript, then you are excluded from repeating that course.
- **Note:** *These rules only apply to Credit Transfer for LAW courses. Dual Law degree program students should contact the appropriate non-Law Faculty (e.g. Arts, Business etc.) for advice on credit they may receive for the non-law component of their degree.*

What courses are recognised for Credit Transfer?

- Credit Transfer for **Law compulsory courses that form part of the Academic Areas of Knowledge¹ (also known as the Priestley 11)** can only be granted for courses completed as part of an approved Bachelor of Laws (LLB) or a Juris Doctor (JD) program at a recognised Australian tertiary institution.
 - E.g. Students transferring into an undergraduate dual law degree from the Bachelor of Criminology at UNSW will not receive credit for any CRIM courses;
 - Similarly, students who have completed an overseas LLB or JD will not be granted credit for any Law compulsory courses that form part of the *Academic Areas of Knowledge* requirements.
- **Credit Transfer for UNSW Law elective courses** can only be granted for courses that were completed as part of an approved Bachelor of Laws (LLB) or a Juris Doctor (JD) program at a recognised tertiary institution, or for courses which could have been credited to such a degree.

¹ See *Legal Profession Uniform Admission Rules 2015*

- E.g. Advanced Standing in the UNSW JD may be granted for elective courses completed at a Postgraduate level at UNSW Law (see further Additional Rules below).
- **Time limits:** Credit Transfer for courses will only be granted as **advanced standing** or **exemption** for courses completed at a recognised Australian or overseas university within the last **ten years**.

What is the maximum number of Units of Credit that can be awarded as Credit Transfer?

- **The maximum number of units** that will be granted for Credit Transfer, both advanced standing and exemptions, is 72 UOC.
- **The maximum number of units of that will be granted in Credit Transfer as advanced standing is 48 UOC.**
- Credit Transfer above 48 UOC. If you have completed more than 48 UOC in recognised LLB or JD course, you can still apply for an exemption up to 72 UOC. If you are awarded additional exemptions above 48 UOC you will need to make up the difference by completing additional law electives.
 - E.g. A student transferring into the Juris Doctor and is awarded 48 UOC in advanced standing and a further 6 UOC in exemptions (54 UOC as credit transfer in JURD courses in total.) This student will need to complete an additional 6 UOC in law electives to complete their degree requirements. While the standard elective requirement for the Juris Doctor is 42 UOC, this student will need to complete 48 UOC in law electives.

Additional Rules

- **Credit Transfer and Overseas Qualifications**

We do not grant either advanced standing or exemptions towards **Law compulsory courses that form part of the *Academic Areas of Knowledge* requirements** on the basis of Law courses studied at an overseas institution. However, students who hold a recognised LLB or JD degree can be granted **up to 42 UOC** advanced standing in unspecified electives:

- Students who hold an LLB/JD degree from a non-Common Law jurisdiction, or whose law degree was completed in a language other than English will ordinarily be granted 36 UOC in unspecified electives so as to enable them to enrol in the specialist elective JURD7829 *Legal Writing in Context*.
- Students with an overseas JD or LLB and who also hold additional qualifications in Law, may, on application, be granted an exemption from *Law in the Global Context*.
- Students with an LLB or JD from a common law jurisdiction where the primary language of instruction was English, and who have either completed an equivalent legal theory course, or hold additional relevant tertiary qualifications in law, may, on application, be granted an exemption from the prescribed legal theory elective.

- **Academic Areas of Knowledge requirements across multiple compulsory courses.**
In some cases the *Academic Areas of Knowledge* requirements in a particular subject area are taught across more than one core course at UNSW. For example, criminal law and procedure is taught across *Crime and the Criminal Process* and *Criminal Laws*. Transfer students coming from an institution that covers the same requirements in a single course may receive advanced standing for one part and exemption for the other. Students who receive exemption from LAWS1021 or JURD7121 *Crime and the Criminal Process* or LAWS1022 or JURD7122 *Criminal Laws* based on a criminal law course of one semester duration at other institutions must complete an additional 6 UOC in law electives.
- **Exceptional Cases and Appeals against Credit Transfer Decisions**
Students whose situation is not covered by any of these rules, but who believe they none the less have good grounds to be granted Credit Transfer can apply for an exceptional determination by the relevant Program Director. Applications can be made using the ordinary forms, but applicants must attach an additional statement outlining reasons for seeking an exceptional determination.

Appeals against Credit Transfer decisions will be assessed by the relevant Program Director, or, if the application has already been considered by the Program Director, then by the Chair of Academic Quality Assurance Committee.

Further Information

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/credit-transfer>