



Is Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Right for You?

Pursuing credit for prior learning can involve a significant investment of your time, and, sometimes, money. It can also save you lots of time and money in the long run if you receive credit. The information below is designed to help you determine whether it will be worth your while to pursue CPL.

1. BJU requires that 25% of your degree be completed by taking coursework from BJU. If you have only thirty (bachelor's degree) or fifteen (associate degree) credits left to take and have completed no previous coursework from BJU, CPL is not right for you.
2. You must have been admitted to an online degree completion program offered through SCOPE (AA Liberal Arts, AS Business, BS Business, BS Professional Studies, or BS Christian Worldview and Ministry).
3. You must request CPL before you attempt a class that you want to CPL out of, and you must request all CPL work prior to your final semester of enrollment at BJU.
4. Do you have subject-specific knowledge that can be tested and that is related to subjects BJU offers? If so, determine what type of test fits your knowledge and make a list. BJU accepts credit for the successful completion of the types of tests listed below. You will want to visit the website of each to see if they offer tests in subjects you believe you have mastery of.
 - a. AP—Credit for AP is based solely upon AP tests and not on AP courses. AP test scores must be 4 or above for recognition. For more information, see <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/>.
 - b. CLEP—BJU does not recognize general CLEP; however, we do accept subject area CLEP credits as long as the scores are 50 or above. For more information, see <https://clep.collegeboard.org/>.
 - c. IB—IB credit is based solely upon the Higher Level Examination results. IB test scores must be 5 or above for recognition. A total of six English credits may be earned by IB, excluding AP and CLEP programs. For more information, see <https://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/assessment-and-exams/>.
 - d. DANTES/DSST—Bob Jones University evaluates DSST transcripts based on the recommendations of the American Council on Education (ACE). For more information, see <https://www.dantes.doded.mil/EducationPrograms/get-credit/creditem.html>.
 - e. Excelsior/UExcel Examinations—Students must earn a grade of C (70%) or higher on an Excelsior exam in order to receive credit. Credit is awarded based on ACE recommendations. For more information, see <https://www.excelsior.edu/exams/uexcel/>.
 - f. Military Training and Experience—BJU evaluates United States military coursework and related occupational experience based on the recommendations of the American Council on Education's ACE Military Guide (<https://www.acenet.edu/Programs-Services/Pages/Credit-Transcripts/Military-Guide-Online.aspx>).
 - g. New York University Proficiency Testing in Foreign Languages—BJU awards up to twelve credits for foreign language proficiency based on a student's score on a New York University Proficiency Test in Foreign Language. Each four points in a student's score equals one four-credit course. For more information, see

<https://www.sps.nyu.edu/homepage/academics/divisions-and-departments/center-for-applied-liberal-arts/proficiency-testing.html>. Note that NYU's Greek and Hebrew proficiency exams will not meet Greek and Hebrew requirements in the School of Religion and BJU Seminary, because NYU's tests are for modern Greek and Hebrew, not biblical Greek and Hebrew.

- h. Challenge Exams—Challenge exams are used on a limited basis for courses that are primarily knowledge-based and in which there already exists a cumulative final exam. Students who place out of a class may receive credit for it, since they have met the learning outcomes for the class. Challenge exams may be attempted only once, and students must earn at least a passing grade on the exam to receive credit for the course. There is a \$50.00 fee for taking a challenge exam. Contact the CPL Coordinator to find out whether there is a challenge exam in a subject you would like to test out of.
- 5. What credentials have you earned through on-the-job training and other non-credit opportunities you've experienced (e.g., certificates, licenses, etc.)? Don't forget about any certificates you may have earned for volunteer work you have done. BJU awards credits for these based on the recommendations of ACE and the National College Credit Recommendation Service (NCCRS). Make a list of your credentials and then check the ACE (<https://www.acenet.edu/Programs-Services/Pages/Credit-Transcripts/Student-Guide-to-Credit-for-Prior-Learning.aspx>) and NCCRS (<http://www.nationalccrs.org/course-credit-directory>) websites to see whether you can receive credit for them.
- 6. If you have exhausted the testing and ACE/NCCRS options available to you but still believe you have knowledge, training, and/or experience that may lead to credit, you may submit a CPL portfolio. A CPL portfolio consists of your explanation and related documentation (e.g., certificates/awards earned, recommendations of employers) for why you believe you have met the learning outcomes for a specific course offered by BJU. You may request credit for multiple courses in the same general subject area. Before you start working on a portfolio, though, contact BJU's CPL Coordinator (scope@bju.edu). Writing and compiling an acceptable portfolio takes a good deal of time and effort, and we want you to be able to do it successfully.

If you believe CPL is right for you, contact BJU's CPL Coordinator (scope@bju.edu; 888-253-9833) to get started.