

Taking Introductory Physics Courses at Another Institution

You may satisfy introductory calculus-based physics (Phys 117A / Phys 118A) requirements at Washington University by taking comparable physics courses at another institution. To do so you need to 1) identify a school that teaches an **introductory calculus-based physics course sequence with a lab** (preferably a two semester sequence), 2) obtain confirmation from the Physics department that the courses you have selected are comparable to the introductory physics courses at Washington University, 3) submit to the College Office the completed “Approval for Non-WU Course Credit” form, and, 4) after completing the course work, send an official transcript to Washington University to certify that you successfully completed the classes. If these requirements are met, you will receive transfer credit for the introductory physics courses you took at another institution, and the credits will satisfy major requirements that include Phys 117A / Phys 118A.

In order for the Physics department to confirm course equivalence with the Washington University introductory physics courses, you need to provide Dr. Mairin Hynes with the following information:

- Your name, major, email address, and phone number
- The course number(s) of the Washington University course(s) [Phys 117A, Phys 118A, or both] that you wish to take elsewhere
- The school at which you want to take the introductory physics courses and the semester
- The name, number, and description of the physics courses at the other institution
- A course syllabus (that includes a detailed list of topics covered), description of the labs, textbook name and author
- If possible, a web address that provides detailed information about the courses you wish to take.

Either send the above information in an email message to Dr. Hynes (kmhynes@wustl.edu) or bring it to her office (*Crow 214*).

After reviewing the material, Dr. Hynes will contact you by email to let you know whether or not the course is comparable to one offered at Washington University. Once you have an email approval from Dr. Hynes to take a course at another institution, attach a copy of that email message to the completed “Approval for Non-WU Course Credit” form, and submit them together to the College Office. This form is a contract between you and the university ensuring that you receive the transfer credit after successfully completing the course at another school.

You should obtain confirmation of course equivalence from the Physics department prior to enrolling in a course at another institution. **Note: To ensure you have course approval prior to summer school registration periods, your request should be submitted to Dr. Hynes prior to Spring Break.** Approval may be granted after you have already taken the course, but there is no guarantee that you will receive the transfer credit unless you have the courses approved ahead of time.

If you have questions about receiving transfer credit for introductory physics taken at another institution, contact Dr. Hynes by email or phone (935-4495).