

State University System Institutional Responses Regarding Evaluation of Military Experiences

What is your process for determining the number of credits and the course equivalencies to award a student for military experience?

FAMU: Students submit official AARTS or SMART transcripts to the Registrar's office or upon admission. We rely heavily on the ACE National Guide to College Credit recommendations for formal courses.

FAU: Students who are or were eligible members of the United States Armed Forces must submit a Joint Service Transcript (JST) to the FAU Office of Admissions for evaluation. Military training or coursework is subject to regular University transfer policies and procedures including limitations on the amount and level of transfer credit for a given degree.

<https://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/Reg%204.015.pdf>

FGCU: FGCU reviews the official military transcripts to determine the number of credits and the course equivalencies. The ACE recommendation is considered in determining the type of credit a course should receive; however, these recommendations are not binding upon the university. Vocational or occupational courses such as physical education or marksmanship do not transfer; however, courses such as management, military science and other subjects that can be considered academic will transfer as lower or upper level.

FIU: Admissions Operations evaluators (2 trained staff members) review and award military credit at the point of admission. The student's ID, admission term, and major are added to the Joint Services Transcript (JST). The evaluators review and award lower- and upper-division credit based on ACE recommendations. Senior staff in Transfer & Transition Services (TTS) can award additional credits after this initial process.

TTS approves course equivalencies applicable to the University Core Curriculum (UCC), while the academic units (faculty/advising administrators) approve course equivalencies applicable to the degree.

We do not award:

- Vocational credits
- Repeated credits (multiple "supervision" or "military science" credits)
(Note: If there are repeated credits, we will combine 1 credit designations to reach a minimum 2 or 3 credits or we choose the highest credits awarded, which in some instances may be 5 credits.)
- Combat training (marksmanship, gunner, orienteering, land navigation, etc.)
(Note: We do award lower-division elective credit for the more general *basic military science* and *physical education*.)

New: In summer 2020, we started designating upper-division credits with a (UD) designation on the student record. This allows academic advisors to readily identify UD credits for further review to potentially satisfy upper-division requirements or electives. We also developed a query for advisors to proactively review students in their respective degree programs who have military (UD) credits.

FLPoly: All transcripts are reviewed for application of credit towards degree. Coursework from accredited schools is awarded per State regulations and institutional policy.

FSU: Request for JST; SVC review of JST; SVC meeting with student veterans; Veteran approved recommendation from SVC to College or Dept; Decision by College or Department; If credit awarded, forwarded to Registrar.

NCF: Yes. New College grants transfer credit for armed service education and training according to the recommendations of the American Council on Education (ACE). A student with military training or courses must provide the Office of Admission with a copy of an official college transcript from each institution attended and their Joint Services Transcript (JST). For students who are not eligible for a JST, they would have to provide a copy of their DD Form 214, the Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.

Transfer credit awarded for military experience or courses is subject to the College's transfer credit policy, including a limit on the amount and level of transfer credit (undergraduate) that may be awarded.

UCF:

- UCF utilizes the ACE Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services to determine equivalency and alignment of military coursework with appropriate university courses.
- Student sends the JSTs electronically to UCF. The UCF Veterans Academic Resource Center checks for equivalencies to see if course has been awarded credit previously; if yes – give student credit for appropriate MIL course. If no, they will refer to ACE Military Guide, create appropriate lower level/upper level class, give student appropriate MIL course credit.

UF: Military veterans may request to receive college credits towards their degree program for their military experience. Based on years of service and pay grade, Student Veteran Services works with the University of Florida (UF) Military Sciences Department to determine appropriate course equivalencies. An approval form is created, signed by both offices and forwarded to the Dean of the student's college for final approval.

For prior academic coursework, students may initiate a request to receive transfer credit with their college's. Approved courses will be forwarded to Office of Admissions for posting on transcript.

UNF: College credit will be granted to students with military training, experience, or coursework that is recognized by the American Council on Education (ACE). Military training, experience or coursework is subject to regular institution transfer practices including limitations on the amount (maximum of 21 hours) and level of transfer credit. Awarding military credit is subject to the same treatment as any other transfer credit evaluated. If the course to which the military training or coursework is equivalent fulfills a general education or major course or degree program requirement at the receiving institution, the credit should count towards graduation and meet a requirement accordingly. Otherwise, appropriate course credit including free elective course credit will be granted. The credit that was previously evaluated and awarded by a college degree granting institution, and that is appropriate to the transfer student's major at the university, should be accepted, subject to institutional limit on the amount and level of transfer credit allowed for a given degree.

USF: "Military training based on the Joint Services Transcript (JST) which includes the SMART, CCAF, and AART, are evaluated using ACE standards and appropriately awarded to student. We also evaluate DANTES DSST and award credits as appropriate. Colleges may further evaluate military credits to determine if those credits might be applied to a specific academic program under their purview." (Data received from: Office of Admissions)

The College of Nursing is currently the only College at USF that awards further credit to for military experience/training on a regular basis. The College of Nursing developed a process utilizing Joint Services Transcripts and awarding credit based on ACE credit allocation awarded. They review the course description and match it to the course we are awarding credit for. As part of a HRSA grant, the CON developed a Veterans Bachelor of Science in Nursing (VBSN, also known as VCARE), for veterans who were trained and qualified Army/Airforce Combat Medics or Navy Corpsmen. This process awarded extensive academic credit for military training/experience.

After an extensive review of syllabi, objectives and course materials for the current military medic and corpsman courses and training, modifications to the Program of Study undergraduate program were made for the Veterans Bachelor of Science in Nursing (VBSN) students. The modifications included granting up to 16 semester hours of credit (4 cr anatomy and physiology I, 12 cr nursing) for military medic/corpsman training and experiences in fundamentals (5 cr), physical assessment (1 cr), psychiatric/mental health clinical (1cr), medical–surgical I clinical (1 cr), medical–surgical II clinical (1 cr), and community/public health clinical (3 cr). We tailored a few courses and created a course to bridge the technical medic/corpsman knowledge and skills to provide socialization into professional nursing practice. Table 4 is an example of the USF College of Nursing process for granting credit.

Table 4
Example of granting credit to an Army combat medic.

ACE identifier	Military course	ACE credit recommendation	USF nursing course equivalency
300-68W10	AR-0709-0065 Healthcare Specialist (30 cr)	Basic Pharmacology (2 cr) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (1 cr) Clinical Internship (1 cr) Emergency Medical Technician Basic (16 cr)	BSC 2085 Anatomy and Physiology I (1 cr) NUR 3026L Fundamentals of Nursing Practice Clinical (1 cr) BSC 2085 Anatomy and Physiology I (3 cr) NUR 3066 Physical Exam and Assessment (1 cr) NUR 3026 Fundamentals of Nursing Care (3 cr) NUR 3026L Fundamentals of Nursing Practice Clinical (1 cr) NUR 3215L Medical Surgical Nursing I Clinical (1 cr) NUR 3535L Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Clinical (1 cr) NUR 4216L Medical Surgical NUR 4636L Community Health Clinical (3 cr)
		Field Experience (3 cr)	
		Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (3 cr) Primary Care and Prevention (3 cr)	

(Data received from: College of Nursing)

UWF: UWF maximizes the number of credit hours awarded that are academic in nature. UWF does not award any vocational credit. The type of credit and the number of credit hours for each course is listed on the Joint Services Transcript and that is what UWF uses to determine the number of credit hours to award for each course. The course equivalency is determined by the Academic Department that owns the course at UWF. However, we only have the Joint Cyber Analysis course and the Hospital Corpsman BSC course that have been made equivalent to UWF courses. Most departments use the credit as electives or make exceptions in the degree audit.

Which evaluation source is used to assist in making your determination (ACE Military Guide, Joint Services Transcript, etc.)?

FAMU: ACE National Guide <http://www2.acenet.edu/credit/?fuseaction=search.main>

FAU: Military service credit is evaluated and credit is awarded based on the American Council on Education (ACE) course equivalency recommendations. Depending on the judgement of the college of a student's major, awarded credit may be applied to satisfy specific degree requirements or as elective credit.

FGCU: FGCU uses the ACE military guide and the joint services transcripts as evaluation sources.

FIU: Our primary source is the JST, and AIR University (for CC of Air Force), while referring to the ACE Military Guide when we need additional information. The Military Guide is especially useful to academic advisors when working with faculty members or advising administrators to review upper-division credits for course equivalencies.

FLPOLY: ACE Military Guide

FSU: JST; ACE; CCAF transcripts; Military and Academic Advisors/Departments

NCF: Primarily the Joint Services Transcript (JST) since it contains ACE credit recommendations for courses that the service member or veteran has completed listed as subject areas, in semester credits, and level of credit.

UCF: ACE Military Guide, Joint Services Transcript

UF: To receive credit for military experience, the student initiates the request by submitting a DD-214 to the Student Veteran Services office.

To receive credit for military academic course completions, students should submit a Joint Service Transcript to their college for evaluation.

UNF: The ACE *Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services* is used to determine equivalency and alignment of military coursework with appropriate university courses.

USF: USF uses the following in the process of awarding military credit:

- ACE Military Guide
- Joint Service Transcripts (CCAF, SMART and AART)
- DANTES DSST

(Data received from: Office of Admissions)

UWF: UWF uses the Joint Services Transcript.

Does your campus consult with other individuals/agencies when making this determination? If so, which individuals or agencies are consulted?

FAMU: No.

FAU: No. We go strictly by the ACE recommendations.

FGCU: No, FGCU does not consult with other individuals/agencies external to the university when making this determination. The admissions office may contact faculty within academic departments on campus for guidance in determining equivalent courses.

FIU: TTS and academic advisors consult with faculty members, as needed, when credits appear to be applicable to satisfying UCC or degree program requirements. Faculty members from our Department of Modern Languages were consulted in the evaluation of DLPT scores (prior to their inclusion in the ACC Credit-by-Exam Equivalencies).

FLPOLY: Our faculty

FSU: Yes; Student Veterans Center, Military Science Department; Departments/Deans

NCF: Yes, we use the ACE Military Guide (online) if needed.

UCF: No.

UF: The credit is a joint determination between the Student Veteran Services Office, the Military Science Department and student's college. The UF Curriculum Committee has granted colleges the ability to award credit appropriate to a student's discipline.

UNF: UNF follows Department of Defense recommendations and guidelines.

USF: No other outside agencies.

UWF: UWF does not consult with any other individuals/agencies but have conversations with the department to determine applicable credit. Maximum credit hours are awarded through transfer and with departmental approval for those specific courses that the department authorizes for use for a particular program.

How is the awarded credit listed on the student's transcript?

FAMU: They are listed as equivalent university course credits or as electives if the credits did not have equivalent courses.

FAU: All articulated military courses are assigned the "MIS" course prefix as per the Statewide Common Course Numbering System discipline code for "Military Science". In addition, a course level code of 1, 3, or 6 is assigned based on the ACE recommendation of "Lower", "Upper", or "Graduate".

FGCU: A maximum of 45 semester hours of military service credits can be applied toward a degree.

The following institution descriptions are used for military credit: Military Credit – Coast Guard; Military Credit – Army; Military Credit – Navy; and Military Credit – USMC. The grades for the courses appear as an "S" and the appropriate credit awarded for the course.

FIU: Awarded military credits appear on the student's transcript under "Transfer Credits" (header) and "Transfer Credit from Military Schooling" (sub-header). We post credits awarded using the ACE Identifier, Course Title, Credits Earned, and "P" grade.

The examples below include a regular military course and one the UD designation mentioned earlier in our response to Question #1.

- MC 2204-0184 Leadership Accepted 3.0 P
- MC 1141-001A Principles of MGMT (UD) Accepted 2.0 P

FLPOLY: All applied credit is listed under an external credit section on the transcript. Currently, only the credit of the course completed at another institution shows on the transcript, not how we applied the credit to their program.

FSU: It appears as a transfer credit. See screenshot below.

Transfer Credit from MILITARY CREDITS/US MARINE CORPS
Applied Toward Undergraduate Studies Program

2020

<u>Trm</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Grd</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>RP</u>	<u>Input</u>	<u>Eval</u>
SPR	LDR2101	LEADERSHIP THEORY AND PRACTICE	S	TRF		3.000	3.000
		Term Totals				3.000	3.000

NCF: The credit is displayed on a student's official transcript as "Military Credit" and the total number of transfer credits received.

UCF: Credit awarded for military education and training is noted on the UCF Official transcript. Documentation of the credit equivalency evaluation, along with the Joint Services Transcript, is maintained by the registrar's office.

UF: Final approval is forwarded to the Office of Admissions to post on a student's transcript as Transfer-Other Credit using course prefix and number and including Credit allowed comment.

UNF: Articulated military credits show as a period entry on the UNF transcript with awarded credit hours listed and awarded. The notation is located under the heading "Transfer Credit Accepted by the Institution" at the top of the transcript.

USF: The transcript will reflect the credit as transfer credit from either MILTCR or EXAMCR (generic SBGI codes), depending on how the credit has posted by the Office of Admissions.

(Data received from: Office of the Registrar)

UWF: Military credit is listed as transfer credit. If the credit was awarded but not directly articulated to a UWF course the course is marked with XFER. If the course was articulated (Approved by the Dept), the course numbering for the UWF course equivalent is assigned.

See example.

202001 Military

XFER 1000	FIRST AID & SAFETY	2.00 CR
XFER 1010	PERSONAL FITNESS/CONTNG	1.00 CR
XFER 1020	PERSONAL/COMM HLTH	1.00 CR
COM 4000	ADV BROADCAST PRODUCT	3.00 CR

