ACADEMICS

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Accelerated Learning for Adults

**Experiential Learning**
Experiential Learning, developed primarily for working adults, is designed to recognize the academic value of what students have learned through experiences outside the college classroom. Credit for experiential learning may result from work experience, employment-related training programs and seminars, volunteer work, travel, military service or intensive self-directed study. If students have gained BC course-equivalent knowledge, competencies, and/or skills as a result of prior learning experiences, they may be able to earn academic credit through the Experiential Learning for lower division and upper division coursework.

**Assessment Process**
The assessment process is sometimes referred to as "challenging a course." Assessment may involve one or more of the following:
- written or performance tests
- preparation of a portfolio that describes student learning and how it was acquired
- evaluation of student certificates and licenses
- interviews with faculty members

The method of assessment is determined by College faculty members that are responsible for the courses for which students wish to receive credit.

Experiential learning credits are not available for all BC courses. Students who have been admitted and who have decided on an academic program may challenge courses through Experiential Learning. Students can obtain information from the academic department(s) responsible for the course(s) that the student wishes to challenge. Students who receive permission to challenge a course from an authorized faculty assessor must pay the required assessment fees and satisfactorily pass a faculty-administered learning assessment before credit can be awarded.

The assessment process may take from several hours to several months, depending upon the amount of credit requested and methods of assessment required. When the process is completed, assessment results will be forwarded to the College's District Academic Affairs Office, which verifies that assessment documentation is complete and informs the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs/College Registrar's Office of the amount of credit the student has earned.

Although there is no limit to the number of hours that students can receive through Experiential Learning, 25% of credits required for a degree must be earned by taking classes at BC to satisfy in residence requirements for graduation.

Assessments are generally not scheduled between semesters or during the first or the last week of each semester. Results of assessments initiated during the last week of any semester may not be posted to student transcripts for that semester. Students who wish to use Experiential Learning credits to satisfy same-semester graduation requirements, course load requirements, transfer requirements, or registration pre-requisites should plan to complete their assessments well before the end of the semester in which they want the credits to be posted.

Experiential Learning credits appear on student transcripts as “CR.” Letter grades are not awarded for Experiential Learning. Credits earned through Experiential Learning satisfies graduation requirements but may not be accepted as transfer credits at another institution. Students planning to transfer to other institutions should contact the college or university to determine if Experiential Learning credits are accepted.

For more information, contact the appropriate academic department(s) or the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at 954-201-7279.

**Armed Services Educational Credits**
Broward College will grant credit for evaluated military education that has been recommended as suitable for postsecondary credit by the American Council on Education’s (ACE) Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services. The credits will be awarded in the same manner as other transcript evaluation processes.