

“Credit Away” for Physics and Astronomy Courses

“Credit away” is awarded for courses that you take at another College or University while you are enrolled as a student at Penn. The most common examples are courses taken during a semester abroad or during the summer. “Credit Away” is not awarded until **after** the course has been completed because it is impossible for Penn to evaluate the coverage and difficulty of a course without seeing course materials that were used.

To receive course credit for Physics 101, 102, 140/150 or 141/151, you **MUST** pass the Physics “Credit Away Exam”, which also serves as the Make-up Final Exam, for the appropriate course in our curriculum. “Pass” means an exam performance given a letter grade of A, B, or C. You have 2 chances to pass the Credit Away Exam if necessary. These Exams are offered at the beginning of each term, in January and September. You should visit the registrar office’s web site or PHYS/ASTR web site for the date and time. Since the material covered may change term to term, you should look for the most recent syllabus and a formula sheet on the PHYS/ASTR website. Please bring your Penn ID to the exam because all students will be asked to sign in.

For all Credit Away, we ask for materials related to the course in order to evaluate whether the course is of comparable difficulty and coverage compared to the equivalent course at Penn. This evaluation is done separately for the in-class and lab portions of the course if applicable. You may receive credit at Penn for the in-class portion, the lab portion or both.

Materials requested for course evaluation are:

- Name of the university where you took the course. Two-year colleges and community colleges are NOT eligible for credit away.
- Number of the equivalent course at Penn. (See our Course Catalog for further information)
- A copy of the course syllabus from the term that you were enrolled.
- Your Final and Midterm Exams for the course.
- If you wish to receive credit for the lab portion of the course, we need to review ALL your lab reports from the course. If you cannot provide all the lab reports from your course, please provide as many as possible, along with a list of all the labs that were performed.

Please bring this information to the Physics Undergraduate Office, DRL room 2E1. You will be given a cover sheet to fill out when you turn in the material.

Please be aware that we will make every effort to return the documents to you after we have reviewed them, but this cannot be guaranteed. You might want to consider making copies of these documents if you want to be sure to have them for the future.

You will be notified by email within 4 weeks regarding your application for Physics credit. At that point you should come back to 2E1 to pick up the necessary paperwork as well as the material you submitted. **Materials not retrieved by the end of the semester will be destroyed.**