

TO: The Administrative Boards of the College of Arts and Sciences and General College
FROM: Erika Lindemann, Interim Associate Dean for Undergraduate Curricula
Carolyn Cannon, Associate Dean, Academic Advising Program
RE: Proposal for counting By-Examination (BE) credit in the major and minor
DATE: March 16, 2009

The Office of Undergraduate Education and Academic Advising would like to propose new regulations clarifying how credits earned from AP, IB and SATII Subject testing (carrying the grade of BE, By Examination) apply to the major and the minor:

Many students take Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or SATII Subject tests prior to their matriculation at Carolina. Students who meet department-designated minimum scores on these exams receive course credit hours with a posted grade of BE for particular UNC-Chapel Hill Courses. For example, a score of 4 on the US History AP exam confers 6 hours of BE credit for HIST 127 and 128, and a score of 5 on the AP Biology exam confers 8 hours of BE credit for BIOL 101, 101L, 279, and 279L. Many students today bring in some BE credit, with the amount of granted credit ranging from zero to more than 60 hours. Receiving 6 to 12 hours of BE credit is quite common. These hours count toward the 120 hours required for the degree.

To meet graduation requirements in the major, students must earn at least 18 hours of C or better grades in the major. Minors require students to earn at least 12 hours of C or better grades in the minor. Since there is in fact no grade associated with the conferring of BE credit, we propose the following policies to be effective for all new first-year and transfer students entering UNC-Chapel Hill in Fall 2009 or later:

- No more than two courses (6 to 8 credit hours) of BE credit may be used as part of the major core (defined as the 8 to 10 courses beyond any introductory prerequisite course, if there is one).
- The grade of BE from an AP, IB, or SATII Subject test may not count toward the requirement that students earn at least 18 hours of C or better grades in the major core.
- No more than one BE credit course (3 to 4 credit hours) may be used as part of a minor.

Note that this proposal does not affect the awarding of BE credit for courses that can fulfill General Education requirements.