Bellarmine University IB Policy

Applicable for new exam results and students who started Summer 2026 or later

International Baccalaureate (IB) Policy: Bellarmine University offers academic credit and some placement to students who earn scores of 5, 6, or 7 on the International Baccalaureate exams. Some Bellarmine programs offer credit for scores of 4 on these exams, however, some exams are only accepted at the Higher Level (HL), not the Standard Level (SL). A maximum of 36 credit hours may be earned through external examinations. This table is a current listing of how credits will transfer. IB exam scores are recorded on the Bellarmine transcript as earned credits and are not calculated into the Bellarmine GPA. IB scores do not count towards "institutional" credits earned at Bellarmine. If a student subsequently takes a course at Bellarmine for which CLEP credit has been granted, credit will not be awarded for that subsequent course; it would be considered a repeat. To request IB scores, visit www.ibo.org. The full "Credit by Exam" policy can be found in the Course Catalog.

Exam Name	Level	Minimum Score for BU Credit	Bellarmine Equivalent Course(s)	Number of BU Credits Granted	Fulfills one General Education Requirement or Language Proficiency
Anthropology	SL	5	ANTH 111	3	Social Science
	HL	4	ANTH 111	3	Social Science
Biology	SL	5	BIOL 115	4	Natural Science
	HL	5	BIOL 115	4	Natural Science
Business Management	HL	5	BUSA 103	3	
Chemistry	SL	5	CHEM 109	4	Natural Science
	HL	5	CHEM 109	4	Natural Science
Chinese	SL	4	CHIN 101	3	
		5	CHIN 101 and CHIN 102	6	Language Proficiency
	HL	4	CHIN 201	3	Language Proficiency
		5	CHIN 201 and CHIN 202	6	Language Proficiency
Computer Science	HL	4	General Elective Credit	3	
Dance	HL	4	Fine Arts Gen Ed Credit	3	Fine & Performing Arts
Design Technology	HL	4	Communications Elective Credit	3	
Economics	HL	5	ECON 201 and ECON 202	6	Social Science
English A: Literature	SL	5	ENGL 101	3	English Composition
	HL	4	ENGL 101	3	English Composition
Environmental Systems and Society	SL	5	ENVS 151	4	Natural Science
	HL	5	ENVS 151	4	Natural Science

Film	SL	5	General Elective Credit	3	
	HL	5	General Elective Credit	3	
French B	SL	4	FREN 101	3	
		5	FREN 101 and FREN 102	6	Language Proficiency
	HL	4	FREN 201	3	Language Proficiency
		5	FREN 201 and FREN 202	6	Language Proficiency
Geography	SL	5	GEOG 175	3	Social Science
	HL	5	GEOG 175	3	Social Science
German B	SL	4	GERM 101	3	
		5	GERM 101 and GERM 102	6	Language Proficiency
	HL	4	GERM 201	3	Language Proficiency
		5	GERM 201 and GERM 202	6	Language Proficiency
Global Politics	SL	5	PS 106	3	
	HL	5	PS 106	3	
History	SL	5	HIST 116	3	
	HL	5	HIST 116	3	
History of Europe	HL	5	HIST 116	3	
History of the Americas	HL	5	HIST 201 and HIST 202	6	Intrinsic Dignity
History of the Islamic World	HL	5	History Elective Credit	3	
Information Technology in a Global Society	SL	4	Communications Elective Credit	3	
	HL	4	Communications Elective Credit	3	
Italian	HL	4	ITAL 201	3	Language Proficiency
		5	ITAL 201 and ITAL 202	6	Language Proficiency
Japanese B	SL	4	JPN 101	3	
		5	JPN 101 and JPN 102	6	Language Proficiency
	HL	4	JPN 201	3	Language Proficiency
		5	JPN 201 and JPN 202	6	Language Proficiency
Latin	SL	5	LATN 101 and LATN 102	6	Language Proficiency
	HL	4	LATN 201	3	Language Proficiency
		5	LATN 201 and LATN 202	6	Language Proficiency
Mathematics	SL	4 or 5	Meets MATH 117 prereq	N/A	
		6 or 7	MATH 117	4	Mathematics
	HL	4 or 5	MATH 117	4	Mathematics
		6 or 7	MATH 117 and MATH 118	8	Mathematics
Math Studies	SL	5	MATH 107	3	Mathematics

Music	SL	4	MUSC 101	3	
	HL	4	MUSC 101	3	
Physics	SL	5	Physics Gen Ed Credit	4	Natural Science
	HL	5	Physics Gen Ed Credit	4	Natural Science
Philosophy	SL	5	PHIL 101	3	Philosophy
	HL	5	PHIL 101	3	Philosophy
Psychology	SL	4	PSYC 103	3	Social Science
	HL	4	PSYC 103	3	Social Science
Spanish B	SL	4	SPAN 101	3	
		5	SPAN 101 and SPAN 102	6	Language Proficiency
	HL	4	SPAN 201	3	Language Proficiency
		5	SPAN 201 and SPAN 202	6	Language Proficiency
Theatre Arts	SL	4	THEA 101	3	Fine & Performing Arts
	HL	4	THEA 101	3	Fine & Performing Arts
Visual Arts	SL	4	ART 211	3	Fine & Performing Arts
	HL	4	ART 211	3	Fine & Performing Arts
World Religions	SL	4	THEO 200	3	Theology
	HL	4	THEO 200	3	Theology