



**Commission on  
Higher Education**

March 3, 2005

Dr. Conrad D. Festa  
Executive Director

*att. XIV*  
CHE  
3/3/2005  
Agenda Item 4.02. F

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mr. Dalton B. Floyd, Jr., Chairman, and Members, Commission on Higher Education

**From:** Dr. Vermelle J. Johnson, Chairman, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing *VJH/gmv*

**Consideration of Annual Report on Advanced Placement  
Course Acceptance Policies, FY 2004-05**

The Education Improvement Act (1984) requires the Commission to monitor the awarding of AP credit by the State's public higher education institutions. The Education Improvement Act specified that:

**Students successfully completing the Advanced Placement requirements shall receive Advanced Placement credit in postsecondary public colleges in South Carolina in the manner specified by the Commission on Higher Education in conjunction with the State Board of Education.**

In July 1985, the Commission adopted the following policy:

*Effective not later than Fall 1986, each public institution shall give credit in appropriate courses for scores of three or better on pertinent Advanced Placement examinations, except that specific exemptions for not awarding credit for scores of three or better on particular tests at any institution may be approved by the Committee on Academic Affairs. (As used above, the phrase "appropriate courses" means those courses offered by the institutions which parallel the content covered by the AP exam. The phrase "pertinent examination" means those examinations whose content parallels that of the institutional course.)*

Annually, the Commission updates its list of Advanced Placement (AP) examinations for which credit for comparable courses is awarded for scores of three or

higher. The two- and four-year public institutions in the State review the current list of AP examinations for which credit is given by their institution, and then report any revisions (e.g., additions, deletions).

The 1996-97 Appropriations Bill included a proviso (section 18A.21) that mandated that all postsecondary institutions in South Carolina award AP credit to students receiving a score of three or above on an AP examination. All institutions evaluated their AP policies based on this approved legislation. The proviso reads as follows:

**Section 18A.21 (CHE: Advanced Placement) Students successfully completing advanced placement courses and receiving a score of three or above on the exam shall receive advanced placement credit for each course in all postsecondary public colleges in South Carolina.**

In compliance with the approved legislation, each public two- and four-year institution shall award AP credit for each course if a student scores three or higher on an Advanced Placement examination. Although the proviso does not address maximum limits on the number of AP credit hours in any one discipline area, exemption from courses, or specific conditions imposed on the award of college credit for a minimum score of three, the intent of the new law is to remove all institutional exemptions or conditions for awarding AP credit for minimum scores of three. However, the new law does not require that AP credit be awarded for courses that are not offered by the institution unless the institution desires to do so. Customarily, institutions have not awarded credit for courses not available in their curricula.

The following two charts (see **Attachments 1 and 2**) show the acceptance status for all current AP tests at each public two- and four-year institution.

Beginning in the 2006-07 academic year, the College Board will add a new foreign-language AP course in Japanese. The Advanced Placement Course Description for Japanese will be distributed to the Academic Officers as soon as it is available. Current course descriptions and other information regarding AP courses and exams can be found on-line at <http://www.collegeboard.com/ap>. AP courses in Italian and Chinese will also be offered soon and planning is underway for an AP course in Russian.

### **Recommendation**

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission on Higher Education accept this report as evidence that the institutions are in compliance with the AP policy.

/jb

cc: Excel Attachments (2)

**TABLE 1: 2004-2005 ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT  
AT FOUR-YEAR PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

AP EXAMINATIONS	Citadel	Clemson	Coastal Carolina	Col. of Charleston	Francis Marion	Lander	SC State	USC Columbia	USC Aiken	USC Beaufort	USC Upstate	Winthrop
ART HISTORY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
STUDIO ART: DRAWING	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
STUDIO ART: 2-D DESIGN	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
STUDIO ART: 3-D DESIGN	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
BIOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
CALCULUS AB	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
CALCULUS BC	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
CHEMISTRY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
COMPUTER SCIENCE A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
COMPUTER SCIENCE AB	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
MACROECONOMICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
MICROECONOMICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
FRENCH LANGUAGE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
FRENCH LITERATURE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
GERMAN	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
COMPARATIVE GOVMT & POLITICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
UNITED STATES GOVMT & POLITICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
EUROPEAN HISTORY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
UNITED STATES HISTORY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
WORLD HISTORY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
HUMAN GEOGRAPHY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
LATIN LITERATURE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
LATIN: VIRGIL	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
MUSIC THEORY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
PHYSICS B	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
PHYSICS C: ELECTRICITY & MAGNETISM	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
PHYSICS C: MECHANICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
PSYCHOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
SPANISH LANGUAGE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
SPANISH LITERATURE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
STATISTICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

YES\* reflects Advanced Placement Examinations for which credit is awarded for scores of three or higher.

**TABLE II: 2004-2005 ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES  
ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT AT TECHNICAL COLLEGES**

AP Examinations	Aiken	Central Carolina	North- Eastern	Danmark	Florence Darlington	Greenville	Horry- Grtwn	Midlands	Orangebg- Calhoun	Piedmont	Spartanbg	Low- country	Tri-County	Trident	Williams- burg	York
ART HISTORY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
STUDIO ART: DRAWING	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
STUDIO ART: 2-D DESIGN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
STUDIO ART: 3-D DESIGN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
BIOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
CALCULUS AB	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
CALCULUS BC	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
CHEMISTRY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
COMPUTER SCIENCE A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
COMPUTER SCIENCE AB	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
MACROECONOMICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
MICROECONOMICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES
FRENCH LANGUAGE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
FRENCH LITERATURE	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
GERMAN	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES
COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT & POLITICS	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT & POLITICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
EUROPEAN HISTORY	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
UNITED STATES HISTORY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
WORLD HISTORY	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
HUMAN GEOGRAPHY	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
LATIN LITERATURE	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
LATIN: VIRGIL	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
MUSIC THEORY	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
PHYSICS B	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
PHYSICS C: ELECTRICITY & MAGNETISM	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
PHYSICS C: MECHANICS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
PSYCHOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
SPANISH LANGUAGE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
SPANISH LITERATURE	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
STATISTICS	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

YES\* reflects acceptance of Advanced Placement Examinations for scores of three or higher.