

Student Policy - Portfolio Development

Policy:

Bismarck State College permits students to demonstrate college level competency and establish college credits by successfully completing portfolio(s) demonstrating and documenting learning gained from non-academic sources equivalent to traditional non-resident courses.

Limits and Regulations:

1. Students must be currently accepted into a degree seeking, certificate, or diploma program to earn credits from portfolio development.
2. Students must enroll in and successfully complete the Prior Learning Assessment-Portfolio Development course (PLA 201) during the term for which the request is made in order to submit portfolios for evaluation.
3. The student portfolio will be developed based on criteria established by the appropriate department.
4. The fee for evaluating/recording the prior learning portfolio is $\frac{1}{2}$ the traditional classroom resident rate. This fee must be paid to Student Finance upon Portfolio Development Application submission to the Alternative Learning Coordinator. This is a non-refundable fee.
5. Credits earned through portfolio development will count toward BSC graduation requirements, however portfolio development credits do not count toward the minimum institutional credit requirements.
6. Students should be aware that portfolio development credits may not transfer to other colleges. Students are urged to check the intended transfer institution for current transfer information. BSC is not responsible for transferability of portfolio development credits.
7. Students are not allowed credit for portfolio development for courses:
 - a. In which they have previously challenged OR
 - b. In which they are currently enrolled OR
 - c. In which they were previously enrolled (regardless of grade earned) OR

- d. In which they have earned transfer credit from any accredited institution OR
 - e. In which they were enrolled but dropped with record on an official transcript OR
 - f. In which there is a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST)
8. A maximum of 40 semester hours of non-traditional college credit (i.e., AP, CLEP, DSST, military experience/training, BSC challenge examination credit, portfolio development, industry training, and courses covered under high school articulation agreements and StraighterLine agreement) may be applied to an associate's degree or amount not to exceed 50% semester hours for a diploma or certificate at BSC. A maximum of 60 semester hours of non-traditional college credit may be applied to a Bachelor of Applied Science degree at BSC.

Procedures:

[BSC Alternative Learning](#)

References:

SBHE Policy 403.6 – Course Challenges and Prior Learning Credit

History of this policy:

President's Cabinet approved policy on July 20, 2006.

Revisions – November 19, 2008 (effective Spring Semester 2009); March 23, 2009; December 6, 2010; reviewed by the Operations Council on April 9, 2014 and approved by the Executive Council on April 24, 2014; approved by the Faculty Senate on May 7, 2019, reviewed by the Operations Council on June 12, 2019 and approved by the Executive Council on July 2, 2019.