

PLEASE READ - FAQs about your OCS Credits

Dear Spring 20 OCS Student,

I'm writing with some FAQs and general updates about credits from your Spring 20 OCS semester. I will be following up with many of you individually regarding your OCS transfer credits. If you have any questions about your OCS courses and credits, please email them to me (Barbara Hoffman hoffmabb@whitman.edu).

Spring 2020 OCS Transfer Credit FAQs

1. What should I do if I don't remember which courses I was approved to take on OCS? You can find a copy of your OCS Course Approval page in your OCS CLEo dropbox. We've also posted a copy of your current Academic Evaluation in your OCS CLEo dropbox, and you can access a more user-friendly version of your Academic Evaluation in your myWhitman portal.

2. What should I do if my OCS courses I'm taking online are no longer the ones for which I was preapproved? If any of your pre-approved OCS courses (see your OCS Course Approval Page) have changed, please let Barbara Hoffman (hoffmabb@whitman.edu), know, if you haven't already done so. Barbara can approve courses for distribution credit and general degree credit (toward the 124 credits you need to graduate), and she will check with your major adviser about whether a certain course can transfer toward your major. We will not be approving minor credit at this time, but minor credit earned off campus may be considered if and when you declare a minor.

3. How do I know if my OCS Program is offering online courses? Most of our Whitman OCS Partner Programs have made arrangements to offer most OCS courses online. If you are unsure whether you can complete all of your OCS courses online, check with your Program Provider. If you're still unsure, email Barbara Hoffman (hoffmabb@whitman.edu).

4. Do I have to complete my OCS Courses this semester? Yes! Make every effort to complete each of your OCS courses and earn all your credits. **Not completing OCS courses could result in you receiving failing grades on your Whitman transcript and could affect your current financial aid eligibility.** We want you to stay on track for timely graduation, and completing your OCS courses is the best way to do so. We realize that your OCS courses may not seem interesting to you now that you're no longer abroad/away; however, you still need to make every effort to complete them. **If you find yourself in a situation where you will earn fewer than 12 credits online from your OCS program, email Barbara Hoffman soon.**

5. Will my OCS online courses count against the Whitman limit of 10 online transfer credits? No. The Whitman Registrar's Office has indicated that your OCS Courses will not count against the 10 credit online limit.

6. May I take my OCS courses Pass/Fail or PDF? We don't know yet. The Whitman faculty are working on a revised PDF policy for Whitman courses that have gone online this semester. Whitman OCS will give OCS students more information when we have it. **So don't switch any course to Pass/Fail or PDF until**

we say you can! At this time, we are recommending you continue to take all OCS coursework for a letter grade. We should know more about Whitman's policy by the end of the week.

7. Can I drop some or all of my OCS online courses and take courses online at another US college or university instead? No. You need to stay in your OCS online courses this semester. These courses have already been paid for, and you should finish them. OCS Programs are not offering tuition refunds because in most cases the courses are being converted to online courses. The same thing is happening with all courses offered on the Whitman campus this semester.

8. Can I take online courses at another US college or university in addition to finishing my OCS online courses?

Possibly. Please know that you can transfer a maximum of 19 credits back to Whitman this semester. **You must complete all possible OCS credits as a priority.** These courses have already been paid for, and you should finish them. OCS Programs are not offering tuition refunds because in most cases the courses are being converted to online courses. Any additional online credits taken at another US institution will count against the 10 online credits you're allowed to transfer to Whitman. If you have questions about course approval for online courses offered by US institutions not affiliated with Whitman OCS, please contact the Whitman Registrar's Office: <https://www.whitman.edu/registrar>.

9. Are transfer credit limitations related to my Whitman major and/or minor still in effect? Yes! To get more information about these limitations, go to [Whitman OCS Advising by Major](#), find your major, and click on "Credit Limitations".

We all know that the COVID-19 pandemic is truly unprecedented. And we in OCS acknowledge that this is not the OCS semester you hoped for. Given the situation we're in, we strongly encourage you to complete as many credits as possible this semester in order to make timely progress toward finishing your Whitman degree. I'm here to support you and answer your questions about OCS transfer credit.

Stay well!

Warm regards,
Barbara

Barbara Hoffman

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