

Advanced Standing and Transfer of Credit

1. Students who have successfully completed graduate courses in an accredited academic institution prior to their admission to HUC-JIR may request that transfer credits be applied toward their program of study at HUC-JIR. The amount of credit given shall be determined by the Program Director in consultation with the appropriate faculty member in whose area credit is sought, but may not exceed 25% of the credit hours required for the degree or certificate. Any application for transfer or exemption must be accompanied by an official transcript from the student's prior institution.
2. For learning achieved in non-accredited institutions or in settings outside of higher education, advanced standing may be possible. The extent of advanced standing shall be determined by the Program Director in consultation with the appropriate faculty member in whose area advanced standing is sought. Students may be evaluated based on examinations, performance in a specific course or group of courses, or other methods approved by the Program Director. As with accredited institutions, any application for transfer or exemption must be accompanied by an official transcript from the student's prior institution.
3. All Advanced Standing decisions must be documented and sent to the National Registrar by the Program Directors so that appropriate credit may be recorded on the student transcript and in the Student Information System. The Outside Credit form is available on the National Registrar's webpage.
4. No more than 25% of course requirements for a degree, certificate, or ordination can be fulfilled by coursework from outside HUC-JIR. Within this context, credit earned through consortium agreements will be considered "in residence."

Internal Transfer Credit

1. When a student in or alumnus of one HUC-JIR program enrolls in a second program at HUC-JIR (whether after withdrawing from or completing the first program or while enrolled in that program), he/she does not need to repeat any course common to both programs. Any course common to both programs may be counted toward the requirements for each.
2. Students whose prior work at HUC-JIR includes courses that are similar in content and scope although not identical to required courses in another program may petition to apply the courses from the prior program toward requirements in the new program with the approval of the director of the new program in consultation with the instructor(s). In some cases, students may be required to take similarly-titled courses in multiple programs if those courses are deemed to be program-specific.

3. In these situations, the total exemptions, equivalencies and substitutions may not total more than 33% of the student's second academic program.
4. Students who complete the Rabbinic Education program or the SJNM certificate or degree program concurrent with their rabbinic studies may apply a total of six credits from these programs toward post-MAHL electives. Rabbinical School Directors may determine which courses in other programs fulfill distribution requirements in their program.
5. Rabbinical students or rabbinic alumni who choose to pursue the MAJE or the MARE through the Rabbinic Education year, or the certificate or Master's in Jewish Nonprofit Management may apply coursework from the rabbinic program to fulfill all of the Judaica requirements for these degrees.
6. Fieldwork requirements for one program may not be fulfilled with fieldwork done in another program, unless the programs have a memo of understanding regarding joint fieldwork.

Exemptions

1. Exemption from the Year-In-Israel program may, upon application, be granted anyone admitted to the Rabbinical, Education, or Cantorial programs of the College-Institute. Applicants must demonstrate that they are able to pass the exemption examination for the Year-In-Israel program. The exempted coursework and credit hours will be noted on the student's transcript.
2. A student may be exempt from certain required courses due to prior preparation. To receive such advanced standing, the student should submit a petition to their Program Director no later than 60 days prior to the beginning of the term in which the course in question would normally be taken. The Director will consult with faculty members in the academic field in question to determine the method of evaluating the student's prior preparation. An exemption may result in the exempted courses being replaced by higher-level electives or the direct transfer of accredited graduate-level courses to replace HUC-JIR coursework.
3. Such evaluation normally would include an examination of the student's transcript(s), prior course syllabi, and written work. A written or oral examination may be required as well. The Program Director will then approve or deny the petition and notify the student and the National Registrar accordingly.