



Some adults believe that what they have learned outside of the classroom is equal to university coursework...that they have gained knowledge and competencies through their work experiences, training for work, travel, hobbies, independent reading, community or military service, and volunteering.

The APriL program is designed to do just that. The University of Sioux Falls has long recognized the value of university sponsored out-of-class experiences such as internships or field placement. APriL, an acronym for Assessment of Prior Learning, focuses instead on translating non-university learning experiences into university credit. APriL saves time and money and can be accomplished while you are working full time. Educational information sessions about APriL are held three times a year.

Earning APriL Credit

First, contact the APriL office at USF by calling (605) 331-6735. The director of APriL will meet with you to review your life experiences. The director will then advise you as to which of your life experiences are possibilities for university credit. Recommendations are based on how closely your life experience matches a course that the University offers.

Second, the director will provide you with information about assembling a portfolio to document your learning experiences. The portfolio will include: a résumé, transcripts of your existing university and/or military credits, autobiography, a narrative description of the learning experiences, supporting documentation and a specific request for credit at USF. You will be advised to seek faculty guidance in reviewing your experiences and in deciding on appropriate ways to document them.

Finally, you will submit your portfolio to the APriL director. The chairperson of the academic area in which you are petitioning for credit, along with at least one other faculty person from that area, will assess the portfolio. If credit is granted, both you and the registrar will be notified of the award.

Credit Transcribing & Grading

Credit achieved in the manner outlined above will be placed on your transcript after you complete one regular three hour course at USF with a grade of "C" or better. The APriL credits will appear on your transcript with the equivalent USF course name and the grade "P" for passing. A maximum of 16 semester hours of APriL credit can be applied toward graduation.

Fees

A \$40 charge will be assessed for each credit hour earned through the APriL program. There will also be a \$15 per credit transcribing charge for officially recording the approved credits.

APriL portfolios may be completed in any current course offering at the University of Sioux Falls or as a "special topic" in any discipline which allows you to be creative.

Some topics used to receive APriL credit include:

*Cross Cultural Experience
Golf: Coaching and Methods
Franchising in the Restaurant Business
Art Education
Political Science
Training and Development
Personal Selling and Sales Management
Ethics
Quality Improvement*

*Marketing of Agricultural Commodities Through the Use of Futures
Regulating Quality Assurance Through Continuous Practices of Supervisory Management
Holocaust Literature
Quality Management in Health Care
Advertising
Wellness*

University of Sioux Falls • 1101 W 22nd Street • Sioux Falls, SD 57105
(605) 331-6735 • (800) 888-1047 • Fax: (605) 331-6574
E-mail: dcp@usiouxfalls.edu • www.usiouxfalls.edu

