Prior Learning Assessment PLA  
For Mechanical Engineering  
Technology

Students holding full-time employment positions in the field of mechanical engineering or related may be able to gain college credit via Prior Learning Assessment (PLA). Interested students must apply following the instructions noted below. All forms, costs associated with this route, and detailed information can be found at the website noted below. Upon review of the application documents, the MET Program Director will determine approval into this program.

**Procedure:**

1. Initiate process directly with the Office of Prior Learning Assessment

**Website:**

[https://www.odu.edu/academics/academic-records/evaluation-of-credit/prior-learning/what-is-prior-learning-assessment](https://www.odu.edu/academics/academic-records/evaluation-of-credit/prior-learning/what-is-prior-learning-assessment)

**Office Location:**

1105 Student Success Center  
Norfolk, VA 23529  
757-683-6554 (office)  
priorlearning@odu.edu

2. Complete application form with PLA

3. Submit copy of updated resume with cover letter indicating the course you are interested in getting credit for and how your working experience qualifies for PLA

4. Choose method of assessment:
   a. Departmental Exams
   b. Workplace Training Evaluation
   c. Portfolio Development

5. Review process for approval takes place

6. Faculty assessor is assigned

7. Student starts the process following detailed instructions

8. A presentation in person or via Webex is required at the end of the semester for those submitting a portfolio

9. The minimum passing grade for portfolio and/or comprehensive final examination is set to 75%

10. The maximum allotted time to finish the PLA process is one semester per course

11. Minimum GPA of 2.75 is required

12. Minimum number of credits completed in residence by application time is 24

13. Maximum number of courses credited via PLA is 3

Revised by N. Luetke on 8/5/19