GLOSSARY of TERMS

Advanced Placement (AP)
(1) Eligibility to enroll in higher level courses, based on transfer credit or successful prior learning assessment of foundational knowledge and/or skills
(2) Thirty-four tests in 19 subject areas developed by the College Board® to correspond with Advanced Placement high school courses

American Council on Education (ACE)
A national association of higher education institutions that focuses on advocacy, leadership development and lifelong learning. ACE serves adult learners and nontraditional students by evaluating and translating workplace learning and nontraditional education experiences into academic credits through the College Credit Recommendation Service (CREDIT), and armed services members through ACE’s Veterans Programs and ACE’s Military Programs, by evaluating and recommending equivalent college credits for military training and experience.

College Level Examination Program (CLEP)
A national standardized testing program that offers 33 tests in the subject areas of Business, Composition and Literature, History and Social Sciences, Science and Mathematics, and World Languages. CLEP is managed by the College Board® and allows students to earn college credit by demonstrating mastery of college-level material by earning qualifying scores.

Credit by Examination (CBE)
The most commonly recognized form of prior learning assessment. CBE includes national standardized tests (e.g., AP, CLEP, DSST, Excelsior, and IB), as well as departmental challenge exams.

DANTES
The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) program is an agency of the Department of Defense (DoD). DANTES provides the DoD with worldwide education support by coordinating off-duty voluntary education programs, development activities and special projects, and sponsoring a wide range of standardized testing programs.

DSST
An acronym used for the DANTES Subject Standardized Tests Program, DSST a standardized testing program that offers 38 exams in the areas in the areas of Math, Social Sciences, Humanities, Business, Physical Science, and Technology.

Portfolio
A collection of work (e.g., paintings, writings, artifacts, examples) and related narrative developed by a student which may be used to demonstrate competency in an academic area.

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)
A general term referring to various ways of evaluating and assessing college level learning that has been acquired outside the traditional classroom and is used for the purpose of awarding college credit or advanced placement.