

## **DUAL CREDIT FAQs**

To: Rising Junior & Senior Students interested in Dual Credit

RE: Earning college credit through Dual Credit Program offered by Bracken Christian School.

### **What is Dual Credit?**

The Dual Credit program allows qualified high school students to take college courses. Students who enroll in Dual Credit get an early start on their college education and are better prepared future college-level course work. Qualified Bracken students enroll in online, internet Dual Credit courses through St. Philips College.

### **Who takes Dual Credit?**

Bracken Christian School will offer Dual Credit coursework to qualified students who will be juniors or seniors during the 2015-2016 school year.

### **What is the cost?**

**Dual Credit is FREE**...no tuition or fees are paid for any Dual Credit course. The student is responsible for paying for any textbook(s) and/or access code fee for online materials as specified in the course syllabus. Typically English 1301\* has no textbook, all course materials are online at no charge. History 1301\* typically requires a textbook (hardcopy or digital) (approximately \$35) as well as an access code fee required to take the chapter tests (approximately \$40). (\*Textbook/Access code costs depend on the professor.)

### **What is the timeline for Dual Credit courses?**

Students enroll in Dual Credit courses during the preceding semester. (Ex. Fall 2015 Dual Credit enrolls in the February of 2015.) Dual Credit follows the same 16 week semester schedule as traditional on-campus classes. The Fall 2015 semester begins August 24th and ends December 4th.

### **How much Dual Credit can a student take?**

Alamo Community Colleges allow students to take up two Dual Credit courses per semester, **however**, Bracken allows juniors to take only one Dual Credit course per semester (any DC course except English); Bracken seniors may take up to two DC courses per semester from those offered for credit by Bracken Christian School (any DC course).

continued

**What Dual Credit courses does Bracken offer?**

Qualified students may take the following Dual Credit courses:

Principles of Accounting I - ACCT 2301

Art Appreciation - ARTS 1301

Composition I - ENGL 1301 (only seniors)

Composition I - ENGL 1302 (ENG 1301, only seniors)

Principles of Macroeconomics - ECON 2301

United States History I - HIST 1301

United States History II - HIST 1302 (pre-requisite HIST 1301)

Western Civilization II - HIST 2312

General Psychology - PSYC 2301

Introductory Sociology - SOCI 1301

Introduction to Speech Communication - SPCH 1311

**Juniors 1<sup>st</sup> Semester**

Any ONE Dual Credit course

EXCEPT English

**2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**

Any ONE Dual Credit course

EXCEPT English

**Seniors 1<sup>st</sup> Semester**

Up to TWO Dual Credit courses

not taken previously

**2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**

Up to TWO Dual Credit courses

not taken previously

**What Dual Credit courses should I take?**

What course to take can depend on what college you hope to attend. History 1301 and History 1302 fulfill the 6 credits of US History required by law for all Texas state schools, and they are both often accepted by private schools as well, so that is usually a good choice. The remaining courses (except no English for Juniors) fulfill requirements for all state schools and many private schools. For example, many public and private universities require 3 credits of a fine art, which the Art Appreciation DC will satisfy. Likewise, many schools require 3 credits of a social science which would be fulfilled by ONE of these DC courses: Sociology, Psychology, and Macroeconomics. Accounting and Western Civilization fulfill requirements depending on the school.

**What if I need more help choosing a course?**

Mrs. Korkosz is available by appointment to help students determine which courses fulfill core (required) college credit for specific universities in Texas. For out-of-state schools it is best to contact the admissions department about transfer credit.

**Does Dual Credit take the place of Bracken courses?**

Dual Credit coursework does not take the place of Bracken Christian School courses that are required for graduation from Bracken Christian School. English DC and History DC, for example, do not replace Bracken's required English and History courses. All DC courses are taken IN ADDITION to Bracken coursework. Bracken students in the past have not found it difficult to complete both Bracken coursework as well as Dual Credit coursework, earning A or B grades in their college course.

### **How much credit is earned?**

Students who pass a Dual Credit course receive 3 college credits that transfers to many 2 year or 4 year Texas colleges/universities\*\*. \*\*Dual Credit English and US History transfer to the majority of public & private Texas colleges, however, check with the college counselor to determine exact transferability of any Dual Credit coursework credit to a specific college.

### **College Credit**

Over 100 public and private Texas colleges & universities give transfer credit for English 1301 & U.S. History 1301 & 1302, including Texas A & M, Baylor, Abilene Christian, UTSA, and the University of Texas – Austin. Please see the attached lists of transfer course equivalents for English 1301 and History 1301 (source: [Texas Common Course Numbering System](#)).

Note: Texas A & M new policy on English 1301 & 1302:

ENGL 104 is University Core Curriculum course that students are required to complete to graduate that is full-filled by passing DC Eng 1302. However, high school students must pass DC Eng 1301 in order to take DC Eng 1302. So, while DC Eng 1301 does not earn A & M credit toward graduation, it needs to be taken in order to get the DC ENG 1302 credit that is equivalent to the required ENGL 104 at A & M. Clear as mud??? If you have questions, please call.

Note: Rice University & Trinity University do not accept any Dual Credit coursework. Transfer credit for English 1302, as well as other Dual Credit courses varies depending on the university.

**You will need to review the graduation & degree requirements for colleges of your choice to confirm that any specific Dual Credit course is transferable.** For example: UTSA accepts all the above mentioned courses as course equivalents.

### **Bracken Credit**

Because Dual Credit courses are independent study, all Dual Credit coursework earns elective credit on a student's Bracken report card.

Example: History 1301 would earn a student .5 Bracken of elective credit and he/she would earn 3 college credit hours on his/her St. Philips College transcript.

### **How and When is Dual Credit coursework done?**

Dual Credit coursework is independent study. Depending on each student's class schedule, a Dual Credit study hall maybe available during normal school hours for work on Dual Credit coursework. Students are given Dual Credit assignments and grades by their St. Philips College professor; they are graded on tests, essays, etc. as per the course syllabus throughout the semester. If required for the course, they will take a final (online) as in any college course. Bracken **does not** have access to student coursework or grades; ***each student is responsible for meeting all course deadlines and requirements.*** When necessary, a Bracken teacher may serve as the proctor for an online final.

Bracken teachers may be available for tutoring/assistance; student should make individual arrangements with the appropriate teacher ie. Ballard for English, Swierc for History).

### ***How do you enroll in Dual Credit courses?***

In order to enroll through Bracken Christian School, the student must :

- 1) Complete the Apply Texas Online college application **not later than December 13, 2013**.

NOTE: I have scheduled a class period for sophomores to complete the Apply Texas Online Application at Bracken (date TBD). If your student does not complete the Apply Texas application at that time, I will provide the instructions for you and your student to complete it at home PRIOR to **December 12<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Preparation for your student to complete the Apply Texas @ BCS:**

Your student has been given a hardcopy of the questions he/she will need to answer when the Apply Texas application is filled out at Bracken (date TBD). I have also attached a digital copy if needed.

Please PRINT the required information on the handout and return to Mrs. Korkosz not later than Oct 24<sup>th</sup>. Please email me with any questions: [Julie.korkosz@brackenchristian.com](mailto:Julie.korkosz@brackenchristian.com)

- 2) Log on to ACES @ [ACES Log in](#) and get your ACES ID, and Banner ID. Write these along with your ACES Password on your Dual Credit Record Sheet and give to Mrs. Korkosz.
- 3) If not qualified for Dual Credit using PSAT, SAT or ACT (see below), you must take the TSI a placement test no later than **April 13<sup>th</sup>**. You have until **May 15, 2015** to earn "passing" scores\*  
(See below for more information on placement exams and scores).

NOTE: PSAT scores will be available in December. You may qualify for Dual Credit based on your PSAT score.

If the PSAT scores do not meet the placement requirements, you must take the TSI exam at a local community college, or the SAT or ACT college admissions test in order to earn qualifying placement scores for Dual Credit.

### ***What are the passing scores are needed to enroll in Dual Credit?***

- A. **PSAT** – 50+ Verbal or combined score of 107+ (Verbal + Math)
- B. **SAT** - 500 Critical Reading (CR) or a combined score (Critical Reading + Math only) of 1070
- C. **ACT** – 19 English or a Composite score of 24.
- E. **TSI exam** – English = Writing - 363 with Essay of 4, OR Essay of 5 alone; and Reading – 351  
History = Writing – 356 and Reading – 351; no Math minimum required

If you do not qualify for Dual Credit based on PSAT or PLAN scores, and opts for the TSI placement exam, I will provide you with information about the TSI, how to sign up, practice tests, etc.

After completing Apply Texas Online college application:

- 4) All Dual Credit students must complete the GO FARR module online available through their ACES account...**March 12, 2015.**
- 5) Students who need to take the TSI placement test must complete the TSI module in ACES by **February 27<sup>th</sup>** and need to take the TSI not later than April 13<sup>th</sup>. See Mrs. Korkosz if you miss any of these deadlines.
- 6) Complete and return to Mrs. Korkosz the Parental Consent Form, Dual Credit Enrollment Form, and Bracken Christian Dual Credit Consent Form and FAQs provided to by BCS, by **March 12, 2015.**
- 7) New DC students (sophomores and transfer students) must complete the Bacterial Meningitis Waiver Form, provided by Bracken Christian School, and return to Mrs. Korkosz by **March 12, 2015.** OR provide Proof of Bacterial Meningitis Immunization (see Mrs. Korkosz for form) by **March 12, 2015.**

**What if student doesn't have passing test scores after the first try?**

You may re-take the TSI, SAT, or ACT as long as test scores are received before the **test score submission deadline of May 15, 2015.** For TSI, students are allowed to retest on the next available test date; this includes retesting all parts or just one part.

**What if I change my mind and want to drop my Dual Credit course?**

Students may drop a Dual Credit course anytime up to 6 days after the course begins. In order to drop a DC course, Mrs. Korkosz must receive written or email instructions to drop the student from a parent not later than the 6<sup>th</sup> day of class. See Mrs. Korkosz if you have questions.

**What if I leave Bracken while in Dual Credit?**

Because Dual Credit means you are receiving credit from Bracken and St. Philips, if you leave Bracken we will not be giving you high school credit. In this event, we will need to terminate your Dual Credit course unless you can make arrangements with St. Philips to transfer your DC course to your new school (or homeschool) and they become your high school credit provider. Please be aware that terminating a Dual Credit course after the Census Date (approximately 2 weeks after the first day of class) could result in a Withdrawal on your college transcript.

**Failing grade(s) in Dual Credit Coursework**

A student earning a 2.0 (D) or lower is not permitted to take any future Dual Credit courses. The grade appears both on the Bracken Christian School transcript and the St. Philips College transcript.