

Dual Credit Partnerships

Houston Community College Northwest partners with school districts, charter schools and private schools to offer academic and career/technology students the opportunity to take Dual Credit classes earning credit toward an associate degree, or workforce program certificate. Qualified high school students, beginning in their junior year, may take up to two Dual Credit courses per semester prior to high school graduation. Students who enroll in college-level Dual Credit classes and include a summer semester may be able to earn collegiate sophomore status along with high school graduation.



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Dual Credit Program

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Skills for Success in College Classes Beyond Basic Qualifications

Successful college students:

- Organize and manage time effectively
- Are self-disciplined
- Use higher level thinking skills
- Follow the syllabus
- Work independently and/or with others as appropriate
- Begin and end an assignment on time without reminders
- Behave appropriately and maturely in a college setting
- Participate actively in class
- Use technology effectively
- Attend class regularly
- Are prepared for class
- Follow relevant college policies and procedures

Successful students should also:

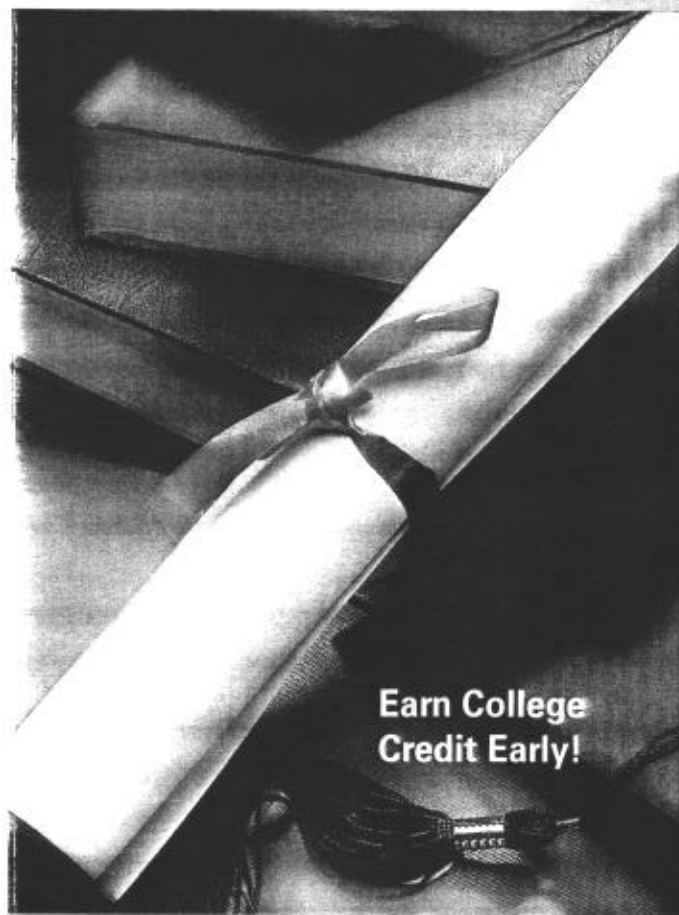
- Take good notes
- Form/join study groups
- Listen to the professor's directions and advice & regularly check the professor's Learning Web
- Talk with the professor
- Take advantage of HCC's free tutoring (including 24-hour Online Tutoring)
- Make use of Writing Lab, Open Lab and library
- Are courteous and polite to the professor and other students
- Continuously monitor your grade using the grade distribution included in your course syllabus
- Talk to a Counselor about career options and creating a certificate or degree plan



Dual Credit



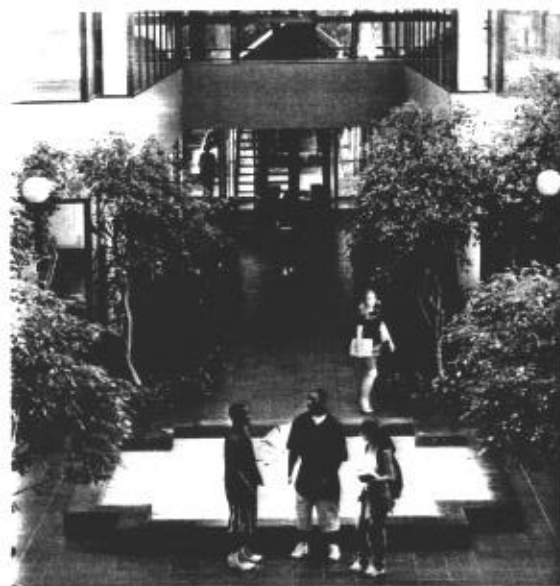
HCC Northwest Partnership
Program for High School Students



Earn College
Credit Early!

Dual Credit

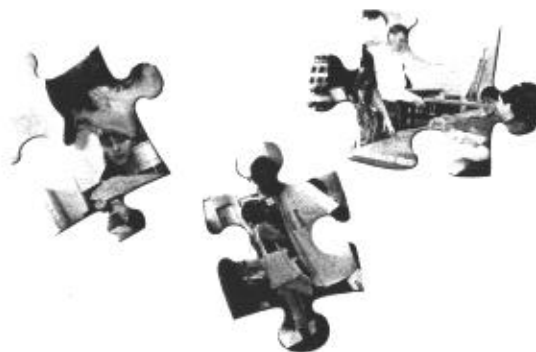
Dual Credit enables a high school student to earn credit toward high school graduation while simultaneously earning college credit toward an associate or a workforce program certificate. Dual Credit is approved and regulated by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.



Dual Credit Student Qualifications

To qualify for a Dual Credit class, a high school student must:

- Be classified as a high school junior or senior. (Exceptions may be made for demonstrated outstanding academic performance.)
- Meet school district or high school requirements for taking a Dual Credit class.
- Be recommended for Dual Credit by their high school principal or designee.
- Meet both the State of Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements and HCC requirements. (For Certificate Programs, see an HCC Northwest counselor)
- Meet course prerequisite requirements.



Faculty

HCC Northwest full-time or adjunct faculty members are highly qualified to teach Dual Credit classes. They meet or exceed the credential requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. All faculty members are supervised, observed, and evaluated by HCC department or program chairs.

Benefits of Dual Credit

- Easing transition from high school to college.
- Getting a head start with educational or career goals.
- Enabling students and parents to save on both immediate and long term costs of a college education. (The HCC Board of Trustees has waived tuition and fees, except for the out-of-district fee, for public school Dual Credit students).
- Allowing students to satisfy part of the requirement of the Distinguished Achievement Program by completing two Dual Credit classes with a GPA of 3.0 or better.
- Access to HCC libraries, open labs, and counseling services.
- Fostering of skills needed to be successful in college: following a syllabus, meeting classroom and course requirements, organizing and managing time effectively, using self-discipline, improving and applying high-level thinking skills and following college policies and procedures.

Transferability of College Credit

Dual Credit students successfully completing college-level classes earn HCC course credit. Public institutions of higher education in the State of Texas are required, by state law, to accept most college-level courses in transfer from another state public institution as core, course of study, or elective credit. Most Dual Credit students are taking core courses required of all majors. Students may verify the transferability of credit by asking the college or university if it accepts the HCC college-level credit in transfer. While many private and out-of-state institutions accept HCC college-level courses in transfer, students are advised to confirm that with the private or out-of-state institution.

Dual Credit Registration

Students who wish to take a Dual Credit class should consult with their high school counselor. HCC Northwest will provide detailed Dual Credit guidelines to prospective Dual Credit students through their high schools prior to each semester. The guidelines will contain information about applying for admission to the college, establishing eligibility for college-level classes, enrolling in classes, and paying for the classes.

Dual Credit Classes

Dual Credit classes are conveniently held on either the high school campus or on a nearby college campus, taught at college level by qualified HCC faculty, and accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Classes are small, usually 35 or less, allowing for individual attention.