GreatHearts® Online

College Courses FAQ's

ELIGIBILITY & REGISTRATION

Q: Who is eligible to participate in dual enrollment?
Students in grades 9–12 are eligible if they meet the requirements.

Q: My child's birth year (2011) isn't listed in the registration form. What should I do?
Proceed with registration. The college's IT department is updating the form to include 2010–2011 birth years.

Q: How do students register for dual enrollment?
A registration link is shared by the college counselor. Families complete the online application and select General Studies, Associate of Arts as the program. Under "enrollment type," select part-time.

Q: What academic program and graduation date should we list on the application?
List General Studies, Associate of Arts, and use the high school graduation date as the anticipated graduation.

Q: Do students need a specific GPA to participate?
Yes. A minimum 3.0 GPA (roughly all Bs or higher) is required at the time of registration.

Q: How is GPA calculated?
It's based on all semester grades once a full semester of coursework is complete.

Q: Do students need to reapply to the college each year?
Once accepted at Western Texas College, students do not need to reapply annually.

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COURSES & CURRICULUM

Q: Which college is partnering for the dual enrollment program?
Western Texas College (WTC) is the partner institution. It is SACSCOC accredited.

Q: Why not partner with an existing community college program (like Tarrant County College)?
Using an existing dual credit provider would require adopting their curriculum. Great Hearts intends to preserve its classical liberal arts curriculum as its academic foundation; college credit is a supplement, not the primary goal.

Q: Why isn't Spanish being offered as a dual credit course?
Spanish is not currently available for dual credit. Families may consider CLEP exams to fulfill language requirements.

Q: Will Latin II or additional language courses be offered later?
Future course offerings, including additional language or history courses (like HIST 1302), are being explored.

Q: Are these Advanced Placement (AP) courses?
No. Dual enrollment courses are college courses, not AP.

Q: Are assignments visible in Canvas before the semester begins?
No, assignments will be available on the first day of class, January 27th.

Q: Will Canvas training be offered to students?
Yes. Canvas training and evening office hours will be provided in the spring prior to the start of college courses.

Q: Will faculty teaching dual credit be under contract?
Yes. Adjunct professors are contracted and approved through the college.

Q: How will instruction quality be maintained across campuses?
Instruction is provided by Great Hearts teachers certified by the college to teach dual credit.

Q: Are there any adjustments for students with IEPs, or is the process the same?
The IEP that is in place at the current school will carry over into the college and we will work to accommodate those requests.

College Courses FAQ's

CREDITS, TRANSCRIPTS & TRANSFERABILITY

Q: How will college credits transfer?
Because WTC is SACSCOC accredited, credits are generally transferable to most Texas public universities. Private or out-of-state colleges evaluate transfer credit individually. It is best to contact the receiving college for their policy and/or review.

Q: Will students have a separate college transcript?
Yes. Students will receive a college transcript from Western Texas College.

Q: How many credits can a student earn?
Each course earns 3 college credits. There are currently two courses available per grade which means an eligible scholar can earn up to 6 college credits each year.

Q: Can students take dual credit courses at other colleges in addition to WTC?
Yes, but check with your high school counselor to ensure compatibility.

Q: Will credits for previously completed high school courses count toward dual credit?
Only courses completed in the same academic year (e.g., fall to spring) may apply for credit. Prior years are not eligible.

Q: Can juniors or seniors take freshman or sophomore-level dual credit courses?
No, students can only earn credit for courses they are currently enrolled in.

Q: Will students be considered transfer students when applying to college?
No, dual credit students are not considered transfer students.

Q: What grades are shown on the college transcript?
College grades are letter grades (not pass/fail). Only grades of C or higher transfer to another institution.

Q: Will universities outside Texas accept these credits?
Often yes, but families should confirm directly with out-of-state institutions.

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COURSEWORK & GRADING DETAILS

Q: How are grades determined for dual enrollment courses?
70% of the college grade is based on the student's Great Hearts class performance; the remaining 30% comes from 3–5 college-level assignments submitted in Canvas.

Q: Should students save assignments from this semester?
Yes, assignments may need to be uploaded in spring for credit. Note that there may be substantial work needed outside of class for: HIST 1301, SPCH 1315, and possibly ECON 1301.

Q: Who grades the college-level assignments?
They are graded by the Great Hearts teacher certified by the college.

Q: For the senior thesis (speech) class, do students need to record their thesis defense?
Yes, a video or audio recording is required.

CLEP & AP EXAMS

Q: Can students take CLEP tests for other subjects?
Yes, students may take CLEP exams for additional subjects to earn credit elsewhere.

Q: Where can students prepare for CLEP exams?
Students can use ModernStates.org for free prep courses and CLEP test vouchers.

Q: What age is required for CLEP tests?
Students must be at least 13 to take a CLEP test.

COSTS & FINANCIAL AID

Q: What is the cost of each dual enrollment course?
$300 per 3-credit course.
$360 per 4-credit course (generally foreign language courses and science courses that include a lab).
Additional textbook and material fees apply.

Q: Is financial aid available?
Not at this time.