Dual Enrollment at Veritas: FAQ

– includes excerpts from CollegeVine article by Sadhvi Mathur July 31, 2018

What is Dual Enrollment?

Dual Enrollment, also sometimes referred to as Dual Credit, is a program in which a student can earn college credit by taking college-level classes in high school. At Veritas, the Dual Enrollment option is being offered for 11th and 12th grade French and Spanish, and students who enroll will receive college credit for those VPA classes, upon earning a C- or above.

Most Dual Enrollment courses are introductory college courses that you will need to take in college anyway. Many colleges accept dual enrollment courses as a waiver for the corresponding college introductory course.

What are the Requirements?

In order to enroll in dual enrollment courses, a student must first be admitted to Rio Salado College. Admissions decisions can be made based on the student's high school GPA or scores on ACT, SAT, or PSAT. If the student's score does not meet the cutoff, the community college has its own Accuplacer test to assess English, reading, and math skills.

Why Should You Enroll in Dual Credit Courses?

There are many benefits to enrolling in dual credit courses, including:

- Dual Credit Courses are real college classes, so students get a sense of what real college classwork is like. This can also show colleges that you are capable of handling college-level coursework
- Many colleges will accept your dual credit courses as college credit, provided that you meet a certain grade standard
- You may complete some of your entry-level college coursework; freeing up your schedule in college to take other courses of interest
- In general, these will be a cheaper way to gain college credit vs. credits obtained at a 4 year university.
- Unlike AP classes, you don't have to take a test to gain college credit through dual enrollment classes.

Any Downsides?

Overall, the Dual Enrollment Program is a slam dunk logistically and financially. However, in order to make an informed decision, you should verify to make sure it will work with your individual college plans:

- Colleges do not universally accept dual enrollment courses, especially for an out-of-state student.

Conclusion

If you're looking for the cheapest, potentially easiest way to earn college credit in high school, dual enrollment is a great option for you. You'll get to experience college-level coursework while earning college credit at the same time.

Be careful though: the colleges you may be hoping to apply to may not give college credit for dual enrollment courses. If you're interested in dual enrollment, look at the colleges you plan to apply to and see if they accept those credits.