Cross Plains High School

Dual Credit Handbook



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What is Dual Credit?

Dual Credit courses are an affordable way for high school students to get a jump start on their future college coursework. Students take college courses that simultaneously move them towards both high school graduation and a college degree or certification.

Academic dual credit courses are primarily designed to transfer to two- or four- year institutions. These courses are core curriculum and generally required to complete a traditional baccalaureate degree or associate degree. Core courses include College Algebra, US History, Speech, Composition, British Literature, American Literature, Biology, Federal Government, Texas Government, Psychology, Art Appreciation and/or Music Appreciation.

Who are Cross Plains' Dual Credit Partners?

Cross Plains High School partners with Cisco College to offer dual credit courses.
Dual Credit courses through Cisco College are an affordable way for high school students to get a jump start on their future college classes and earn an Associates Degree. Cisco College is accredited by the Southern Association of College, and School (SACS). Cisco College faculty members hold credentials similar to the faculty requirements of a four year university.

What are the benefits of Dual Credit?

- ★ **Saves time:** Many students reduce the time spent at a college or university by taking college courses in high school.
- ★ **Transfer success:** Courses transfer to most higher education institutions and rigorous college level coursework prepares students for a successful transition to college.
- ★ **Support services:** Students taking dual credit courses have access to important student support services such as tutoring, counseling, advising, and library services through Cisco College or Cross Plains High School.
- ★ **Geared for learning:** Cisco College offer smaller classes and more opportunities for individual attention to help retain students.

Where do the credits transfer?

Credits can be applied toward a degree program at any community college or university with which the District has established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). All dual credit courses credit will transfer; however, all credits may not transfer for that particular subject. Example: Biology 2401 will transfer, but it may not transfer as a science credit. If that happens, the credit will be applied as an elective. Please check with the individual college(s) you are interested in attending.

You can find more information about transferring college credits at www.tccns.org.

What is the Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA2)?

The Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA2) was instituted by the Texas Legislature and is a program of diagnostic testing and developmental instruction designed to improve student success rates in Texas colleges. Entering college students are required to meet established minimum standards on assessment tests in math, reading, and writing. Those students who do not meet these standards are required to enroll in appropriate developmental courses designed to improve their academic skills and prepare them for college-level courses.

There are two components of the program:

1. An assessment to diagnose students' basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics
2. Developmental instruction to strengthen academic skills that need improvement

All students wishing to take Dual Credit classes must take and pass the TSIA2 test.

Can I be exempt from taking the TSIA2?

Students may be exempt from taking the TSIA2 if they:

- Score at least 4000 on the English II STAAR Test
- Score at least 4000 on the Algebra I STAAR Test and pass Algebra II

What is a passing score on the TSIA2 ?

A student who has already completed the TSIA2 and placed college ready should not test again in that area. The following TSIA2 scores represent the minimum TSIA2 scores for college entrance:

- English Language Arts (ELS) score of 945 or above and an Essay score of 5 or above
- Mathematics score of 950 or above

Interested in taking the TSIA2?

Students must contact the counselors to schedule an appointment to take the TSIA2. The TSIA2 costs $15. Students MUST complete and pass the TSIAS test by June 18, 2024. We do offer the TSIA2 test during the school year on teacher in-service days. A student must have a passing score on their TSIA2 (reading & essay portion) in order to take core dual credit classes. In addition, the student must also pass the TSIA2 math test before their Senior year in order to gain entrance into their DC Algebra/Stats course.

What will I have to pay for a Dual Credit Course?

Cross Plains School District pays $100 per DC course, for up to four courses a semester (total $400 per semester). The student and their family is responsible for the remainder of the costs. Please contact Cisco College concerning more details on the cost of attendance.

Where do I get books or materials for Dual Credit Course?

Dual Credit courses may require books, software/apps, or both. Students and parents are responsible for the costs of these items. Each professor/instructor will let the student know what is required usually on the first day of class or it will be listed in the course syllabus.

Dropping a Dual Credit Course?

If a student is administratively dropped from a class by a professor, the student is required to repay ***All*** costs paid by CPHS for Dual Credit courses for the current semester. If a student wants to drop course, the student must talk to Mrs. Cumba to complete the drop request. Parents will be notified prior to any drops. If a course is dropped, the student will be placed in a comparable high school course if possible. Sometimes a refund for tuition will be granted for dropping a course. These refunds are processed according to the policies of either Cisco College. Cross Plains High School cannot influence or process refunds.

How are Dual Credit courses graded?

Grades will be reported to Cross Plains High School by the college professors. However, the six weeks grades in dual credit courses are "progress grades" for the school and parents to review how the students are progressing in the courses. The final grade for a dual credit course will be from the college and recorded on the Cross Plains High School transcript at the end of the semester and are weighted according to the Advanced Grading table inCross Plains High School Policy EIC (Local).

CPHS is facilitating the course but all decisions about grading, cheating, administratively dropping must be addressed with college personnel. Grade appeals or conflict must be addressed with the college professor by the student.

Note: 10 points are applied to the Student's cumulative GPA for Dual Credit courses. For the graduating classes of 2025 and 2026, all dual credit courses will be weighted with the 10 extra points. Per EISD school board policy change, beginning with the graduating class of 2027, only core dual credit classes will be weighted with the 10 extra points.

Dual Credit Probation/Suspension

Students who earn a course grade of D will be put on Dual Credit Probation and only allowed to enroll in one dual credit class the following semester. If a student earns multiple Ds or fails, the student will be placed on Dual Credit Suspension and not be allowed to take any courses the following semester. Individual cases may be reviewed by Administration for all future Dual Credit enrollments.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is defined as any form of cheating, plagiarism, collusion, or falsification of scholastic records. This includes work generated by an app or artificial intelligence. Students are expected to turn in their own original work. Instances of cheating, plagiarism, or collusion may result in students being placed on academic probation and prohibited from taking dual credit courses for at least one semester with CPHS. Consequences at the college level are at the discretion of the professors and colleges.

Degree Plans

If you ARE planning to enter into a medical field profession, we recommend the following course schedule to obtain an associate's degree.

Sophomore Year (Students cannot take more than 2 DC courses per semester)	
Fall	**Spring**
Learning Frameworks (EDUC 1100) 1 hour	DC Music Appreciation (MUSI 1306) or DC Art Appreciation (ARTS 1301)
DC W. Civilization (HIST 2321)	DC W. Civilization (HIST 2322)
Junior Year (Students cannot take more than 4 DC courses per semester)	
Fall	**Spring**
DC Composition I (ENGL 1301)	DC Composition II (ENGL 1302)
DC Anatomy & Physiology I (BIOL 2401)	DC Anatomy & Physiology II (BIOL 2402)
DC Psychology (PSYC 2301)	DC Speech (SPCH 1315)
DC US History (HIST 1301)	DC US History (HIST 1302)
Senior Year (Students cannot take more than 4 DC courses per semester)	
Fall	**Spring**
DC British Literature (ENGL 2322)	DC American Literature (ENGL 2327)
DC Federal Government (GOVT 2305)	DC Texas Government (GOVT 2306)
DC Biology (BIOL 1408)	DC Biology (1409)
DC College Algebra (MATH 1314)	DC Statistics (MATH 1342)

Degree Plans

If you ARE NOT planning to enter into a medical field profession, we recommend the following course schedule to obtain an associate's degree.

Sophomore Year (Students cannot take more than 2 DC courses per semester)	
Fall	**Spring**
Learning Frameworks (EDUC 1100) 1 hour	DC Music Appreciation (MUSI 1306) or DC Art Appreciation (ARTS 1301)
DC W. Civilization (HIST 2321)	DC W. Civilization (HIST 2322)
Junior Year (Students cannot take more than 4 DC courses per semester)	
Fall	**Spring**
DC Composition I (ENGL 1301)	DC Composition II (ENGL 1302)
DC Intro to Sociology (SOCI 1301) or DC Music Appreciation (MUSI 1306) or Art Appreciation (ARTS 1301)	DC Speech (SPCH 1315)
DC Psychology (PSYC 2301)	DC ADV Psychology (PSYC 2314)
DC US History (HIST 1301)	DC US History (HIST 1302)
Senior Year (Students cannot take more than 4 DC courses per semester)	
Fall	**Spring**
DC British Literature (ENGL 2322)	DC American Literature (ENGL 2327)
DC Federal Government (GOVT 2305)	DC Texas Government (GOVT 2306)
DC Biology (BIOL 1408)	DC Biology (1409)
DC College Algebra (MATH 1314)	DC Statistics (MATH 1342)

Associates Degree Information

Students need 60 hours (20 classes) for an Associates Degree from Cisco College.

Through the Dual Credit program at CPHS, students are able to obtain an Associate of Arts from Cisco College. To get advice concerning which courses to take, the student needs to contact the college they plan to graduate from, or be sure to meet with the colleges on the arranged dates they come to the high school.

Students can complete more classes by taking courses over the summer, or in the December or May "Mini Mester"; however, they will not be planned by or paid for by Cross Plains ISD.
The availability of courses is subject to change according to each college.

What do I do to take Dual Credit Courses?

Use the following checklist to ensure that you submit ***ALL*** required paperwork to apply for dual credit classes. ALL forms are submitted to the Cross Plains High School Counselors office unless otherwise indicated.

New Dual Credit Students (usually sophomores) will need to:

1. Apply for admission to
    - Cisco College at https:/ / www. cisco.edu/ the apply button is in the upper right corner.
        - Help for filling out the application can be found here. https://www.cisco.edu/uploads/files/general/Dual-Credit-Process.pdf

2. Take the TSI assessment. Contact your high school counselor to schedule.

3. Submit transcripts from any other college you have attended as a dual credit student *(If applicable.)* This is done through www.parchment.com.

Where are the forms I need to complete?

Dual credit forms following this page are to be completed and returned to the high school academic advisor. The Dual Credit Handbook may be kept at home for students and parents to reference as needed. In addition, degree plans from Cisco College are included in this packet so that students can keep track of their progress towards their goals.

ALL Dual Credit students and parents/guardians will need to complete the following and return to the high school office:

1. Dual Credit Student & Parent Contract
2. Dual Credit Course Request Form