

**Dual Credit
Handbook and
Information Packet**



Venus High School

2016-2017

Updated 03/22/2016



Venus Independent School District

"Commitment to Excellence"

March 2016

Dear Parents and Students,

Venus High School will be offering Dual Credit courses through Hill College for 2016-2017. Venus ISD will pay for the tuition and fees of all Dual Credit courses. However, the students will be responsible for purchasing the required textbook(s). If a student enrolls in a Dual Credit course and drops or earns below a 70 (C) in the course, the student and/or parent will be responsible for reimbursing Venus ISD the cost of the tuition and fees. Reimbursement must be made to Venus ISD prior to enrollment in any future dual credit courses. Below are the steps to follow for enrolling in Dual Credit courses:

- Step 1:** Complete the online application at www.applytexas.org.
- Step 2:** Complete the Dual Credit application included in the Hill College Dual Credit Application Packet.
- Step 3:** If taking more than two (2) courses, complete the "Permission to Take More Than Two Courses" Form included in the Hill College Dual Credit Application Packet.
- Step 4:** Take the TSI Assessment by June 16, 2016 if necessary. Cost of the exam at Venus High School will be \$15 for all exams. The Cost of the exam at Hill College is \$39. Students choosing to take the TSI at Venus High School may take the exam a maximum of 2 times. Students may take the exam only one time during a calendar week.

TSI will be administered at Venus High School on the following dates beginning at 8:30 am. The Pre-Assessment Activity will be presented at 8:30 am, followed by the TSI Assessment. The assessment could last up to 5 hours. This assessment is for Venus High School Dual Credit students. If you wish to take this assessment for freshman college entrance, please check with your college to confirm that they will accept a TSI score administered at Venus High School.

- Tuesday, June 9, 2015
- Thursday, June 11, 2015
- Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Venus High School is excited to offer Dual Credit courses. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (972)366-8815.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Harris
Venus High School Counselor
District Testing Coordinator
(972)366-8815

Application Procedures Dual Credit 2016-2017

1. Have qualifying scores on either the SAT, ACT, or TSI by June 16, 2016.
2. Register online at www.applytexas.org by June 16, 2016.
3. Complete all required forms included in the Hill College Dual Credit Application Packet.
4. Turn in the following to Venus High School counseling office by June 16, 2016:
 - a. Qualifying TSI Assessment scores or ACT/SAT score report
 - b. Online confirmation page from registration
 - c. Required forms from the Hill College Dual Credit Application Packet

Dual Credit Eligibility

To take English Dual Credit you must meet one of the following criteria:

- SAT score of 1070 and 500 on Verbal/Writing
- ACT score of 23 with 19 on English
- Eng II EOC score of 4000
- TSI score of 5 or higher on Writing Essay OR a Writing Essay score of 4 AND a score of 365 on Writing Multiple Choice AND a score of 351 on Reading

To take History Dual Credit , Government Dual Credit or Anatomy and Physiology Dual Credit you must meet one of the following criteria:

- SAT score of 1070 and 500 on Verbal/Writing
- ACT score of 23 with 19 on English
- Eng II EOC score of 4000
- TSI score of 351 on Reading

To take Math Dual Credit you must meet one of the following criteria and have VHS school approval:

- SAT score of 1070 and 500 on Math
- ACT score of 23 with 19 on Math
- Algebra I EOC score of 4000 AND a passing grade of 70 or higher in Algebra II
- TSI score of 350 on Mathematics

To take Speech Dual Credit or Spanish Dual Credit you must meet one of the following criteria:

- SAT score of 1070 and 500 on Verbal/Writing
- ACT score of 23 with 19 on English
- Eng II EOC score of 4000

- TSI score of 5 or higher on Writing Essay OR a Writing Essay score of 4 AND a score of 365 on Writing Multiple Choice
- TSI score of 351 on Reading
- TSI score of 350 in Mathematics

TSI Examination

The TSI Assessment is part of the Texas Success Initiative program designed to help your college or university determine if you are ready for college-level course work in the general areas of reading, writing, and mathematics. A Pre-Assessment Activity must be completed prior to taking the TSI Assessment. This activity includes the following:

- An explanation of the importance of the TSI Assessment and how the assessment works;
- Practice test questions and feedback;
- An explanation of all your developmental education options, if you don't meet the minimum passing standard; and
- Information on campus and community resources that will help you succeed as a college student.

TSI Assessment Informational Websites:

<https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/accuplacer-tsi-assessment-student-brochure-v2.pdf>

https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/accuplacer/TSI_Test-Content.pdf

<https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prepare-for-accuplacer>

Dual Credit 2016-2017 Frequently Asked Questions

What is Dual Credit?

Dual Credit allows a high school student to earn college credit and high school credit concurrently.

Will the credits transfer?

Most of the credits earned will transfer to other colleges or universities. It is the students' responsibility to make sure that the Dual Credits earned will transfer to another college or university.

What Dual Credit classes are offered at Venus High School?

<u>VHS Course</u>	<u>Hill College Course</u>
Eng III A (Fall)	ENGL 1301
Eng III B (Spring)	ENGL 1302
Eng IV A (Fall)	ENGL 2322
Eng IV B (Spring)	ENGL 2323
US History A (Fall)	HIST 1301
US History B (Spring)	HIST 1302
US Govt (Fall) – online course	GOVT 2305
Texas Govt (Spring) – online course	GOVT 2306
Economics (Spring) – online course	ECON 2301
Span IV A(Fall) – online course	SPAN 1411
Span IV B (Spring) – online course	SPAN 1412
Speech (Fall)	SPCH 1315
College Algebra (Spring)	MATH 1314
A & P (Fall)	BIOL 2401
A & P (Spring)	BIOL 2402
Music Appreciation (Spring)	MUSI 1306

What is a Dual Credit passing grade?

Credit will be awarded for VHS High School credit for a “C” average or better for the semester. If a Dual Credit course is taken to satisfy the Distinguished Academic Plan requirements, the student must earn a “B” average or better for each course taken.

What happens if I earn a C or lower in a course?

The course will not fulfill the requirement for an advanced measure of the Distinguished Academic Graduation Plan. You will be placed on academic probation. If a student earns two C's or lower in dual credit courses, you will not be allowed to enroll in future college courses

funded by Venus High School. If you earn below a C in a course, you will not be allowed to enroll in any future courses in that subject area.

What does it mean to be on academic probation?

The number of courses allowed for you to enroll may be limited. Students will meet with an academic advisor to discuss enrollment in future classes. Overall GPA, overall effort, work quality along with other factors will be considered.

Why does Venus High School care if I earn a C in a course?

Venus ISD has made a strong financial commitment to pay for dual credit tuition and fees for Venus High School students who qualify. It is the expectation of Venus High School for students to be college ready. It is not beneficial for students to earn low grades since this affects both high school GPA and class rank as well as college GPA. A low GPA could negatively affect both college acceptance as well as scholarship opportunities.

Who can take Dual Credit courses?

Juniors and Seniors who have met the TSI college readiness requirements by earning a college readiness score on the TSI Assessment OR meeting one of the TSI exemptions may register for Dual Credit courses.

How much does Dual Credit cost?

Venus ISD will pay for the tuition and fees for Dual Credit courses. The student will be responsible for purchasing any required textbooks. However, if a student drops a Dual Credit course or earns below a 70 (C) in a Dual Credit course, the student and/or parent will be responsible for reimbursing Venus ISD the cost of the tuition and fees for the course. Reimbursement must be made to Venus ISD prior to enrollment in any future dual credit courses. Textbooks may cost as much as \$400 per course and must be purchased and received by the end of the first week of the course. Tuition and Fees are set by Hill College and therefore cannot be determined in advance. The approximate cost of a course is \$300.

What happens if I am placed in DAEP or an alternative education placement?

If a student is removed to a alternative education placement setting such as DAEP, the student will be automatically withdrawn from ALL Dual Credit courses and will be required to reimburse the district the cost of all classes dropped.

Where can I purchase textbooks?

Textbooks can be purchased from the Hill College bookstore online, at the Hillsboro campus or Cleburne campus. There are also many online resources to purchase textbooks. It is to your benefit to research online resources to find the best deal on textbooks. Used or rented

textbooks are cheaper than purchasing new textbooks. Please make sure that any new or rented textbooks come with any online access codes that may be required for the course.

Do students need to apply to Hill College?

Yes, students must apply to Hill College prior to the first Dual Credit course. The application can be found online at www.applytexas.org.

What is the deadline for turning in required paperwork to take Dual Credit courses?

All required paperwork and ACCUPLACER exams must be completed and turned in to Venus High School counseling office by 4:00 pm on Thursday, June 16, 2016.

How will my college class affect my high school schedule and GPA?

Dual Credit courses will receive a weight of 1.2 and be figured into the student's GPA at the end of the semester per VISD Local Board policy. If a student drops a Dual credit course with a failing grade or fails the course in the fall, the student will be given the college grade or a 65, whichever is higher, for the fall semester in the high school course and therefore will have the possibility of earning a year average of a 70 or better. If a student drops a Dual Credit course with a failing grade or fails a course in the spring semester, the student will receive the college grade or a grade of 65, whichever is higher, and will be required to complete the high school semester credit by credit recovery. A student who drops or fails a Dual Credit course will not be allowed to enroll in any other Dual Credit courses in that subject area.

How is a Dual Credit course different from a regular high school course?

All Dual Credit courses are taught by a Hill College instructor. Some of the Dual Credit courses are taught online. Students must be self-motivated and be able to meet deadlines in order to be successful in a Dual Credit course. Dual credit courses are taught at the pace and rigor of regular college courses. Students will not receive Six Week grades. Students will be able to monitor Dual Credit grades through their Hill College online account. Grades will not be posted in Skyward Parent Portal. Dual Credit students will be expected to conduct themselves as a college student. Students will be responsible for communicating any concerns or questions with Hill College instructor via email, Blackboard Account, phone, or making arrangements to meet with instructor on Hill College campus. Venus High School staff is not able to change due dates for assignments or dates set for testing. If there is a conflict or problem, it is the student's responsibility to contact the Hill College instructor prior to the due date to see if other arrangements can be made.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

Rebecca Harris

Venus High School Counselor

District Testing Coordinator

Venus High School

(972) 366-8815