

DEFINITION OF TERMS

block: 90 minute period daily

term: 9 week, 90 minutes per day course

course number: each course is assigned a 6 digit number for scheduling and grade reporting purposes.

unit: a form of credit based upon the Carnegie unit; one unit (1.0) is granted for the successful completion of a course which meets one block per day for a two terms, or the equivalent; a half unit (0.5) is granted for the successful completion of a course which meets one period/block per day for a term or the equivalent. One Carnegie Unit is equal to 120 hours of instruction.

full credit course: a course which earns 0.5 units per term. Sometimes called a "solid".

partial credit: a course which is not a "solid"; earns less than 0.5 units per term.

prerequisite: a course which must be taken first before enrollment in another class (Example: Financial Accounting is a prerequisite to Managerial Accounting).

required: a full credit course which must be successfully completed to satisfy graduation requirements.

elective: a course which may be taken for credit but is not required for graduation.

recommended: a course the student would be advised to take but is not required.

grade points: grades are based on a 4-point scale, i.e., A = 4.000, B = 3.000, C = 2.000, D = 1.000, F = 0.000; grade points are totaled at the end of each term for all credit subjects.

grade point average (GPA): computed by dividing the total grade points by the number of credit subjects completed; based on a 4-point scale, i.e., A = 4.000, B = 3.000, C = 2.000, D = 1.000, F = 0.000. Grades in all credit courses are included in the GPA. This may include grades in partial credit courses. Beginning fall 2005, Physical Education will receive .5 credits and be included in their GPA.

CLASS LOAD

The class load in high school is four (4) courses per term and must include 1 term of PE each year. Freshman, sophomores, and juniors are required to take 4 blocks of classes each term. This will allow students to make normal progress toward graduation. Course selections should be made for the entire academic year. Students are asked to give careful consideration to course selections as schedules and teacher assignments are based upon these requests. **Once schedules have been established, student requests for changes will normally not be honored. Students enrolled in AP courses will be expected to complete all 3 terms and take the AP exam.** **ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY:** Any student wishing to participate in athletics must be enrolled for two courses each term of the school year (total of 8 courses).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students enrolled in Davenport high schools:

- a. shall be required to pay for any excessive or unauthorized usage of course materials, as well as for a breakage of equipment resulting from inappropriate or unauthorized usage
- b. may be required to purchase workbooks, manuals and/or other necessary supplies. (See course descriptions.)
- c. shall be required to observe all safety precautions and, when required, wear the necessary safety gear, i.e., goggles, aprons, gloves.
- d. shall keep a record of the units they have earned. It is expected that students will know where they stand with respect to graduation requirements.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) AND CONCURRENT (DUAL) CREDIT *GETTING A HEAD START ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION*

Davenport Community Schools offers high school students a variety of courses to earn college credit prior to graduation. These courses, with some exceptions, are typically open to juniors and seniors. Students who participate in concurrent enrollment classes are registered as Scott Community College (SCC) students and receive a transcript from SCC showing their credits and their grades. Students who do not have an ACT score on file must take a COMPASS Test **administered by the school at no expense.**

AP courses are taught at the high school by Davenport teachers. College credit courses are taught at the high school, typically by a Davenport teacher but occasionally by a Scott Community College instructor. Students do not pay for the college credit or buy the college textbook. Even though the coursework is college-level, students can be successful if they devote the time and effort it takes to do the work. However, students who are unsuccessful may drop out of the college portion approximately two weeks before the end of the grading period.

Advantages of Advanced Placement

- Participate in the only collegiate-level program recognized nationally.
- Earn credit in over 12,000 colleges and universities.

Advantages of Concurrent Credit

- Earn college credit based on performance over an entire semester.
- Earn college credit immediately after successful course completion.

Students should visit their school counselors to discuss their choices. These decisions are far too important to leave to chance. Please refer to the course guide for more details. Note: These college credits may benefit students who attend a community college or a 4-year college elsewhere. Transfer equivalencies for several colleges can be found in the Course Equivalency Guide on the SCC website at: <http://www.eicc.edu/students/transfer/eqguides.html> ***ALL CONCURRENT COURSES ARE IN ITALICS IN THIS COURSE GUIDE.***