PROGRAM GUIDE

Concurrent Credit Program
Arkansas State University

Arkansas State University
Concurrent Credit Program
870-680-8365
gyates@astate.edu
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A-STATE CONCURRENT PROGRAM

CONCURRENT COURSES

The list of courses from various A-STATE subject areas have been developed.

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A-State is committed to bridging the gap between high school and college by providing quality university concurrent courses in several subject areas.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss the program or to ask questions, please contact us.
Concurrent Enrollment. A partnership between Arkansas State University and high schools, the Concurrent Enrollment Program is one that many high schools have found to be mutually enriching. The program allows sophomores, juniors, and seniors to satisfy both high school and university credit requirements simultaneously through concurrent credit courses.

A-STATE Courses. Offered through the concurrent program, these courses use the same curriculum as those taught to Arkansas State University freshman and sophomores. The cost is lower ($40/credit hour versus $187/credit hour plus required term fees on the main campus). Students’ grades are recorded as college credits earned at Arkansas State University and are considered as such by other colleges and universities.

Is concurrent credit the same thing as Advanced Placement? No, concurrent credit differs from Advanced Placement (AP) in several ways. In concurrent credit courses, students will earn college credit based upon their performance on college level work, rather than on the AP test score they receive at the end of the course. Additionally, students will receive a grade on their college transcripts for the concurrent course, whereas only credit is earned on the college transcript for AP. However, concurrent grades are not weighted, unlike AP grades. Students are encouraged to examine their individual educational goals to decide which path works best for them. Many schools teach the concurrent and AP classes together, which provides the option for weighted high school and standard college concurrent credit.
A variety of concurrent course are being offered. The A-State program currently offers 15 A-STATE courses (information on courses on pg. 11) from 8 academic disciplines. These courses are identical in all important aspects to courses offered to Arkansas State University students. Course offerings at each school varies dependent upon instructor availability.

- US and World History
- Biology
- Business
- English
- Mathematics
- Political Science
- Fine Arts

What can I take? Are they really A-State classes? The classes that can be taken concurrently depend on the high school, but whatever class is available is a real A-State college class for real college credit. In fact, once a student fills out the application and is accepted into the program, that student is an A-State student and won’t have to reapply for admission provided he or she continues his education by attending A-State the next regular semester after completing high school. The concurrent classes will appear on the transcript as regular A-State courses. Concurrent classes are also monitored by the A-State on-campus departments through the departments’ concurrent course facilitators, who shall visit high school concurrent classes and work with the high school instructors to be sure the class is college level.
Continuous enhancement. The concurrent program at Arkansas State University is jointly managed by University College and by the A-State academic colleges and departments that offer the specific courses. University faculty and administrators work directly with high schools to ensure that A-State courses offered through the concurrent program mirror those courses taught on the A-State campus. The program assures consistent quality.

Faculty interaction. Arkansas State University faculty members regularly communicate with their colleagues in the high schools. During each semester Arkansas State University department facilitators and the concurrent program coordinator visit to monitor student progress and collaborate with teachers and high school administrators.

Credits accepted. Most students who send their Arkansas State University transcripts to colleges receive recognition of their coursework in the form of credit, advanced standing, exemption from a core requirement, or a combination of these actions.

Nationally Accredited. The A-State concurrent credit program is accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnership (NACEP). NACEP accreditation is an international symbol of quality, excellence and rigor.

MeA-Statering performance. Comparability studies prove that A-State concurrent students consistently perform as well as their campus counterparts on examinations and assignments. Concurrent students will complete a course evaluation for each course taken at the end of the semester. The processed data from the evaluations are forwarded to the high school counselor.
**Challenging minds.** Since the program offers actual A-State courses, the coursework is more demanding than high school coursework and requires students to conceptualize and draw conclusions from their reading and research. Success requires concerted effort. Students accept theses challenges when they register for a university course, and should be aware that grading standards are more stringent as well.

**Who should apply?** Students who have earned a 2.50 high school cumulative grade point average (GPA) along with having received at least a 19 on the following parts of the ACT test: Composite, Reading and Subject Matter. Students need to apply online to A-STATE and must have proof of two MMR immunizations sent to A-STATE, along with their transcripts and test.

**Why take a “harder” class than I have to?** There are several benefits to taking concurrent credit. First of all, the student is getting the college experience, with college level work, in a familiar environment. This helps ease the anxiety when the student arrives on-campus, because of having some college experience. Also, the student will save time by getting some college credit in the required general education college courses. The students are often able to get started on their program of study sooner.

**I wasn't planning on going to A-State after high school. Can I still use this Concurrent Credit?** A-State concurrent credit is easily transferred to the college of our choice, as long as that college takes transfer credit. To be assured of this, one can contact the registrar of the college one plans to attend and ask if they accept concurrent credit transferred from Arkansas State University. If they do, then the transfer process works just like any other A-State class. When a student applies to the college of his/her choice, one should have a copy of the A-State transcript sent from A-State’s Registrar to that college or university. The registrar of the college will determine the course equivalencies.
Preparing to embark. Arkansas State University faculty members from each area contact prospective schools and instructors to review the course design and pre-workshop activities and assignments. Before implementing the program, teachers will attend the Summer Seminar with workshops run by A-State personnel who teach the specific courses on campus and supervise them in participating high schools.

Evaluating the teachers. Concurrent staff and the A-State department chairs from the relevant subject areas review these applications. A Master’s degree with at least 18 graduate credit hours in the subject area being instructed are required to serve as a concurrent teacher. The high school principal plays a major role in these decisions as well.

How do students sign up? First the student will have to fill out the online application for Arkansas State University, which requires a $15 application fee. Visit the A-State homepage, www.astate.edu, and click apply now. This will take the applicant to the link for the online application, where the applicant clicks the link “Apply for Admission or Readmission/Check your Admission Status.” From there, the student will be able to create an account and application. Students who apply will also need to speak with the high school counselor about having ACT records, immunization records and high school transcript sent to Arkansas State University. Once admitted, the student will work with the high school counselor to create a school schedule and then will register for courses online. Once registered for classes online, payment is also made online, by phone, by mail, or in person to the A-State Cashier’s Window.
Ongoing Professional Development. Every high school has talented teachers who are eager to expand their professional skills. The A-State Concurrent Program has developed a professional development program that offers a school’s best teachers the opportunity to teach college courses. Working in conjunction with the A-State programs, the professional development is designed to help teachers not only learn how to instruct college courses to high school students, but to also broaden their teaching experience. The programs offer teachers and professors the opportunity to learn from each other through the Summer Seminar, conferences, and course development activities.

Summer Seminar. The seminar draws teachers from all disciplines to the A-State campus for a one day session. Each department presents a workshop conducted by the A-State department chairs and facilitator who teaches the course on campus.

Required Seminars. Along with the Summer Seminar held on the A-State campus, all concurrent program instructors are required to participate in all planned professional development activities, including, but not limited to, yearly meetings with departmental faculty coordinators during high school visits and one yearly training workshop at the Arkansas State University campus. The one-day workshop will hopefully engage teachers in a intellectual exchange, sharing their teaching methods and course approaches.

Developmental Activities. A-State academic departments and the A-State Concurrent program annually provide professional development activities for concurrent faculty. Departmental activities are designed to enhance collegiality between department and concurrent faculty and to ensure that concurrent courses continue to mirror university courses pedagogically and in course content. The A-State Concurrent Program in conjunction with departments and the Interactive Teaching and Technology Center (ITTC) provide training materials and opportunities for professional development to concurrent faculty.
Cost to students. Cost to students is comparatively low (approximately 20 percent of the tuition rate for students taking the same course on campus). Each course is $40 per credit hour, which for most courses offered will be $120. Additionally, there is a one-time $15 application fee that may be paid online upon application.

Cost to schools. Basic training workshops are offered at no cost for qualified teachers and all workshop materials are provided. In addition, schools pay for texts and other instructional materials where appropriate. It may be necessary to provide a reduced schedule for the instructor to permit time for teacher-student conferences and student support.

What else do students get? Students may obtain an A-STATE parking permit, as long as they have a valid driver’s license, which allows them to park on campus. It’s available to order online through Parking Services. Students may also get an A-State student ID, which can be used on campus at the library and the computer lab, and also can get 10% student discounts at many businesses and restaurants around Jonesboro. To get the A-State ID, the student will need to come on campus to the Student Union ID Center to have a photo taken.
Learning Management System:  A-State’s BlackBoard Learning management system helps teachers and professors connect with their classes. Instructors can post announcements, assignments, threaded discussions, blogs, wikis, and more.

Syllabus:  Instructors can follow the syllabus guidelines required by the A-State academic department that administers courses. The syllabus will be submitted to the department chair for approval.
Selected Course Offerings

The United States to 1876  [HIST 2763]
This course covers the social, economic and political developments from Columbus to the end of Reconstruction. By the end of the course, students will know more about the beginning of the American experience.

The United States since 1876  [HIST 2773]
This course focuses on social, economic, and political developments from the Reconstruction period to the present. The course also emphasizes thinking and understanding processes of causality that forged the saga of US history between the late Victorian Era and the early 21st century.

World Civilization to 1660  [HIST 1013]
Beginning and ending at approximately AD 1600, this course teaches the history of the world’s significant civilizations with an emphasis on the main historical currents influencing modern society. It includes the development of political, social, economic, religious, intellectual, and artistic traditions and institutions within each of those cultures and intercultural exchanges.

World Civilization since 1660  [HIST 1023]
This course explores the ideas, events and characters that molded world political, social, religious, intellectual, cultural, scientific, technological and economic history during the tumultuous period between the 17th and 21st centuries.

Intro to US Government  [POSC 2103]
This course covers the constitution, government, and politics of the United States.

English Composition I  [ENG 1003]
This class studies and practices the fundamentals of written communication including principles of grammar, punctuation, spelling, organization, and careful analytical reading.

English Composition II  [ENG 1013]
This class continues the practice of English Composition I, to develop further the skills learned in that course. Based on reading and discussion of various types of writing, essays will provide practice in different kinds of rhetorical development including research and documentation.

World Literature to 1660  [ENG 2003]
Introduction to the analysis and interpretation of literary works from several historical periods ranging from early civilizations through the Renaissance.

World Literature Since 1660  [ENG 2013]
Introduction to the analysis and interpretation of literary works from several historical periods ranging from the Renaissance to the present.

College Algebra  [MATH 1023]
This class will focus on equations and inequalities, functions, and graphs, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, systems of equations and inequalities, matrices and miscellaneous topics.

Plane Trigonometry  [MATH 1033]
In this course students will learn about right triangles and similar triangles, trigonometric ratios, degrees, and radians, trigonometric functions, circular functions, trigonometric identities, inverse trigonometric functions, trigonometric equations, Law of Sines, Law of Cosines, vectors, polar coordinates, and complex numbers.

Pre-Calculus Mathematics  [MATH 1054]
This course will combine selected topics from algebra, trigonometry, and analytic geometry.

Fine Arts-Musical  [MUS 2503]
An introduction to music for the listener who has had no formal training or experience. The purpose is to develop listening skills.

Biological Sciences and Lab  [BIOL 1003/1001]
This course will cover the major characteristics and processes of life emphasizing the human organism, understanding of diversity and unity among living organisms with focus on ecological interactions and responsibilities of people within their social and natural environment.

Microcomputer Applications  [CIT 1503]
Students will learn basic computer skills that can be used immediately, throughout college, and beyond. Emphasis on learning basic office applications in word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and presentation graphics.
For more information on any aspect of our Concurrent Program contact us at:

A-State Concurrent Program
Dean B. Ellis Library, Room 334B
Phone: 870-680-8365
Fax: 870-972-5773

Mailing Address:
A-State Concurrent Program
University College
P.O. Box 1330
State University, AR 72467-1330