



Dual-Credit Pathways Menu

Welcome to ENMU-Ruidoso Dual Credit! We are excited to offer this opportunity to students to explore careers and learning pathways and to make strides towards industry credentials in various academic fields. In this menu, you will find the suggested pathways for students to follow to complete Certificates and Associates Degrees.

Certificates vs Associates

An Academic Certificate is a condensed, area specific base of knowledge. These certificates only include courses in the content area of designation. For example, the Culinary Certificate only includes courses related to cooking, restaurants, workplace safety and career exploration for that field.

Associates Degrees are one level up from Certificates. While they also include content area specific courses, they also include General Education courses. This provides a broader education for students. Many who pursue an Associates Degree will continue their education in Bachelors Degree programs upon completion. ENMU-Ruidoso offers many two plus two programs where the course requirements for the Associates Degree are the pre-requisites for Bachelors Degree programs at our parent campus in Portales.

Items to Consider

When considering Dual Credit courses, it is important to consider what learning pathway students are entering. Dual Credit can be a wonderful opportunity for students to explore career options and learning environments but should not be taken lightly. Dual credit decisions now can impact students' learning pathways and eligibility for financial aid in the future. Please consult your school counselor and a Success Emporium Advocate as you consider your Dual Credit enrollments.

The registration process requirements for Dual Credit include completing a Non-Degree Seeking application, FERPA Form, and a Dual Credit Course Request Form. These forms can be found online or by contacting an Advocate in the Success Emporium.

Proper planning for Dual Credit courses includes taking FYEX 1141 Career Explorations and Planning in the first semester and choosing a Dual Credit Learning Pathway. When considering courses within a semester, consider the following:

- Time and location (on-campus, at ENMU-Ruidoso, online, weekends, nights)
- Duration (shorter condensed courses or full semester courses)
- Expected Work Load (how many credit hours is the course worth?)

Credit Hours Explained

Credit Hours are a unit of measurement that helps to explain how much instruction and work is expected in a college course. Each credit hour is equal to 15-16 hours of instruction over the course of the semester. For example, ENGL 1110 English Composition I is a 3 Credit Hour course. The full semester at ENMU-Ruidoso is 16 weeks. Therefore, over the course of the semester students will receive a minimum of 45 hours of instruction.