A Case Study in Dual Enrollment

How one VSA graduate turned his high school classes into a head start on college.



QUICK FIGURES

39
college credits earned in high school

24
applied to his degree requirements

$3,592
net cost of those 24 credits

College credit for classes he was already taking



Jennifer Pearson
VSA parent and Academic Advisor

Jennifer Pearson knows dual enrollment from both sides. She's a VSA parent, and she's also one of our Academic Advisors.

Her son started in 10th grade. He was torn between chemistry and history and had no idea where he'd apply. The family added dual enrollment to every eligible course he took: thirteen in all.

"We knew that DE would look great on his transcript," Jennifer says, "and the advantage of that outweighed the 'risk' of credits not transferring."

The workload didn't change. "The work is the same that he would have taken if he didn't do dual enrollment," she says. "That's the best part about DE: no added work!"

He graduated in 2026 with 39 credits on a Cairn University transcript. Then came the question every dual enrollment family asks: would his college count them?

AT A GLANCE

Graduated	2026
Started DE	10th grade
Courses	13
Credits earned	39, all A's
Credits applied	24
Paid	$5,837
Refunded	−$2,245
Net cost	**$3,592**

> "[Dual enrollment] gave me confidence! It also gave me freedom to pursue the classes I wanted to take based on my major and interests, rather than the ones I had to take for requirements.

HER SON, NOW IN HIS FIRST YEAR OF COLLEGE

24 out of 39 credits counted. Here's how she handled the others.



8 courses counted · each block is one three-credit course

5 not accepted

COUNTED · 24 CREDITS

All toward specific degree requirements

- Omnibus IV Primary*
- Omnibus IV Secondary
- Omnibus V Primary and Secondary
- Omnibus VI Primary and Secondary
- Senior Thesis
  as English Composition
- Greek I

**First accepted only as an elective. Moved to his major on appeal.*

NOT ACCEPTED · 15 CREDITS

And the reason his college gave

- **Latin III and Latin IV**
  The college doesn't teach Latin
- **Rhetoric II**
  Part of its Core, which must be taken on campus
- **Organic Chemistry**
  No lab credit attached
- **Statistics**
  No reason given

$2,245
REFUNDED

As a full-time Diploma student, he got the dual enrollment fee back for all five courses that didn't transfer.

THE APPEAL

Jennifer didn't take the first answer as final

1 · ASK
She emailed VSA's dual enrollment team for the official Cairn syllabi.

›

2 · SEND
She sent them to the college with his major assignments and his reading list.

›

3 · ONE WEEK LATER
Omnibus IV Primary moved from elective credit to his major.

Organic Chemistry came close. The registrar offered to count it as a science lecture if he added a one-credit lab on campus, but the final call belonged to the chemistry professor, who declined.

He could have finished in three years. He chose more.

THE OPTION

Three Years

A bachelor's degree, one year early.

OR

HIS CHOICE

Four Years + Two Degrees

Biblical and Theological Studies + History, with minors in Education and English

WHAT HIS HEAD START WAS WORTH

$22,400+

A year at his college costs more than $26,000 after scholarships. The 24 credits that counted cost the family $3,592.

With 24 requirement credits done, he skipped most introductory courses. He could start on his majors right away.

$26,000+	a year at his college, after scholarships
−$3,592	net cost of his 24 credits
$22,400+	**the value of his head start**

Instead of banking it as an early graduation, he rolled that value into a second degree and two minors.

Considering Dual Enrollment?

ASK EACH LIKELY COLLEGE

1. Do you accept dual enrollment credit from Cairn University?
2. Will this course count toward a requirement, or as an elective?
3. Must any courses, such as a core program or a lab, be taken on campus?

GOOD TO KNOW

- If a college says no, ask again. We'll send official syllabi to support an appeal.
- **Diploma families:** if the first college won't accept the credit in any form, we refund the fee.
- $449 per three-credit course (Full-Time Diploma), $549 (Part-Time).

Talk it through with your Academic Advisor or Family Consultant.

dualenrollment@veritaspress.com

This is one family's personal experience. Each college decides how it counts dual enrollment credit. Rates are subject to change; current rates are in the Veritas Terms and Conditions.