**2022-2023 Cairn Dual Credit and Advanced Placement (AP)® Information**

  **Mrs. Donna Hurley, Director of Curriculum and Instruction**

 **Overview of Dual Credit and AP Courses**

1. Many students build a college portfolio in high school by taking one or more dual credit college-level courses and paying for credits at a reduced cost or by scoring well on an AP exam.

2. Because not all colleges accept dual credit and/or AP scores, students should check with their college(s) of choice to be certain of their policies. Some colleges accept both AP exams and dual credit course transfers; some accept one or the other (not both); some accept neither.

3. Paying for dual credit or AP exams is an option, not a requirement. Taking an AP exam is simply an opportunity—often a very good one—to gain valuable educational experience and habits while in high school, to build a solid transcript that may appeal to some colleges and universities, and to reduce overall college expenses.

4. All honors, AP, and dual enrollment courses are under a weighted GPA. See the Educational Programs section of the Dayspring Christian Academy Family and Student Handbook. [DCA Family and Student Handbook](https://www.dayspringchristian.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Family-Student-Handbook-Updated-11-17-2021.pdf)

Consideration: It is wise to appraise the student, the college, and the intended program/major when making decisions about earning college credit in high school. Also, the intensity of the program and the number of college credits earned in high school will impact the decision for the student to enter college as a first- or second-semester freshman or even as a sophomore. These are valuable discussion points to have at home and with the guidance department.

**How Does Dual Credit Work?**

1. Dayspring partners with Cairn University to offer students the opportunity to build a college transcript while completing high school. Students who take dual credit courses can earn college credits at a great discount, so there is potential for high school students to save money while preparing for their future with college-level thinking and coursework.

2. Cairn is fully accredited, so dual credits may be used there or transferred to other accredited colleges and universities.

3. Dayspring dual credit courses include Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry (a 4-credit course), Honors Psychology, Honors English Language and Composition, Honors British Literature, Honors U.S. History, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, and AP Statistics.

4. The grade the student earns in the DCA class is the corresponding letter grade earned on the Cairn transcript. Dual credit is a “sure thing” in that a student who pays for the college credit will earn it if he/she passes the course.

5. Students may request a transcript from Cairn after DCA final grades are registered, typically by the second week of June.

6. Students new to Cairn must complete an application, which essentially makes them Cairn U students. There is no application fee. Applications are available in a form holder on the wall outside of Mrs. Hurley’s office.

7. Payment is due to Mrs. Hurley by the third Wednesday in December, 12/14/22.

a. The cost is $225 per 3-credit course ($75/credit) ($300 for Honors Chemistry)

b. Payment must be made by check (payable to Dayspring Christian Academy) and submitted to Mrs. Hurley in an envelope marked with the student name and titles of course exams for which payment is being made.

c. Students new to Cairn must also include a completed Cairn application in the envelope.

See other side/scroll down.

**What About AP Exams?**

DCA began offering Advanced Placement courses years ago (2007-2008). Because Dayspring Christian Academy offers a Principle Approach® to learning, our students understand that there are conflicting worldviews with which they will grapple when studying any subject matter and that the Word of God triumphs through it all. Thus, DCA’s offering AP courses is not in conflict with the school’s mission. Students scoring well on the exam truly may support their next step in the journey on which God is leading them.

1. Many colleges offer credit to students who score well on AP exams.

2. Typically, only scores of 4 or 5 out of 5—and sometimes 3—will be accepted in place of a course the student would take in college.

3. Students may take one or more AP exams even if they do not take the corresponding AP course. AP courses offered by DCA include AP Biology, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC,, AP Psychology, AP U.S. History, AP Statistics, and AP 2-D Art and Design.

4. Every AP course has a corresponding website of resources to assist the student in preparing for the exam. These resources may sometimes contain unbiblical viewpoints. Teachers of AP courses, too, will support students’ being “wise as serpents and innocent as doves” (Matt. 10:16) should they decide to register for the May exam(s).

5. Payment is due to Mrs. Hurley by Wednesday, 10/30:

 a. Every AP student will indicate YES or NO on his/her myap site by 10/30 regarding taking the exam.

b. Payment for the exam(s) must be made by a check payable to Dayspring Christian Academy. The cost is $97/exam.

c. Payment must be made by check (payable to Dayspring Christian Academy) and submitted to Mrs. Hurley in an envelope marked with the student name and titles of course exams for which payment is being made.

 Questions? Please contact Mrs. Hurley at dhurley@dayspringchristian.com

8/26/21 DMH; update 7/19/22 DMH