

# **Ridgeland Honors Academy Dual Enrollment Expansion**

## **Exciting News for Ridgeland Honors Academy students!**

Ridgeland Honors Academy is thrilled to announce the expansion of our Dual Enrollment program, offering students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. Starting August 2025, we will be adding the following courses:

### **New Dual Enrollment Course Offerings:**

- **ENG 1101: English Composition I** (3 credit hours)
- **ENG 1102: English Composition II** (3 credit hours)
- **HIST 2111: United States History to 1865** (3 credit hours)
- **HIST 2112: United States History Since 1865** (3 credit hours)

### **What is Dual Enrollment?**

Dual Enrollment allows eligible high school students to earn college credit that can be applied towards a college degree while simultaneously completing their high school graduation requirements. These courses will be face-to-face and taught by Honors Academy teachers. This program offers a fantastic opportunity to:

- **Accelerate your academic journey:** Get a head start on your college education.
- **Save money on tuition:** Dual Enrollment often covers tuition costs for participating students.
- **Experience college-level coursework:** Gain valuable experience in a college environment.

### **Why These Courses?**

These specific courses (ENG 1101/1102 and HIST 2111/2112) were selected because they are foundational courses required by most colleges and universities. They provide students with a strong base in writing, critical thinking, and historical understanding, skills essential for success in any field of study.

### **Important Information Regarding Grades and HOPE Scholarship:**

**Your performance in dual enrollment courses directly impacts your college transcript and, critically, your HOPE Scholarship eligibility.**

- **College Transcript:** Grades earned in dual enrollment courses will be recorded on your permanent college transcript. These grades will factor into your college GPA.

- **HOPE Scholarship Impact:** The HOPE Scholarship has specific GPA requirements. **A poor grade in a dual enrollment course can negatively affect your HOPE GPA calculation and potentially impact your eligibility to receive or maintain the scholarship.** It is crucial to understand that these college courses are weighted the same as any other college course and will be calculated into your overall college GPA. Failing or withdrawing from a dual enrollment course can significantly affect your future HOPE eligibility.

#### **Student Responsibilities:**

- **Academic Excellence:** Dual Enrollment courses are college-level and require significant dedication and effort. Students are expected to maintain high academic standards. Please understand the rigor of college coursework.
- **Time Management:** Balancing high school requirements with college coursework demands time management skills.
- **Proactive Communication:** Students are responsible for communicating with their high school counselor and college professors regarding their academic progress. Students must maintain a C average or better to get college credit.

**We encourage all interested students and parents to attend our informational meeting on Tuesday, April 22nd at 6pm in the Media Center to learn more about this exciting opportunity.**