MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR COLLEGE VISITS

By Christina Lanskey, Dual Credit Representative

Now that you’ve narrowed down your top college choices, it’s time to begin your campus visits. Although not always a possibility, taking a visit to your final choices is beneficial because it allows you to step onto the campus and become immersed in the culture and community. As you stroll through the campus quad, visit the student apartments, and talk to current students, each college is brought to life — and this can help you visualize whether or not you will thrive at a particular school.

The following tips will help to set the top choices apart from one another:

ASK QUESTIONS
Take advantage of time to connect with your campus tour guide and current students to find out what makes the school unique.

• What are the best reasons to go to this college?
• What do you do in your free time? On the weekends?
• What do you think of your classes and your professors?
• How was it transitioning from high school into this college?

EXPLORE THE CAMPUS
Full immersion is key!

• Take a campus tour and check out campus activities occurring during your visit.
• Stay overnight with a current student.
• Visit the dining hall and eat the food.
• Explore the community surrounding the campus.

GATHER VALUABLE INFORMATION
This is a chance to learn about campus life and what is on student’s minds.

• Read the student newspaper.
• Scan bulletin boards to see what daily student life looks like.
• Visit the career center and find out what services are available.
• Browse through any campus blogs or social media pages.

GET A GLIMPSE OF YOUR AREAS OF INTEREST
You definitely want to be at a school that specializes in your interests and has opportunities available for you to pursue your passions.

• Sit in on a class in a subject you might want to study.
• Meet with a professor in the field you are passionate about.
• Chat with the coaches of sports you might play.
• Talk with leaders or members of various clubs/organizations of interest.

If you visit multiple colleges, various details may eventually start to blend together. Use a notebook or journal to write down your thoughts and place pictures that you can reference later when comparing each of the schools.

Ultimately, you want to make sure that you are comfortable and feel at home at the college you decide to attend.

As an additional resource, visit the following webpage:
https://www.thoughtco.com/choosing-the-perfect-college-786979
Students are able to order their transcript through CCU's online ordering system at: ccu.edu/transcript. When placing an order, indicate that you wish to have your transcript held until current semester grades are posted. If you fail to do this, and your grades are not posted, the transcript will be sent without updated information. CCU will not refund for repeated transcript orders.

If you took advantage of registering for WebAdvisor, you can see your unofficial transcript and know when your grades are posted. If you did not sign up for WebAdvisor, there is still time.

First, set up a Digital Services Account (DSA) with CCU by completing the DSA application located at: ccu.edu/DigitalServicesAccount.

You need your CCU student ID and social security number (SSN) handy for the application. If you are an international student, leave the SSN field blank.

Enter your student type as DUAL CREDIT and set up your email address. Your CCU student ID is your user ID. The final step is to create your own password.

If you encounter any issues, call us at 303.963.3029 or email us at dualcredit@ccu.edu.

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**DUAL CREDIT COURSE REGISTRATION DATES FOR THE 2017/2018 SCHOOL YEAR**

**FALL REGISTRATION (FALL AND YEARLONG COURSES)**
July 1 – October 30 (full refund for course dropped by 10/30, no refund for drops after 10/30 and a grade of W)

**SPRING REGISTRATION (SPRING AND YEARLONG COURSES)**
January 1 – March 1 (full refund for course dropped by 3/1, no refund for drops after 3/1 and a grade of W)

**SUMMER REGISTRATION**
April 1 – June 29 (full refund for course dropped by 6/29, no refund for drops after 6/29 and a grade of W)
“I love teaching because it allows me to share my love for my profession and help students see that psychology is more than just counseling. From a professional perspective, I am so blessed to have a chance to teach and be with amazing teenagers for a few hours a week. I learn so much from them and their perspective; I think this allows me to be a better clinician.” – Mrs. Lisa Beeson.

Beeson brings a wealth of experience to her classroom with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Chapman University and a Master of Social Work from the University of Denver. She is also a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW). Beeson began ministering to the needs of those in her community immediately after college. She worked as a birth parent counselor for a non-profit, open adoption agency. This is where she worked with women and men dealing with untimely pregnancies.

Presently, Beeson works as a full-time psychotherapist for Kaiser Permanente and also teaches the Introduction to Psychology I and II courses at Faith Christian Academy in Arvada, Colorado. She began teaching college-level psychology in January of 1999, and strives to help her students engage in their learning through real-life examples and opportunities for application.

Beeson creates a passionate, vibrant learning atmosphere where she seeks to show students that psychology is a part of everyday life. “I love teaching psychology because it is applicable to everyone,” said Beeson. “Learning about psychology is helpful in any profession you pursue. Understanding communication, motivation, and people’s behaviors is beneficial for personal and professional relationships.” Beeson continued, “From structuring incentives for employees, to parenting techniques and everything in between, understanding people and their behaviors is vital.”

**FUN FACTS ABOUT BEESON:**
She loves to hike, spend time outdoors, dance, participate in Bible studies, and have fun with her family. Favorite movies have songs such as The Wizard of Oz, Les Miserables, High School Musical and Elf. Her favorite book is Redeeming Love, perhaps because the story rings true to Beeson’s foundational vision of psychology: that in connecting with, understanding, and loving others we in turn point them to the love of God.
LEARNING TO SELF-ADVOCATE
by Lauren Allen, Dual Credit Representative

Self-Advocacy and motivation are hard lessons to learn and teach — especially in high school. However, they are skills necessary for any dual credit student to maintain a college-level workload.

As a high school teacher, seeing the importance of self-advocacy for high school students was a priority in my classroom. I desired to make sure students not only knew what self-advocacy was, but made sure they were also putting it into action. The importance of teaching self-advocacy is to ease the transition from high school to college in the best way possible. Because dual credit courses are taught at the college level, incorporating the lesson of self-advocacy ensures that students are taught at the same level they will experience when they enter college.

THE FOLLOWING TIPS CAN HELP WITH THIS PROCESS:

1. TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR ACADEMICS.

Taking ownership over your academic career is the first step to self-advocacy. Not only does this help you feel proud of your efforts, it encourages you to reach out to teachers when you need help. The benefits that you will notice with self-advocacy will also begin to affect other areas of your life.

2. ASK QUESTIONS.

When information is not clear, ask for clarification: students tend to be nervous when it comes to speaking with a teacher for the first time. As a teacher, I made a conscious effort to promote self-advocacy with students by approaching them first. This provided them with the opportunity to ask questions on a regular basis. This approach built trust and enabled students to believe they were capable of asking questions. As a college student, do not wait for a professor to approach you. Instead, ask when you need clarification.

3. LOOK FOR EXAMPLES.

Watch other students in class as they self-advocate to learn the “ins and outs.” As a teacher, I shared with my students that whenever I needed help or support, I went to my superior with questions. Sharing this information showed my students that self-advocacy is a lifelong lesson that many people use on an everyday basis.

CONTACT US

• CCU.EDU/DUALCREDITPROGRAM
• DUALCREDIT@CCU.EDU
• 303.963.3029
• Dual Enrollment Department
  8787 W. Alameda Avenue
  Lakewood, CO 80226