LSA Policy on Dual Enrollment Credits (effective January 3, 2013)

The State of Michigan mandated that all public universities, effective January 3, 2013, must award credit for college-level courses taken by high school students.

Accordingly, President Coleman signed the following statement which commits LSA to change its policy on dual enrollment credits:

The University certifies that, by January 3, 2013, it will not consider whether dual enrollment credits earned by an incoming student were utilized towards his or her high school graduation requirements when making a determination as to whether those credits may be used by the student toward completion of a university degree or certificate program. (See Lester Mont’s January 10 memo to All University Admissions Offices.)

Previously, LSA restricted the granting of transfer credit for incoming students when dual enrollment credits were used to meet high school graduation requirements and/or our own internal admissions requirements.

Under our new policy we will lift these specific restrictions and allow transferable dual enrollment credits to count toward LSA degree requirements.

While the State of Michigan mandated broad changes to how public universities treat dual enrollment credit, public universities retain the ability to determine the transferability of dual enrollment courses to their respective institutions. The Deans of all the Schools and Colleges at the University of Michigan reaffirmed this position with the following statement, which re-asserts the right of faculty to determine which courses are suitable for transfer to the respective Schools and Colleges at the University of Michigan:

High school students who dually enroll for courses at accredited institutions of higher education may receive credit for work taken at these institutions for courses that have been recognized for transfer to the University of Michigan in accordance with the University’s transfer credit policy. Acceptance of courses and credits deemed suitable for transfer to the University of Michigan is determined by faculty in the department, school, or college responsible for instruction in the subject area. Among factors influencing the determination of acceptability are accreditation status, comparable academic quality, and the relationship of the course to other course offerings in the primary administrative unit and other academic units at the University of Michigan, and the basis for student performance evaluation in the course.

Additionally, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions will continue to determine which students are eligible for admission to U-M based on the overall strength and quality of the student’s academic preparedness. In other words, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions will admit those individuals that present the strongest range of credentials and experiences that are consistent with those of our incoming student body.

Overall, while our new position on dual enrollment will allow incoming students to potentially count more of their dual enrollment credits towards LSA degree requirements, we will retain the ability to assess whether individual courses meet our standards for being awarded transfer credit in the first place. For instance, we will continue to designate courses taught to high school students in a high school setting as non-transferable. That is, as with all potential transfer credit, we must determine that individual courses fully meet the standards and expectation, as set by LSA faculty, for awarding transfer credit to college courses taken while in high school.

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