



# Da Vinci Extension

## How to make your DVX Early College courses have the most impact

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Da Vinci Extension (DVX) offers students the opportunity to earn up to one year of college credit while enrolled in an 11-month high school to college bridge program. In partnership with UCLA Extension, the program is designed to shorten the cost to a bachelor's degree and support students through the first year of college course work. This program is specialized and non-traditional, and it is important for your family to carefully look at all college options before deciding on the best fit. As you make choices about college experiences, consider the following aspects of the DVX dual enrollment course sequence.

### General education courses

California public colleges and universities require students to take certain "general education" (GE) courses regardless of major. Because these courses are required of all students and because they transfer among all public colleges, DVX will be offering only transferable GE courses to students. Students will begin major specific courses when they enter college.

**DVX is designed to offer highly transferable courses. All General Education DVX courses (offered by partner colleges) are generally transferable to the UC and CSU systems and are aligned to meet the basic requirements for most majors.** The transferability of college credit is always determined by and at the discretion of the receiving institution.

Other courses may offer you exciting and challenging learning experiences, but if they do not fulfill a requirement at your chosen college or university, you will not shorten your time to earn a degree. To see what courses fulfill GE requirements at specific colleges, visit [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org).

### Choosing the "right" courses

**DVX, in partnership with UCLA Extension, will offer DVX students a sequence of GE courses aligned to take the place of the traditional first year of college.** If students follow the course sequence, they may be eligible for sophomore status upon entering college. DVX staff will assist students in understanding how the DVX course sequence may align to their college and career goals, and will work with you to develop a college and career plan.

### Making the program work for you

Graduating with a degree is more than completing a set number of credit hours. Some majors (such as engineering, the sciences, and healthcare fields like nursing) require students to take very specific courses in a very strict order. If a course in the DVX course map does not meet your needs, counselors will work with you to choose the appropriate substitute course and help you with enrollment.

### Grades count

Taking college courses can be a great experience, but earning a low grade can affect later applications to colleges you hope to attend. When applying to colleges, you will submit both your high school and college transcripts. For DVX, you will have a college transcript from UCLA Extension. All dual enrollment courses you take through DVX will appear on these transcripts, including any withdrawals or incompletes you may have received.

### Asking for help

All students need to seek academic support services at times, particularly when they are trying something new. DVX and university tutoring and advising resources are available to students. **DVX offers daily tutoring, and teacher/professor office hours to support students.**

### Satisfactory Academic Progress and financial aid

According to federal policies, college students must meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in order to remain eligible for financial aid. SAP is reviewed using the following three factors:

- Grade point average.
- Course completion rate.
- Overall time to complete a degree.

College credit that is earned through dual enrollment is factored into your SAP. **DVX is designed to keep you on track with courses that count toward a degree and are in line with degree attainment. To maintain SAP, it is important to ensure you earn a minimum of a 2.0 GPA while in the program and stay on track to complete the college courses you are enrolled in.**

### Your transition to college

While the DVX course sequence offers you the opportunity earn college credits, there are additional factors that are part of most students' transitions to traditional college. You will experience some of the transition to college through the DVX program, but you will still need to adapt to other factors when you attend college. DVX will use the following to help with the transition.

**Pace:** Traditional college courses move at a faster pace than many high school courses. DVX courses will move at a fast pace in order to help you adjust to the speed of college courses.

**Rigor:** Traditional college courses have higher expectations for successful work than high school courses. DVX college courses can help you adapt to that rigor and give you the supports needed to help you succeed.

**Course format:** Traditional college courses may be taught in a variety of formats: large lecture courses matched with smaller discussion sections, online lectures, hands-on learning, etc. DVX College courses will be housed online, use multiple instructional strategies, and will meet face-to face twice per week for a minimum of six hours.

**Navigating college campuses and offices:** Accessing student support services can be overwhelming on a large campus. DVX will provide a wide range of support services to ensure student success, including academic counseling, tutoring, coaching, and more.

**Critical thinking and independent problem solving:** Successful college students take responsibility for their own learning by solving problems and asking for support. They manage their time effectively to accomplish college assignments that may require multiple stages for completion. Through internships, boot camps, and workshops, DVX students will be exposed to intense life and college skills to help them navigate through college and into their career.