

Performance Based Credit Policy

In addition to Carnegie Units, Madison Southern students may earn credit toward graduation through the following methods consistent with Madison County Schools Policy 08.113 and 08.113.

ACCELERATED COURSES

Accelerated Courses are courses taken off-campus to accelerate a student's particular academic discipline in order to advance to a higher level of study than otherwise could be achieved in high school. Accelerated courses may be taken with the following stipulations:

1. The accelerated course of study shall be provided by a recognized accelerated study program or university approved by the Principal.
2. The student shall complete an application and submit to the high school counselor prior to taking the course. The application should include a course description. To verify that the course meets academic standards and expectations, the high school department chairperson of that specific academic discipline shall evaluate the course description. All off-campus courses must be approved by the Principal.
3. The student shall provide verification of course completion and grade earned.
4. Any grade earned by a student who successfully completes an off-campus course will be recorded on the student's official transcript but will not be included in the student's final grade point average or class rank.
5. Students must take all specific courses required for graduation on campus at Madison Southern High School. When graduation requirements can be met from a group of courses, the student must meet all pre-requisites for any course taken and take courses in the recommended sequence.
6. Any coursework taken off campus will not count toward one of the graduation requirements for that subject area.
7. Students successfully completing accelerated coursework must take the required number of on-campus courses in each subject area while at MSHS according to Board of Education guidelines.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

Students who have enrolled in and failed to receive credit in any course offered by a state accredited high school may earn credit for graduation upon successfully completing an approved correspondence course.

1. Only courses offered by agencies and institutions recognized by the Madison County Board of Education will be accepted.
2. A student who has failed a course or who needs to take a course that is not offered by MSHS may earn credit by successfully completing a correspondence course.
3. Under ordinary circumstances, students or their parent/guardian shall pay for approved correspondence courses the student chooses to take. The Principal or the Principal's designee shall approve in advance all correspondence courses for high school credit. High school students may earn, through correspondence courses, a maximum of three (3) credits to be applied toward graduation requirements. No more than two (2) units of correspondence may be taken while the student is enrolled in the regular school term.

4. Students shall receive a grade on their transcript for correspondence courses with that grade calculated into the final grade point average for that student as described in the high school student handbook. (The original failing grade will remain on the transcript and be averaged into the GPA.)

CURRICULUM COMPACTING

Curriculum Compacting is an option in which a student is enrolled in an on-campus class and is able, through a performance assessment, to show proficiency and consequently earn credit without the “seat time” typically required by that class.

Curriculum compacting is available to students who show a need for a challenging individualized learning plan or have an intense desire for study in multiple elective areas. This may be evidenced through a gifted and talented service plan or a detailed career pathway documented in the student’s ILP noting such desires.

Examples of Curriculum Compacting are: Simultaneous Courses, Testing Out, Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment, Kentucky Virtual High School/Online Courses

Courses available for compacting:

- Electives (Not Including Foreign Language Classes)
- Math, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts (For the purpose of entry into a higher level course within the same discipline)
- Health
- PE

Identified students who choose to compact courses must sign a contract agreeing that they will be completely responsible for attendance, course content, scheduling test dates with teachers, and any/all other issues involving or pertaining to successful completion of the courses.

SIMULTANEOUS COURSES

Simultaneous Courses are courses in which a student is enrolled in 2 courses that meet during the same period on the same days.

1. The student will be enrolled in the simultaneous courses for the entire semester provided the student maintains a C average in both courses.
2. The student will alternate attendance in each class based on the pre-determined school schedule.
3. Students will be able to earn ½ credit per semester for each of 2 courses taken simultaneously during a schedule period.
4. Students shall receive a grade on their transcript for each simultaneous course with that grade calculated into the final grade point average for that student as described in the high school student handbook.

TESTING OUT

Testing out is an option in which students take a Comprehensive Course Exam to receive waiver of a pre-requisite or, in some cases, course credit.

1. Exams shall be prepared by the department and submitted to the Principal for review.
2. Exams for students wishing to “Test Out” will be scheduled and given at a common time for all students seeking to receive credit through this option.
3. Results of the test are final. There is no appeal process for testing out.
4. Only one test date for each test per school year will be scheduled.
5. A score greater than or equal to 80% is required for successful completion.
6. Students testing out of a class in the areas of Math, Science, Social Studies, and Language Arts must be enrolled in a class within that area each year prior to completion of the state assessment in that area.
7. Under normal circumstances the option of testing out is to satisfy the pre-requisite requirements for certain classes and not for credit. If a student desires credit toward graduation for successful completion of the Comprehensive Course Exam he/she must make that request in writing to the principal and provide documentation of independent study which led to acquisition of the knowledge in the subject area. The principal may, after consultation with the department chair in the particular discipline, award credit to the student for the successful completion of the Comprehensive Course Exam.
8. If credit is awarded a grade will be assigned that reflects the student’s score on the Comprehensive Course Exam and is consistent with the grading policy of Madison Southern High School.

DUAL CREDIT/DUAL ENROLLMENT

Dual Credit Courses courses are those courses for which students may earn credit toward high school graduation and college credit simultaneously.

1. Students seeking dual credit opportunities must meet the college/university requirements and must fit within the Madison Southern scope/sequence.
2. If the student requests and is approved to take an online course beyond the school's traditional schedule the cost shall be borne by the student.
3. Students enrolled in AP courses may be able to earn dual credit through successful completion of the National AP exam for that course.
4. Students enrolled in the “Jump Start” program may earn high school credit and college credit for completion of coursework.
5. The student is responsible for providing MSHS with a course outline and verification of course completion and grade earned.
6. Any grade earned by a student who successfully completes a Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment course will be recorded on the student’s official transcript and will be included in the student’s final grade point average or class rank.
7. For the purpose of high school credit toward graduation college courses of 2,3, 4, or 5 hours will be granted $\frac{1}{2}$ credit and courses of 6 or more hours will be granted 1 credit.

KENTUCKY VIRUTAL HIGH SCHOOL/ONLINE COURSES/OTHER COURSES TAKEN VIA THE COMPUTER

Full time students may earn a maximum of five (5) units of academic coursework to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing online courses offered through agencies approved by the Principal and under final jurisdiction of the board. The following conditions must be met for a student to take a virtual/online course.

1. The student must complete a request to register through the high school guidance counselor and be approved by the Principal prior to registration.
2. The student wishes to take a course not offered at the high school; or
 - a) The student has encountered a scheduling conflict and is unable to take a required course at the high school. Every effort will be made to place students in on-campus courses with a teacher or
 - b) The virtual/online course serves as a supplement to extend homebound instruction or
 - c) The virtual/online course serves as method to recover credit on courses that the student had previously failed.
 - d) The virtual/online course is used to provide educational services to students who have been expelled. Expelled students may have a KVHS/Online Curriculum developed for them by the Madison County School District.
 - e) To accommodate the needs of specially designed instruction as detailed in an IEP or Gifted & Talented Service Plan.
3. Students who successfully complete an approved virtual/online course will have the grade for that course assigned by the faculty member facilitating the course and the grade shall be recorded on his/her transcript and the value of the grade will be included in the final grade point average. Students may not receive credit for more than five (5) virtual/online courses.
4. As a condition of enrollment in virtual/online courses students must accept the terms of the KVHS Ethics and Acceptable Use Agreement and the Madison Southern/Madison County Schools Acceptable Use Agreement. As well as all other applicable district and school policies and administrative procedures.

Current high school students seeking virtual or computer based instruction for the 21-22 school year may earn 6 credits. These students must sign a contract and prove they can be successful academically while learning through virtual instruction or while completed computer based course work. If a student was unsuccessful learning by either of these means during the 20-21 school year their application can be declined and if at any time during the 21-22 school year the student is unsuccessful the contract can also be declined. This would result in the student needing to return to in person instruction at MSHS.

KVHS APPEALS

Appeals concerning KVHS issues may be made to a committee consisting of a Principal, Supervisor of Instruction, and the Superintendent. The written appeal concerning a KVHS issue should be submitted to the Supervisor of Instruction within ten (10) days of the denial of the request to register. The Supervisor of Instruction will schedule a KVHS appeals committee hearing within five (5) days of receipt of the appeal. All decisions of the appeals committee shall be final.

ENRICHMENT COURSES are courses taken off-campus for enrichment purposes only. These enrichment courses are not prerequisites to a higher-level course offered at MSHS, nor do they have any affect on the student's ILP. Students who take enrichment courses shall receive a notation on their transcript but not credit toward graduation, nor will any grade received for enrichment courses be calculated into the final grade point average or be considered for determination of class rank.

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