

University of Waterloo Offers Dual Credit for High School Prospective Scientists

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The Dual University and Secondary Credit Course of Earth and Space Science (SES 4UI/Earth Sciences 121) outlined below is a new joint initiative between the Waterloo District School Board and the University of Waterloo that will introduce Grade 12 students to earth science and hopefully encourage them to enter earth science programs at the University of Waterloo. Provided is a link to the press release about this new and exciting initiative:
<http://newsrelease.uwaterloo.ca/news.php?id=5114>

This program links educational programs provided by the Waterloo Region District School Board and the University of Waterloo – Department of Earth and Environmental Science. This agreement acknowledges and authorizes the granting of University credit to secondary school students who demonstrate identified competencies in specified secondary school courses.

Articulation of Dual (Concurrent) University and Secondary Credit Courses

Waterloo Region District School Board students are eligible to earn the following University of Waterloo- Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences ½ credit course.

University Waterloo-Credit Course	of ½ Waterloo Region District School Board Secondary Course	Standardized Assessment
Earth Sciences 121	Earth & Space Science SES 4UI	Reviewed Annually

Granting of University Credit

To earn university credit, the student must:

- complete the applicable secondary program (as outlined in the table above) within the Waterloo Region District School Board;

- demonstrate mastery of course competencies by earning a minimum of 75% on the university-board approved standardized assessment for SES 4UI; and,
- successfully achieve admission to the University of Waterloo – Faculty of Science.

If the student is successful in obtaining a percentage grade of 75% or greater on the standardized assessment and the identified grade 12 secondary school course, it will be indicated on the student's Ontario Student Transcript (OST). The exam used in the school has been fashioned after the equivalent exams used in the university Earth 121 course. It is the same exam used in each of the high schools.

Delivery and Standardized Assessment of Articulated Dual Credit Courses

The Waterloo Region District School Board will provide faculty, facilities, equipment, learning resources and other support materials necessary for the delivery of the articulated dual credit course.

University of Waterloo will ascertain that the content and evaluation used in the standardized assessment of the articulated dual credit course is of sufficient rigor and reflective of University competencies. The standardized assessment may include paper and pencil, performance/practical tasks and personal communication assessment methods. The standardized assessment will be administered as part of the identified grade 12 secondary school course.

This program brings the high school teachers who are teaching the course in much closer contact with the university professors. High school teachers will be invited to participate in field trips, lectures, outreach activities with our outreach partners, and any other activities so as to expose teachers to more geology.