Counting Credits

Help your students understand coursework required for college admission.

Instructions

A. Review with your students high school coursework required for admission into the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL has the most rigorous requirements in Nebraska. By fulfilling them, students should be prepared to enter any college in Nebraska).

1. Let your students know that academic requirements for other Nebraska colleges are available on those schools’ websites.

B. To lighten up this discussion, show the three humorous KnowHow2GO “Tough” videos (less than two minutes each). Click on the links below or find them in the KnowHow2GO Video section at EducationQuest.org.

1. Algebra II
2. Biology
3. Foreign Languages

2. If desired, order KnowHow2GO “Tough” book covers free from the “Order Materials” section at EducationQuest.org. The book cover lists five true/false questions about classes to take to qualify for college admission.

C. Have your students complete the Counting Credits worksheet on the next page. Note that, while UNL uses the term “units,” the worksheet refers to “credits” since that is a familiar term for students.

Current University of Nebraska-Lincoln Freshman Admission Requirements

UNL requires 16 units of academic courses for admission. A unit is described as a Carnegie unit—one year of high school study or a semester or quarter of college coursework.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>All units must include intensive reading and writing experiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Algebra, algebra II and geometry are required for students seeking admission, and one additional unit that builds on a knowledge of algebra.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>One unit drawn from American and/or world history; one additional unit drawn from history, American government and/or geography; and a third unit drawn from any social science discipline.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>At least two units selected from biology, chemistry, physics, and earth sciences. One of the above units must include laboratory instruction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Both units must be in the same language. Students who are unable to take two years of foreign language in high school may still qualify for admission.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For more information about UNL’s foreign language requirements, visit http://admissions.unl.edu/requirements/forlang.aspx.

For information about Nebraska high school classes that count toward core course requirements, visit http://admissions.unl.edu/nebraska/index.aspx.
Counting Credits Worksheet

This worksheet will help you understand courses you must take in high school to qualify for admission into college.

How many credits must you earn in each subject area for college admission?

- English __________
- Math __________
- Natural Sciences __________
- Social Sciences __________
- Foreign Language __________

How many credits must you earn to graduate from high school? ______________

What math classes are required for college entrance?

- 9th grade _________________
- 10th grade _________________
- 11th grade _________________
- 12th grade _________________

What social studies classes do you need for college entrance?

- 9th grade _________________
- 10th grade _________________
- 11th grade _________________
- 12th grade _________________

What science classes do you need for college entrance?

- 9th grade _________________
- 10th grade _________________
- 11th grade _________________
- 12th grade _________________

What other course(s) does your school district require for graduation?

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

How many elective credits do you need for graduation? ___________________________