

High school students enrolled in university: 10 reasons why it's a good thing

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STUDENT BENEFITS

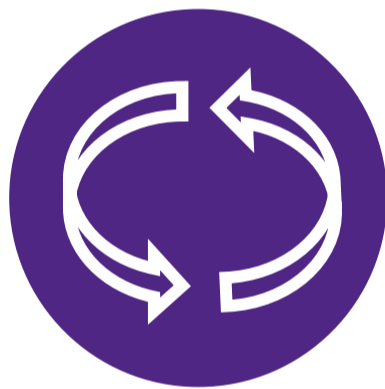
TASTE
what university
life is like



CHOOSE
from a wide
range of courses



PURSUE
specific areas of
interest



MEET
like-minded
peers



EARN
credit towards
a degree



UNIVERSITY BENEFITS



SHOWCASE
university
offerings



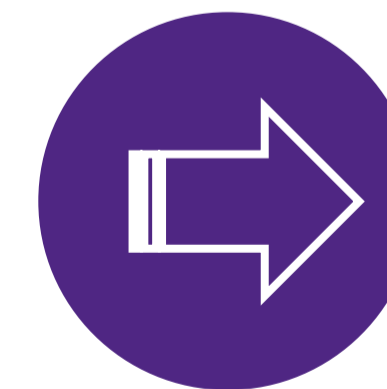
HELP
students prepare
for university



INCREASE
options for
high-achievers



SUPPORT
students' intrinsic
love of learning



ENABLE
high-achievers to
meet their
potential

Background

Western University's

concurrent enrollment program

enables high-achieving high school students to earn a university credit while in high school. Students choose from any first-year university course. The program is offered through **Student Success Services**.

Participants

Our study involved 21 high-achieving students in grades 11 and 12 who shared their reasons for choosing concurrent enrollment.

Method - Group Concept Mapping

Participants brainstormed reasons for taking part in the program. Then they categorised the reasons and rated their importance. We used multi-dimensional scaling and hierarchical cluster analysis to identify key concepts (Trochim, 1989).

Results

We analyzed result using Deci and Ryan's (1985) self-determination theory framework. Students showed motivation for concurrent enrollment for a variety of reasons, which are presented here. Our review of the literature revealed advantages for universities too.

Discussion

In view of the many benefits illustrated here, other universities may consider establishing similar concurrent enrollment programs.

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References

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