



Academic & Student Services

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November 24, 2008

To: Deborah Mahaffey, Assistant State Superintendent of Public Instruction

From: Larry Rubin *Larry Rubin*
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Academic Support Services

Re: Project Lead the Way (PLTW) and Agricultural Science Courses for Admission Purposes

I am writing to let you know that our institutions have now reviewed both the PLTW courses and the Agriculture/Science courses that DPI has recognized as high school science equivalents. The institutions have now informed us of how these courses will be considered for freshmen admission purposes. I am pleased to let you know that all of our institutions have agreed to accept the DPI determination that these courses can be considered as science equivalents and count for part of the three high school units of science required for admission to UW institutions. The attached charts, one for PLTW and one for Agriculture/Science, detail how each institution will count these courses toward satisfying admission requirements.

Please share this information as widely as necessary to help inform students, families, and high school counselors. We believe this will be of great benefit to students interested in pursuing engineering/technology or agricultural science in their post secondary studies.

If you have questions about the attachments or anything related to how the courses will be evaluated, please contact Janice Sheppard at jsheppard@uwsa.edu regarding the PLTW courses, or Carmen Faymonville at cfaymonville@uwsa.edu regarding the Agriculture/Science courses.

I am confident that our joint effort will improve students' transition from secondary to post secondary education.

Attachments

cc: Kevin Reilly, President
Rebecca Martin, Senior Vice President
Chancellor David Wilson
Provosts
Admissions Officers
Registrars
Carmen Faymonville, Academic Planner
Jeff Hicken, Dept of Public Instruction
Denny Roark, UW Help Office
Mark Schroll, Kern Family Foundation
Janice Sheppard, Senior Academic Planner
Karen Wilken, Kern Family Foundation

Project Lead the Way Courses

UW Admission Information for POE and BE



November 2008

The following chart portrays how UW System Institutions will consider PLTW courses for admission purposes.

Institution	PLTW Courses that will be considered as high school science units for admission purposes	How will these PLTW courses count for admission purposes?
UW-Colleges	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	B
UW-Eau Claire	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	A
UW-Green Bay	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	B
UW-La Crosse	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	B
UW-Madison	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	B
UW-Milwaukee	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	B
UW-Oshkosh	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	B
UW-Parkside	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	A
UW-Platteville	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	A
UW-River Falls	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	C
UW-Stevens Point	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	A
UW-Stout	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	C
UW-Superior	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	B
UW-Whitewater	Principles of Engineering Biotechnical Engineering	B

KEY

- A. Completion of 1 or both PLTW courses count for no more than 1 high school science unit
- B. Completion of 1 or both PLTW courses will count as 3rd unit of high school science as long as other units are some combo of biology/chemistry/physics.
- C. Completion of both PLTW courses will count for 2 high school science units




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March 31, 2009

To: Admissions Officers

From: Larry Rubin 
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Academic Support Services

Re: Clarification regarding Science Equivalence Credit for *Project Lead the Way* Courses

Last fall, UW institutions determined how they will consider Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses for admission. As you may recall, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) convened a task force to review the eight PLTW courses for science content and possible equivalency. As a result of the task force's work, two of the PLTW courses, *Principles of Engineering*, and *Biotechnical Engineering*, were determined eligible for science equivalency by DPI. These were the courses that you were subsequently asked to consider for admission.

I wanted to get back to you to clarify how these courses receive approval as a science equivalent course from the high school. Our prior letters did not fully explain this situation and I want to be certain you are clear on these details.

After DPI makes its determination, individual school districts must submit a statement to DPI indicating their intention to count these two PLTW courses as science equivalent courses in their own district. Some districts may decide not to request this standing for one or both of the DPI approved PLTW courses. Consequently, a PLTW course may have science equivalent designation from some school districts and not from others.

Those districts that decide to count the course(s) as "equivalent for science" will denote it on the transcript with the symbol "ES" next to the course title. Thus, you can rely on the high school transcript to determine if the school district counts the PLTW course(s) toward high school science graduation requirements.

Again, the purpose of this memo is to clarify the role of school districts in determining if the two PLTW courses are to be considered as "equivalent for science", and if so, how this will be noted on the high school transcript. The purpose is not to have you change how you will accept these courses for admission purposes.

If you have questions or concerns about this new information, please contact Janice Sheppard, at jsheppard@uwsa.edu, or 608-262-5563.

c: Rebecca R. Martin, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Deborah Mahaffey, Assistant State Superintendent, Department of Public Instruction
Brent Kindred, State Consultant, Department of Public Instruction
Karen Wilkens, Kern Family Foundation
Mark Schroll, Kern Family Foundation
Janice Sheppard, Senior Academic Planner
Carmen Faymonville, Academic Planner

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