



Spring 2018 Newsletter

SUNY CORTLAND

ITHACA COLLEGE

TOMPKINS CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

College Credit in High School

Many high school students will take some sort of college-credit bearing class while in high school. There are often many questions about who should take such courses and if it is really worth it. Below are some points to consider when deciding on enrolling in concurrent enrollment or college courses while in high school.

First lets start with some vocabulary:

Concurrent Enrollment: These are courses taught by college approved high school teachers right in the students' high school. The students will complete college level work based on the curriculum put in place by the sponsoring college. Many of these courses are free or have a minimal cost (compared to college tuition). Pass or fail, these courses will become part of a college transcript for each student enrolled.

College Course: Some students will decide to leave the high school campus for a portion of the day and take courses right on a college campus. These are courses the families must pay for out of pocket as there is no financial aid available for high school students.

AP Courses: Some high schools offer Advanced Placement courses. These courses are developed and maintained by The Collegeboard and are offered internationally. They are taught by high school teachers who have been approved by the Collegeboard. In order to complete the course with possible college credit, students must take the AP test. There are fees associated with the taking the test and then when you request the college board send scores to selected colleges.

Online College Coursework: Many colleges offer online coursework. These are courses available strictly online at a local college or one across the country. Each high school handles these types of courses differently. If you are looking to replace a graduation credit with one of these work with your guidance counselor BEFORE you register for one of these. If you want to take one just to enhance your learning or explore a subject not offered in high school go for it. Make sure the college you are using has a nationally accredited program. You do not want to pay for college courses and not be able to use them in any way later on.

Who should take college level courses? The college course offerings vary widely by high school. Some will offer the option for students in 9th grade to begin earning college credit through

concurrent enrollment or AP courses. Some high schools set criteria for students to enroll in college, honor or AP classes so make sure to check the course catalog, talk to your teachers and speak with your guidance counselor as you think about your schedule.

Why should I take a college class in high school?

Students take college level courses for many reasons. Here are some examples:

- To challenge yourself as a student - typically these courses are harder than your high school courses. This will help you stretch yourself academically.
- To prepare for college level work after high school - these courses are college level. Each one will help you learn to be a more successful college student.
- To bring college credits into college - each college will view any/all of these courses differently. It is not a guarantee that you will be able to transfer all of your college credit into the college of your choice. You can work with colleges on your list to see what course are typically accepted and how it relates to your academic standing when you enter. It is also important to know that if you attend one of the colleges where you were in a concurrent enrollment course, you will already have a transcript there. For this, and other reasons, it is important to do well in your college level courses. A bad high school grade can follow you into your college GPA.
- To explore your career interests - many high schools can only offer a limited range of subjects. Courses like this allow for students to engage in topics outside the usual high school courses.
- To enhance your college application - Colleges ask about what college, honor, AP and upper level courses each high school offers. For more selective colleges, the expectation may be that you take as many as you can, but any college will consider the strength of your schedule. Taking upper level and college level courses is a clear indication that you have a college mindset.

Check out our local college websites for specific programs already developed for high school students such as Tompkins Cortland's CollegeNow program. For more information about AP courses speak to your guidance counselor or go to www.collegeboard.org.

Spring Events



Mark your calendars! Make an effort to attend as many ACE events as you can this spring. It is a great line up of events. Watch the website and check your emails for sporting events and other special events.

The spring will include more exciting programs for our participants. Below is a current list but go to www.cortland.edu/ACE for updates as more events will be added. The website also has details about each event as well as driving directions.

02/09	11th Grade Campus Visit	(field trip)	Tompkins Cortland Community College
03/14	Regional Institute	6:30p-8:00p	Cincinnatus High School
03/15	10th Grade Campus Visit	(field trip)	Tompkins Cortland Community College
03/26	College Theater: Sense and Sensibility	7:00p	Ithaca College (this time may change, please watch email for confirmation if you register)
04/03	1/2 Day Campus Visit 9's & 10's	(field trip)	SUNY Cortland
04/07	Regional Institute 9:00-11:00	9:00a-11:00a	Moravia High School
04/13	College Theater: 9 to 5	8:00p	SUNY Cortland
04/26	College Theater: Mr. Burns	7:30p	Cornell University

Stay tuned:

More events to come such as: Sporting events, Gallery Talk and Tour and School of Thought

College Theater

Sense and Sensibility, by Kate Hamill



This theatrical adaptation of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* was written by Ithaca College alumna Kate Hamill. This production brings out the absurdity of 19th-century England's gossip-driven society as the

Dashwood sisters deal with the challenges of finding love amid the constraints of social class.

This is the story of Elinor and Marianne Dashwood, sisters who respectively represent the "sense" and "sensibility" of the title. With their mother, their sister Margaret, and their step-brother John, they make up the Dashwood family. Join them as they work through the trials and tribulations of moving, falling in love, engagements and family feuds.

9 to 5, by Dolly Parton



Whether the words of Dolly Parton's workplace anthem evoke familiar memories of the 1980 film of the same name, or they just seem familiar

because they describe *your* morning routine; *9 to 5, the musical* is certain to delight anyone who has ever punched a clock, gossiped at a water cooler or kidnapped their sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot of a boss. The comedy is charmingly reminiscent of a 1970's sitcom and the music surpasses any expectations of the Queen of Country while the authentic sentiment of the leading trio's friendship assures that *9 TO 5* is a sure-fire hit.

Mr. Burns, by Anne Washburn

A Post-Electric Play begins with eight friends gathered around a fire trying to recall the plot from *The Simpsons'* episode "Cape Feare".



As they slowly piece together the story, it is revealed that they are escaping from the nuclear fallout of an unnamed apocalyptic event.

Seen years after the first scene, the same group has created a pop culture theater troupe in the remains of a decaying civilization. Ultimately, *Mr. Burns* is a critique of capitalism and a reminder of the indelible effect of stories (wherever they may be found).

All College Theater events are free to ACE families and students, however you **MUST** pre-register! There are three ways to pre-register: Call the ACE office @ **607.753.5662** or email: ace@cortland.edu or use the online registration page on our

website: www.cortland.edu/ace

Parking information and campus maps will be provided after registration. Students must check in with staff for their tickets and to receive ACE credit.

The ACE Letter of Recommendation becomes The ACE Scholar

Just this month the ACE Operating Committee decided it was time to really honor the students who commit to ACE and earn the ACE Letter of Recommendation. Starting with this year's graduates, ACE will now recognize this group of students as ACE Scholars. To become an ACE scholar students must still meet the guidelines below.

To receive the ACE RECOMMENDATION and become an ACE Scholar students must:

- Attend at least **TWELVE** qualifying ACE EVENTS during their time with the ACE program. (There are two groups of ACE events: Required and Additional activities. Students must attend 8 from the required group and 4 from the additional group. See below for examples of both types)
- Maintain at least a **B** range GPA throughout their years in high school. (B- to A+)

Required Group (8)	Additional Events (4)
Summer Programs	College Theater
ACE Grade Level Campus Visit	Gallery Talk and Tour
Regional Institutes	Individual Campus Tours/Admissions Visit
Welcome Orientation	Campus Events
Schools of Thought	TC3 and Auburn College Fairs

In order for students to reach this goal by the fall of their senior year (for college applications) it is recommended they attend at least 4 programs each year leading up to the senior year. **Students are welcome and encouraged to do many more than 12 ACE events.** They may attend as many programs as they like and can fit into their schedules. The more you attend, the more you benefit from being a member of ACE. Most students receiving the ACE Recommendation have done 15-20 events by the end of 12th grade. A few have over 30.

ACE is now on Facebook

Find articles about college and career readiness, learn about other programs similar to ACE and much more!

**Go to Facebook
@ace.cortland.edu**

It will be a good way to find information about our events as well.

For more information contact:

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ACE Coordinator
607-753-5661

jane.manning@cortland.edu

Lisa Petracca
ACE Clerk
607-753-5662

ACE@cortland.edu

2018 ACE Scholars

Time to celebrate a whole group of students who have fulfilled their ACE responsibilities over the past four years to earn the ACE letter of recommendation. This truly is an accomplishment and ACE would like to acknowledge this year's **ACE Scholars**:

Cortland

Kelsey Gibbons

Homer

Devin McCall

Lansing

Jill Austin

Sophie Callister

Avery Hollister

Liam Hulsebosch

Alex Powers

Caleb Wilder

Marathon

Kassie Doran

McGraw

Elizabeth Fitzgerald



ACE Scholars have actively participated in ACE throughout high school

Moravia

Madelyn Funk

Ella Read

Patience Sheppard

South Seneca

Kazandra Jones

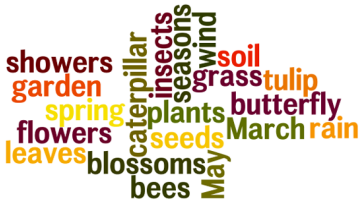
Outstanding ACE Senior Award

Each year ACE awards two of our ACE students with the Outstanding ACE Senior Award. Each recipient will receive \$500 at his/her school award ceremony.

This award is given to a student who:

- Qualifies for the ACE Recommendation
- Maintains ACE event participation even in his/her senior year
- Provides a service to ACE or his/her ACE community
- Completes the application essay
- Completes at least 18 ACE events throughout their high school career (14 from the **required** group of activities)
- Completes an application

Please encourage your ACE students to participate in as many ACE related activities as possible in order to be eligible for this award by his/her senior year. If there are questions please feel free to contact the ACE Office or your school liaison.



Registration Form

ACE 2018 Spring Regional Institutes

Please Fill out the following Registration Form Completely

Registration must be done the week before the event to ensure availability—If registering after that, please call the office

PLEASE print

Student Name _____ Parent /Guardian Name _____

District: _____ Grade _____ Number of Parents/Guardians attending _____

Mailing Address _____ Phone # _____

Email _____

Carpooling Information: Can you provide a ride? _____ Do you need a ride? _____

Cincinnati Regional Institute: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 6:30-8:00 pm

Workshops—please select 1 per session for each person attending:

Student Selection:

Workshop 1

- _____ The Wellness of Test Prep _____
- _____ Study Abroad _____
- _____ Building a High School Schedule _____

Workshop 2

Parent Selection:

Workshop 1

- _____ The Wellness of Test Prep _____
- _____ Study Abroad _____
- _____ Building a High School Schedule _____

Workshop 2

Moravia Regional Institute: Saturday April 7, 2018 from 9:00am-11:15am

Workshops—Please select 1 topic for workshop 1 and workshop 2

Student Selection:

Workshop 1

- _____ College Vocabulary
- _____ SAT and ACT Prep
- _____ Help, I have a bad teacher
- _____ College Search

Workshop 2 (Career Exploration)

- _____ Engineering
- _____ Veterinary Careers
- _____ Architectural Studies

Parent Selection:

Workshop 1

- _____ College Vocabulary
- _____ SAT and ACT Prep
- _____ Help, I have a bad teacher
- _____ College Search

Workshop 2 (Career Exploration)

- _____ Engineering
- _____ Veterinary Careers
- _____ Architectural Studies

<p>Return Form to:</p>	<p>ACE Office 1312 Cornish Hall SUNY Cortland Cortland, NY 13045</p>	<p>OR</p>	<p>FAX: 607-753-5561 Call: 607-753-5662 Email: ace@cortland.edu</p>	<p>OR</p>	<p>Register on line at: www.cortland.edu/ace</p>
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Cincinnati Regional Institute: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 6:30-8:00pm

The Cincinnati Regional Institute will be a work shop format evening with each workshop lasting approximately 40 minutes.

6:15-6:30	Sign in
6:30-6:40	Welcome
6:40-7:20	Workshop 1
7:25-8:05	Workshop 2
8:05-8:15	Evaluation and Door Prize

Workshop choices:

1. The Wellness of Test Prep: As high schoolers you have already taken 15-20 high stakes tests. For some, tests are an exciting time to showcase your learning. For others, tests spark anxiety, sleepless nights and late hours study. Regardless of the nature of the test: a science unit test, an English essay, a regents exam or college entrance exam, there are ways to help you be the most prepared physically, academically and mentally. This workshop will look at building healthy student habits related to all things tests.
2. Study Abroad: Are you interested in other cultures? Do you love to travel? Learn how you can combine your love of exploring other places while earning college credit. Enjoy this conversation about the in's and out's of studying abroad.
3. Making the Most of Your High School Schedule: A panel of college professionals will speak about how to create the best schedule while in high school. Having a college mindset means using the time in high school to help prepare for a successful college career. What does this really mean? Is it the same for everyone?

Moravia Regional Institute: Saturday, April 7, 2018 9:00-11:15am

8:45-9:00	Sign In
9:00-9:10	Welcome
9:10-10:00	Workshop 1 - your choice of 3 college related topics
10:10-11:15	Workshop 2- your choice of 3 career related topics

Workshop 1 Choices:

College Vocabulary: It is never too early to learn about the way of life on a college campus. This workshop will help you begin to learn the vocabulary you will use while on campus. What does a registrar do? Who are my advisors? What is registration? Who has to verify their financial aid? Does everyone have to accept their charges? Every semester?

SAT and ACT Prep: How do I know which test to take? Will I be better at one than the other? What is the difference between two exams? When and where do I take them? Getting ready for college has many parts to it. Understanding the entrance exams is just one piece. Come learn about how to get ready and much more.

Help I Have a Bad Teacher! Have you ever felt like you have the worst teacher in the world? Well maybe you do, maybe your don't but nonetheless, you have to learn. In college and in high school you will come across situations that do not meet your ideal learning needs. So how do you move forward? Don't let this type of situation lead to failure or a grade that is less than satisfactory. Tips, strategies and resources will be shared.

College Search: Creating a list of colleges you are interested in can seem very overwhelming. This workshop will help get you started by exploring the different types of colleges, their qualities and how to decide which ones to visit. Leave with some tools in hand to use throughout your college search process.

Workshop 2 Choices:

Engineering: A panel of professors and engineers will highlight their experience and career path to the present day. Feel free to come with questions.

Veterinary Careers: Ever dream of working with animals, but not sure you really want to be a vet? Come learn about how to become a vet, if that is your goal but also learn about other ways to include animals in your daily work.

Architectural Studies: This workshop will again include experts from the area to help you understand what is involved in this career cluster. College majors will also be explored.

When you register for ACE events, please make sure to include your most up-to-date email and phone number as we email reminders and program changes the week before each event. These emails will often include driving directions and/or parking passes. We will only use the given phone number in case of inclement weather or cancellations on the day of the event.

Choosing a College Major

Choosing your major may feel like it is the biggest and most complicated decision you have ever made. There are so many factors to consider. Picking the right major could lead to the “perfect” job, financial security, a life full of happiness. When put in these terms, it is little wonder discussing the topic provokes significant anxiety for most students. Before the panic starts, consider the following ideas as you decide what you want to study.

- What if I change my mind:** It is perfectly ok to have your sights set on one major and then change it—even before you get to college. The important thing is to create a list of colleges you are interested in that have majors in the subject areas that currently appeal to you. If you are considering studying biology or fitness science, look for schools with majors in both areas. This will allow you to try both out as a college student and make a final decision later.
- I don't know what I want to study:** Start exploring. Get out of your regular routine and try out some hands-on learning opportunities. Everything you do will help you gain a little more understanding about the world outside of high school. Shadow someone in a job that you are curious about, get a part time job, volunteer. All these activities can play a significant role in who you become as a person, not only as a student.
- I am not good at all subjects:** It is important to recognize your strengths but remember, learning in college is very different than learning in high school. Be realistic. If you can't stand biology, you are probably not going to be a veterinarian. But think about aspects of that particular career you are attracted to in order to find a similar type of option. On the flip side, if you don't like math, but you can usually manage an 88 average, it will probably be ok to pursue a major that requires some college level math.
- Look at a college catalog:** All colleges post their catalogs on line and some even still print them. Take a look at all majors and learn about what courses you would have to take to graduate with a degree in the area of interest. Compare colleges and different majors, as well as the requirements for the same major at different colleges. Take a look at the academic plan for majors and notice how each college lays out the timing of how you complete the required coursework. You would be surprised at how many majors exist and how varied majors can be from college to college.
- Consider who you want to be as an adult:** Not just the kind of house you will own or the car you will drive, but the bigger question of how will you make your impact. It is important to recognize if you are passionate about non-profit work you may bring home a smaller salary than someone interested in working on Wall Street. Have a vision of who you want to be as a person at the end of all of this and set your sights there. You as a learner, a student, a son/daughter will become more clear when you can visualize yourself in your adult world. This can help make decisions about majors as well as colleges.
- If you know grad school is in your future:** If you know you will continue past your bachelor's degree, look at majors that lead to master's degree success. Ask questions on college visits that will help you choose a major that will best prepare you for your next step. You may be surprised at suggested paths to earning a master's degree or doctorate.
- Interest inventories:** When all else fails, take the time to do an online interest inventory. Many of your high schools will have them available through the guidance office. One that is reliable and easy can be found at <https://www.truity.com/test/holland-code-career-test>, although there are literally 1,000's of free options.

The good news is that the major you choose will neither predict or guarantee your future success. Many graduates find jobs that have nothing to do with what they majored in while attending college. It is very common to change jobs and careers after you graduate. According to the US Department of Labor, the average twenty-something switches jobs once every three years and the average person changes career fields two or three times in their lifetime. Going forward, be confident that you will find success with or without a major. If you really can't decide on a major, go to college undecided. You will have until your sophomore year to declare one at a four-year college. Take advantage of exploratory programs to help make your choice. It can be easier to engage in the learning process when you have a degree to focus on so if you haven't declared your major it will be important to set goals each semester to keep you on the path to success.

SAT and ACT tests:

It is that time of year for students to register and take their college entrance exams. Students can take either one or both exams but it is best to double check with the colleges on your list to make sure you are completing the right portions of the test (for example does your college want the SAT Subject tests?) Don't forget you will need to upload a photo for your test ticket. Below are dates for Spring 2018:

Did you know you can find colleges that do not require either the SAT or ACT? Go to www.fairtest.org to learn more.

SAT Registration	SAT Test Date
02/09/18	03/10/18
04/06/18	05/05/18
05/03/18	06/02/18
www.collegeboard.org	

ACT Registration	ACT Test Date
03/09/18	04/14/18
05/04/18	06/9/18
www.act.org	

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1312 Cornish Hall
SUNY Cortland
Cortland, NY 13045
Phone: 607-753-5662
Fax: 607-753-5561

Dear ACE Families and Students:

The spring semester is a time to regroup academically as well as look forward to the next school year as students create their schedule for the following year. When students meet with their guidance counselor to select courses for next year it is important to select the “right” ones. The hard part is that for each student “right” will be defined differently. Some students have their sights set on a four year college. Students headed in this direction really need to take four years of math and science, as well as challenge themselves with upper level course work such as concurrent enrollment and AP classes. Other students plan to start their college career at a two year institution. Students headed in this direction need to remember they will still want to be well prepared for English and math. Placement tests are required in these areas. Although you do not pass or fail these tests, they do determine your course placement. If you do not score high enough, you may be placed in foundational/developmental courses. These courses are non-credit bearing however you still need to pay for them. Much of the work done in these classes can be done in high school if you employ good student skills: do your work, study for tests and ask for help if you do not understand something. If you are a hard worker and still struggle in one or both of these subjects, these are the perfect classes to build skills and confidence. They really are there to help set you up for college success. As an ACE student you are expected to work hard and challenge yourself each year academically. Keep working toward the B average or better to help you create the most number of college options and opportunities.



Consider carpooling to ACE events. Occasionally transportation can be an obstacle for an ACE family to attend an event. On registration forms we ask you to indicate if you would be willing to carpool or if you are in need of a ride. Carpooling not only removes possible barriers to our programs but it is much kinder to the environment, saves money, and for ACE students and families creates an wonderful opportunity to discuss the topics from the event. Please consider this option when attending ACE events.