Vectoring for College

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Course & Seminar Information

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COURSES

Careers: What to do after high school? Hmmm… In this course, students discern possible career paths based on multiple self-inventories and research them using online Career Cruising software and associated websites. Students complete supplemental activities such as conducting an informational interview and analyzing financial aspects of career choices. High school course possibilities and post-high school educational options based on students' preferences are also investigated. Lastly, as time allows, each student drafts an initial resume and simulates a typical job interview. Throughout the course, students are given topics to discuss with parents to obtain family-specific feedback on career possibilities.

Level, Schedule, Credit, Size: For grades 8 – 12. Class meets 1.5 hours once a week for 14 weeks. Schedule is determined based on preferences of those registered early. Students earn ½ credit. Class is limited to 12 students.

Homework Expectations: This course is generously graded. Students are at different levels of readiness and urgency with this topic. Families adjust the level of thoroughness on the homework as needed. Roughly 2 to 3 hours of homework per week is assigned. Before the course begins, students verify electronic tool readiness per information provided after registration.

Textbook/Supplies: *Finding the Career That Fits You Workbook* – by Larry Burkett & Lee Ellis. This book incorporates a non-denominational Christian worldview. ISBN-13: 9780802425225. Do NOT purchase used version. Career Cruising is a secular internet-based product. A complimentary ID is provided for each student for use throughout the academic year. Each student needs a 3-ring binder.

ACT/SAT Strategies: "Slow and steady gets test takers ready." Students begin their college testing preparation by taking one diagnostic ACT and one diagnostic SAT. After scoring and analyzing tests, each student determines which test to focus on (or both). Students then assess their preliminary college plans and set initial score goals. Next, the full set of test strategies are explained including how to efficiently study, properly prepare for test day, shrewdly take the test, and strategically handle questions in each section: reading, writing, math, science (only on ACT), and essay. Strategies common to both tests are emphasized; differences are highlighted. Foundational, lower level content skills common to both tests are studied and practiced using the associated strategies. This focused study typically transfers to other courses and fills in gaps in students' knowledge. High miss rate diagnostic test questions are thoroughly analyzed and discussed. Students participate in an optional individual meeting with the instructor to discuss detailed analysis and recommendations for targeted study to raise scores. Practice for the essay and ACT science are not included. Students conclude the class by establishing their forward study plans.

Prerequisites: Algebra 1 complete.

Level, Schedule, Size: For grades 9 – 12. Class meets 1.5 hours once per week for 14 weeks. Schedule determined based on preferences of those who register early. Periodically an intense "compressed" version of the course is taught with the same total number of hours. The strategies class is limited to 12 students.

Homework Expectations: PRIOR TO FIRST CLASS - Using class-specific test directions, students must complete TWO diagnostic tests: 1 SAT and 1 ACT. Students also verify electronic tool readiness per information provided after registration. DURING CLASS - Recommended minimum level of study is 2 hours per week. Students adjust the level of study as needed. No grades are given, but completed work and activities are identified for students' benefit.

Textbook/Supplies: 3 top-tutor books (TBD pending release of latest versions) costing approximately $30 each: ACT English, SAT Reading, ACT Math. Books used in follow-on personal study and "Countdown to …" classes. Each student needs a 3-ring binder.

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Countdown to ACT or PSAT or SAT: Ace the ACT! Power through the PSAT! Soar with the SAT! Using an updated diagnostic test, students begin this course by reestablishing their overall score goals from the prerequisite strategies class and setting individual section goals. Advanced test-specific subject matter is studied and practiced, picking up where the strategies class left off. Students complete regular weekly practice on actual tests, with the amount increasing as the test date approaches and per score goals. High miss rate questions are thoroughly analyzed and discussed. The class also includes 3 individual 1.5-hour tutoring sessions on student-selected "vectoring" topics. Participants may choose to study and practice the optional ACT or SAT essay as well, with students developing and using their own "prefabricated" content cards and essay templates. Structured practice results in a significantly improved ability to quickwrite a 5-paragraph essay in general, which is a highly transferable skill. The class concludes with final preparations for a triumphant test day!

Prerequisites: ACT/SAT Strategies course, Algebra 2 or higher in progress, basic knowledge of 5-paragraph essay.

Level, Schedule, Size: For grades 11 – 12. Class meets 1.5 hours once per week for 8 weeks. Schedule determined based on preferences of those registered early. Students may schedule the 3 individual tutoring sessions before, during, or after the course. Each class is limited to 6 students.

Homework Expectations: PRIOR TO START OF CLASS - Using class-specific test directions, students must complete ONE applicable practice test. Students are encouraged to review strategies class materials and work ahead in the strategies study books prior to the start of class. DURING CLASS - Recommended minimum level of study is 3 hours per week. Students adjust the level of study as needed to meet score goals.

Textbook/Supplies: 1 to 2 top-tutor books to complement the strategies course books (TBD pending release of latest versions and whether students choose to study the essay) costing approximately $30 each. Each student needs his or her 3-ring binder from the strategies class.

COMPLIMENTARY SEMINARS

Using Digital Tools: Offered prior to the start of a course, students learn about the digital tools used at Liftoff Learning including OneNote, Zoom, and Canvas. Participants practice accessing and using various aspects of each tool and verifying that they are ready for classes to start. Any questions are answered, and any digital tool issues are resolved.

Using Career Cruising to Vector Your Future: Participants learn how to access, navigate, and utilize the various features within Career Cruising using their complimentary academic year accounts. Recommendations are presented on how to independently embark on career exploration for middle and high school students. Many aspects of self-inventories and career exploration can be done in students' own families. For those students/families wanting more guidance, the Careers class (see previous page) provides additional learning opportunities and extended discussion.

Writing Powerful College Application Essays: This seminar introduces the college application essay writing process, which most students find somewhat overwhelming. The purpose of the essay and the perspective of a typical admissions officer are discussed to ensure students understand the audience for the essay. The steps in the application essay writing process are highlighted with recommendations identified for each step. Example essays are analyzed and discussed. Inexpensive, helpful resources are identified.

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CALENDAR

The key dates for fall vectoring classes are shown in the table. Each course, except the "compressed" ACT/SAT Strategies class, meets once per week, with the standard schedule determined based on the preferences of those students who register early. As classes fill and days/times are established, the specific schedule for each course is listed on the website. The compressed course is held 2 to 3 times a week with a double class each time.

Course Name	Registration Ends	Class Starts Week of	Class Ends Week of	Corresponding Test Date
FALL:				
ACT/SAT Strategies (Compressed)	July 22	July 27	Aug 10	
Countdown to SAT	Aug 3	Aug 10	Sep 28	SAT on Oct 3
Countdown to PSAT	Aug 10	Aug 17	Oct 5	PSAT on Oct 14
Countdown to ACT	Aug 24	Aug 31	Oct 19	ACT on Oct 24
Careers	Aug 25	Aug 31	Dec 15 *	
ACT/SAT Strategies (Semester)	Aug 25	Aug 31	Dec 15 *	
Countdown to ACT (2nd Offering)	Oct 5	Oct 12	Dec 7	ACT on Dec 12
SPRING:				
Careers	Jan 4	Jan 11	May 3 *	
ACT/SAT Strategies (Semester)	Jan 4	Jan 11	May 3 *	
Countdown to SAT	Mar 1	Mar 8	May 3	SAT on May 8
Countdown to ACT	Apr 5	Apr 12	Jun 7	ACT on Jun 12

* = Includes 1 reserve week for fall and 2 for spring. See website or academic calendar for more information.

COST

All courses are $380. Payment is due at registration. Complimentary seminars (see previous page) are free for all Liftoff Learning students.

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

Registration typically closes one week before a class starts. No late registrations. Payment can be made online using Google Pay or via snail mail with personal check. See the registration and policies PDF file at www.LiftoffLearning.net/college/ for more information on steps to register for a course.

LIFTOFF LEARNING
Tutoring, Math Classes, and Vectoring for College

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