

College Credit Info

UMSL Advanced Credit Program (=ACP)

FAQ 2022-23

See: <http://www.umsl.edu/continuing/acp/>

- 1. What is the Cost?** : \$70 per credit hour. The first 2 French courses are considered 5-credit hour classes, so each costs **\$350** and the third course is considered a 3-credit hour class, so it costs **\$210**. This is about 1/5 of the cost of taking the course on the UMSL campus, but you get the same credit.
- 2. When do I pay?** You do NOT pay when you sign up online, during class, during the specified signup period. UMSL will send you a bill, after receiving your application, usually within a few weeks. I believe that they will expect payment by early November (or you will be dropped from the course.) **IF YOU DO NOT SIGN UP DURING THE NORMAL SIGNUP TIME**, you will have to include payment at the time that you do sign up.
- 3. Do I have to attend UMSL when I start college, in order for this credit to be “good”?** No, absolutely not. For the most part, this is just considered transfer credit, to whichever college you end up attending (you’ll have to arrange for a transcript from UMSL to be sent to your school, once you decide which one you’ll be attending—I can help you with that simple procedure, and there’s a link to the request form on my PHS website). **HOWEVER**, there are some colleges which do NOT accept this credit. I do not have a full list of what American colleges do and do not accept this credit, but, on the whole, most often, other state universities do, while major, expensive, private schools often do not. You may phone or email the French Department at whatever universities you are interested in (find the contact info online), and ask them if they accept ACP (advanced college credit). In our area:

Washington University: **NO**

Saint Louis University: **YES**

Truman: **YES (and Truman requires foreign language for every major)**

Mizzou, Rolla, UMKC: **YES**

Cape Girardeau, SWMSU and other Missouri State Universities: **YES**

- 4. Can I change my mind once I turn in my application to UMSL?** Yes... but, you **MUST** fill out a “drop” slip for UMSL by a certain date. I can help you with this. If you do NOT do this, you will be left on the roster, and will receive an F on your transcript which can not be changed. Once you pay, you may lose that money.
- 5. Will I have different work than other students in my class, or a special test?** No. The only difference is that you will be paying UMSL to give you 5 (or 3) credits for the course. UMSL interviews your Pattonville teacher, verifies that her abilities and

credentials are appropriate for teaching the course as an UMSL Adjunct Professor, looks over her course syllabus and final exams, and awards her status as an adjunct professor. This verifies in their mind that you are experiencing a course on the same caliber as the one being given on campus, and they award you credit.

6. **Is this the same thing as AP?** No, AP (Advanced Placement) is a different program, in which all students around the country who are taking a certain course take the exact same exam (at a fee), and are awarded a nationally-recognized score. Some colleges prefer this credit, and will accept the AP score, though they may not accept an ACP class credit (*ACP is also known as DUAL CREDIT, because you're earning both high school and college credit at the same time*). Pattonville does not offer a French AP course this year. However, students in French 5 (when it is offered) may opt to take the French AP exam, if they would like.
7. **What advantages are there to taking the UMSL ACP class for French?** The main advantage is that you should be able to place into the next higher level of French, once you get to college, as long as your college accepts ACP credit. You also will have earned 5, 10 or 13 credits toward your first semester of college, too. Since many college majors require 13 hours of a foreign language, you would be on your way to finishing that requirement by taking our high school classes for college credit. It also looks very good on scholarship applications and college applications, because it shows that you are taking a course which is considered challenging enough to be considered equivalent to a college course. Other benefits: You may go to UMSL and get a valid photo UMSL ID (once I have given you your temporary ID). This allows you all on-campus privileges at UMSL, such as full use of the library and student center. You may also receive free transportation on the city Metrolink and MetroBus system. Taking an UMSL ACP course also makes you eligible to **apply** for a \$3,000 /year scholarship to UMSL, should you attend there during your college years.
8. **Is any interested student eligible?** No. There are a few restrictions. In general, for non- foreign-language UMSL ACP courses you take in high school, you must be a Junior or Senior. However, for ACP French, German, or Spanish, Sophomores may also qualify. There are GPA requirements: Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors with an overall un-weighted GPA of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale), qualify (**Sophomores** are also required to have a written recommendation, signed by an administrator at the school, and also a **signed parent permission form**. Juniors and Seniors with a GPA between 2.5-2.99 must have this paperwork as well.) Students are also expected to have a strong A or B average in previous foreign language coursework.

You must have your SSN (Social Security Number) with you when you Register!

(You won't have to show it to me, but you need it to register.)

Registration in class will be September 7