

What is NUSTEP?

NUSTEP is a cooperative program between Niagara University and selected high schools that enables qualified students to enroll in NU courses, earning college credits while remaining at their high school. The program seeks to avoid duplication in secondary and post secondary programs, to provide qualified students with the opportunity to accelerate their academic pursuits and to provide enriched instruction in the secondary school. The program serves as a bridge between high school and college.

How does NUSTEP work?

The course is taught on the high school campus, by a certified high school instructor. The instructor must be approved by the department chair and academic personnel at NU. Approved high school instructors must use the course descriptions, outlines, syllabi, and exams approved by the sponsoring college of the university. Examinations and term papers are graded by the high school instructor and then forwarded to the appropriate department chairperson for review. Grade rosters are completed by the instructor, and forwarded to the university. Grades are then sent by the university to the student. So, students register for the course, pay the tuition, and if completed successfully, earn college credit.

What courses are offered?

ENG 100	WRT 100
CMS 100	REL 103
MAT 102	ACC 111
MAT 111	MAT 112
SPA 103/104	FRE 103/104
CHE 111	CHE 112
CHE 108	HIS 199
SOC 101	PSY 101
BUS 205	HRT 100
ECO 101	ECO 102

Each high school decides which course (or courses) it will offer.

Who can apply?

Qualified students will be notified by the course instructor of the opportunity to participate in the NUSTEP program. Students should be in their senior year of high school, and be academically prepared for collegiate level coursework. Academically ready juniors will be considered. This decision is made by the guidance department in conjunction with the local high school instructors who will teach the NUSTEP course. These students should demonstrate a motivation to work hard and be challenged, as college courses will make greater demands overall on the student. (Note: Acceptance in a NUSTEP course is not a guarantee of admission to Niagara University as an undergraduate degree candidate).

Registration

A representative from Niagara University will visit your classroom at the beginning of the semester in which the class is being offered. The representative will explain the benefits of participating, and facilitate completing the registration form.

What if I don't do well in the course?

Your instructor will monitor your progress in the class, and if it appears that you will not be able to successfully complete the course, the instructor will assign a "W" to you, and you will be withdrawn from the course. You will not receive any monies back.

Tuition

NUSTEP courses are offered at a significantly reduced tuition rate. Tuition is based on the number of credits designated for your course. Most courses are either three or four credits. The cost of the course will be discussed during the representative's visit.

- The registration form and the tuition payment will be due on a specified date. The NU representative will discuss this date with you and your high school instructor.
- The registration form and payment should be turned in to your high school instructor by the specified date. Payments must accompany the registration form, or you will not be enrolled in the program.
- Registrations and payments will not be accepted past the due date.
- If a student is on a free or reduced lunch program, or if they receive standardized test fee waivers, you must notify your instructor. The instructor will then write a letter to that effect on high school letterhead and attach it to the student's registration form. Upon verification, tuition will be waived for that student.
- If the check you submit to the university for payment is returned for non sufficient funds from the bank, you will be contacted by the university. You must provide a new check to the university, and failure to do so will result in your account balance being sent to collection.

What if I decide not to attend Niagara University?

The course credit that you will receive upon successful completion of the course is transferable to other colleges and universities. It is at the discretion of the other school to accept the coursework for credit. You must complete a Transcript Request Form that is available from your high school instructor, or directly from the university. Contact the Records Office at 286-8731, or online at: www.niagara.edu/records. Completion of this form, along with the required payment must be sent to the Records Office at Niagara University. An official copy of your NU transcript will be issued and mailed to the designated school(s) you have requested it be sent to.

What if my college will not accept my Niagara University credits?

Many colleges and universities offer programs similar to NUSTEP and reciprocate in accepting credit from concurrent enrollment programs, however, it is not guaranteed. Even if they do not offer a similar program, most colleges accept these credits, upon receipt of an official university transcript. It is at the discretion of the other school to accept the credit or not, and placement of the credit if accepted, is also determined by the other school.

It is important that you have followed through with your intended college regarding your Niagara University credits. You must:

- insure that your NU transcript was received by your college (see above),
- talk with the appropriate official at your college and explain your participation in the program,
- provide the syllabus and/or course description (from the NU catalog) to your college if necessary, and

- Call the NU representative and request that he/she contact your college if you have difficulty with this process.

Some schools will not accept any college credits. You may be exempted from certain similar courses, or you may be allowed to take a higher level course as a result of your NUSTEP participation. It is entirely up to your college.

What High Schools Participate in NUSTEP?

- Brocton High School
- Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart
- Cheektowaga High School
- Clarence High School
- Dunkirk High School
- Eden Central School
- Ellicottville High School
- Grand Island High School
- Holland High School
- Jamestown High School
- John F. Kennedy High School
- Lakeshore Senior High School
- Lewiston-Porter High School
- Lockport High School
- Mount Mercy Academy
- Mount Saint Mary Academy
- Niagara Catholic High School
- Niagara Falls High School
- North Tonawanda High School
- Orchard Park High School
- Royalton-Hartland High School
- St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute
- Starpoint High School
- Sweet Home High School
- Tonawanda High School

Where can I get more information?

For more information, contact Christine Schwartz, Office of Continuing Education, Dunleavy Hall, Room 104, Niagara University, New York 14109; 716-286-8411, email: cds@niagara.edu.

NUSTEP Advantages

- **University Credit.** University credit is awarded for all courses successfully completed in this program. Students wishing to transfer NUSTEP credit to another college or university should check with that particular institution to ensure that it will be accepted.
- **Low Cost.** High school students currently pay \$60 per semester hour per course taken. That's \$180 for a three credit hour course, and \$240 for a four credit hour course.

STUDENT PRIVILEGES

All participating students are registered as part time Niagara University students. They receive the following student privileges:

- **Library (286-8000)**
Access to the Library's 200,000 books, 21,000 periodicals both in print and electronic format and a growing collection of recreational and educational DVD's.
- **Computer Lab (Information Technology) (286-8040)**
Access to the Internet and e-mail. Use of Pascal, Cobol, Basic, Fortran, Minitab and SPSS. Ability to connect with NU mainframe via home computer modem.
- **Kiernan Recreation Center (286-8055)**
Can purchase membership to the Kiernan Center for \$90 per semester or pay \$3 per visit. Students can also bring a guest to the facility. The guest will be required to pay a \$5 guest fee.
- **Theatrical Performances (286-8622)**
Can purchase tickets for all shows at a rate of \$7 per performance. (Non-student rates are \$7/\$10 per non-musical and \$7/12/15 per musical). Tickets may be purchased at www.niagara.edu/theatre and questions may be e-mailed to: theatre@niagara.edu. Student Rush for youth tickets (21 and under) are available ten minutes prior to curtain for complimentary seats.
- **Sporting Events (Athletics) (286-8622)**
All athletic contests are free, upon presentation of a valid student ID, including men's/women's basketball and hockey. Please check with Athletics for current non-student ticket prices.
- **Campus Activities (286-8510)**
All on campus events which are free such as: guest speakers, special performances and on-campus movies sponsored by the NU Campus Activities Office.
- **Castellani Art Museum (286-8200)**
Students are admitted during regular hours, free of charge, all special shows and/or exhibits included.

Note: Presentation of VALID NUSTEP ID card, and a form of photo ID is necessary when borrowing library materials, buying tickets or attending NU sponsored events. Yellow NUSTEP library slip is also needed (in addition to ID card) to borrow materials from the library.