Academic Challenge Level 4 Orientation

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGBh7yvVDqc

Mission

Students are at the center of everything we do.

We empower students to change their lives through comprehensive educational opportunities and holistic support services that promote equitable outcomes. We provide innovative, quality education that responds to workforce and community needs while cultivating a safe learning and working environment, leveraging partnerships, and strengthening Delaware's economy. We embrace the diversity of all individuals by nurturing an inclusive environment that prioritizes access and equity for student success.

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Level 4 Orientation Topics

This Week:
- Student Advisement Form & Meetings
- Curriculum & Registration for Fall 2026 Courses
- FERPA & SSN submission

Fall 2026:
- What to expect: Books, Transportation, Tutoring, Grades & Classroom Locations
- Advice for new college students

Senior Year & Beyond
- Course Credits & Transfer
- "Path to College" Webinar

https://www.academicchallengetheflyingcow.com/level-4-orientation

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Student Advisement

Access the AC Advisement Form located at the website and upload the completed form at the site by Monday, February 16, 2026, for advisement meetings that begin February 17th

- **Post Graduation Plans**:
  - College, Military Service, Employment:
    - School admission standards
      - **Google "Name of college" + Class Profile**
    - Tuition & Board
      - **Google "Name of College" + Admissions**
      - Look on site for "Tuition," "Tuition & Aid," "Cost & Finance," "Cost and Financial Aid"
    - Student Academic Profile
- **Financial Planning**:
  - SEED funding, Family savings, Grants, Federal Student Loans, Institutional Assistance
- **AC Course Selection for Level 4 & 5**: See Course Curriculum which has course descriptions on Web Page
- **Advisement meetings**: Tuesday, February 17 – March 31: students will be pulled from class

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Curriculum & Course Credits

Math

Level 4 (11th)		CR
Fall	MAT 281: Calculus I	4
Spring	MAT 282: Calculus II *or* MAT 251: Finite Math	4 3

Level 5 (12th)		CR
Fall	MAT 283: Calculus III *or* MAT 256: Statistics II	4 3
Spring	MAT 251: Finite Math *or* MAT 253 Discrete Math *or* PHY 281: Physics I with Calculus *or* ECO 122: Microeconomics *or* BIO 150: Biology	3 3 4 3

Total Possible Math Credits: 13-16

English

Level 4 (11th)		CR
Fall	ENG 124: Oral Communications	3
Spring	PLG 170: Intro to the Legal System* *or* POL 111: Political Science *or* SOC 213: Ethical Issues in Healthcare *or* PSY 127: Human Development *or* PSY 100: Interpersonal Communications & Relations	3 3 3 3 3

Level 5 (12th)		CR
Fall	ENG 122 Technical Writing & Communication	3
Spring	COM 150: Media & Society *or* COM 246: Introduction to Film *or* HIS 111: US History: Pre-Civil War *or* ECO 122: Microeconomics *or* CRJ 115: Community & Cultural Awareness *or* HMS 121: Intro to Human Services	3 4 3 3 3 3

Total Possible English Credits: 12-13

ENG 101 and 102

- Any student who is likely to attend Del Tech or UD may want to consider taking DTCC ENG 101 & 102 if it is offered at their home school through Dual Enrollment **during Senior year**

- Every degree program at Delaware Tech requires ENG 101 &102 during Freshman year. All students attending Del Tech in every program have an advantage by taking ENG 101 & 102 before enrolling full time.

- In Spring 2024, UD announced that DTCC ENG 101 and 102, taken through Delaware Tech as Dual Enrollment, will be accepted at UD; students who pass both courses will be provided an exemption from taking UD's English 110 course and granted 3 credits for an English department elective.
    - The 6-7 credits students earn for Level 5 AC English classes will transfer to UD but will not provide an exemption from taking UD's English 110.

- AC students could:
    - Enroll in the Dual Enrollment ENG 101 & 102 courses at the home school and continue with AC Level 5 English
    - Drop AC after Level 4 and enroll in Dual Enrollment ENG 101 & 102
    - Continue in AC without taking Dual Enrollment ENG 101 & 102

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Registration Fall 2026

All AC Registration for DTCC classes goes through the Academic Challenge Office.

Do not register or withdraw directly with the college

Registration will open immediately after this Orientation meeting

Go to: www.academicchallengetheflyingcow.com/level-4-orientation

Click the "Register for Fall 2026 Classes" button

Fill out the Registration Form

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Fall 2025 Del Tech AC Course Offerings

Math: MAT 281 - Calculus I

Course Code	Room	Time	Instructor
11205 - MAT 281 201	JTC 156	T 11:30 am – 1:50 pm R 3:00 pm – 5:20 pm	C. Corraliza
11211 – MAT 281 202	JTC 155	T 8:30 am – 10:50 am R 6:00 pm – 8:20 pm	C. Corraliza

English: ENG 124 - 221 Oral Communications

Course Code	Room	Time	Instructor
12001 – ENG 124 202	JTC 002	T 8:00 am– 10:50 am	N. Truitt
12002 – ENG 124 203	CPC 536	T 8:00 am– 10:50 am	J. Morley
12033 – ENG 124 204	CPC 536	T 11:30 am– 2:20 pm	J. Morley
13886 – ENG 124 207	CPC 556	R 8:30 am – 11:20 pm	E. Dolan

Classes run Tuesday 8/25/26 to Thursday 12/1/26

Scheduling for Math & English: Possible Combinations

If you have commitments right after school:

Math Class	
11211 – MAT 281 202	T 8:30 am – 10:50 am R 6:00 pm – 8:20 pm

English Class	
12033 – ENG 124 204	T 11:30 am– 2:20 pm

OR

If you have commitments in the evening:

Math Class	
11205 - MAT 281 201	T 11:30 am – 1:50 pm R 3:00 pm – 5:20 pm

English Class	
12001 – ENG 124 202	T 8:00 am– 10:50 am

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Registration

- You need your DTCC ID number to register, which can be found at the Student Information System page under "Student Profile"

- Registration is on a first come, first served basis

- **Register early to get the sections you want**

- If you need to change your registration, return to the form and select your new course choices

- Consult with your friends to arrange transportation

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Spring 2027 Registration

In October 2026, the AC Office will send an email with Registration information for Spring 2027 courses:

Math: Calc II *or* Finite Math

English: Intro to the Legal System *or* Human Development *or* Political Science *or* Ethical Issues in Healthcare *or* Interpersonal Communications & Relations

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FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) FORM

- FERPA protects the privacy of student education records

- This right to privacy means parents can have no communication with the College, unless their student signs a FERPA form

- In MyDTCC, go to the Student Information System page and under Student Forms, fill out the Release of Non-Directory Information (FERPA Form) naming your parent(s) or guardian(s) on the form

- DTCC instructors will not directly contact parents; Communication will be conducted through the AC coordinator

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Add your SSN to the DTCC system

- The college uses Parchment for transcripts which connects you to your transcript at Del Tech through your social security number; delays can occur when you order your transcript to send to your college at the end of Level 5 if Del Tech does not have your SSN

- The AC office is not allowed to collect SSNs when students register in 8th grade, so you have to voluntarily add it to the system

- While at the Student Information System page, go to the Change of Personal Data form and add your Social Security Number, submitting a photo of your number

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Books, Transportation & Tutoring

- For all Level 4 & 5 courses, Books are delivered to classroom on the first day and all books must be returned at the end of the semester except the Calculus textbook.

- At Level 4 & 5, students must arrange transportation to and from classes at DTCC. Coordinate with classmates! Help each other out!

- All AC students may use the DTCC Math Center and Writing Center for support with their DTCC college classes. Support is available both in-person in the Stephen J. Betze Library and at the Virtual Support Center. Ask your instructor or contact the AC office any time you need information about course support. The Del Tech team is committed to your success!
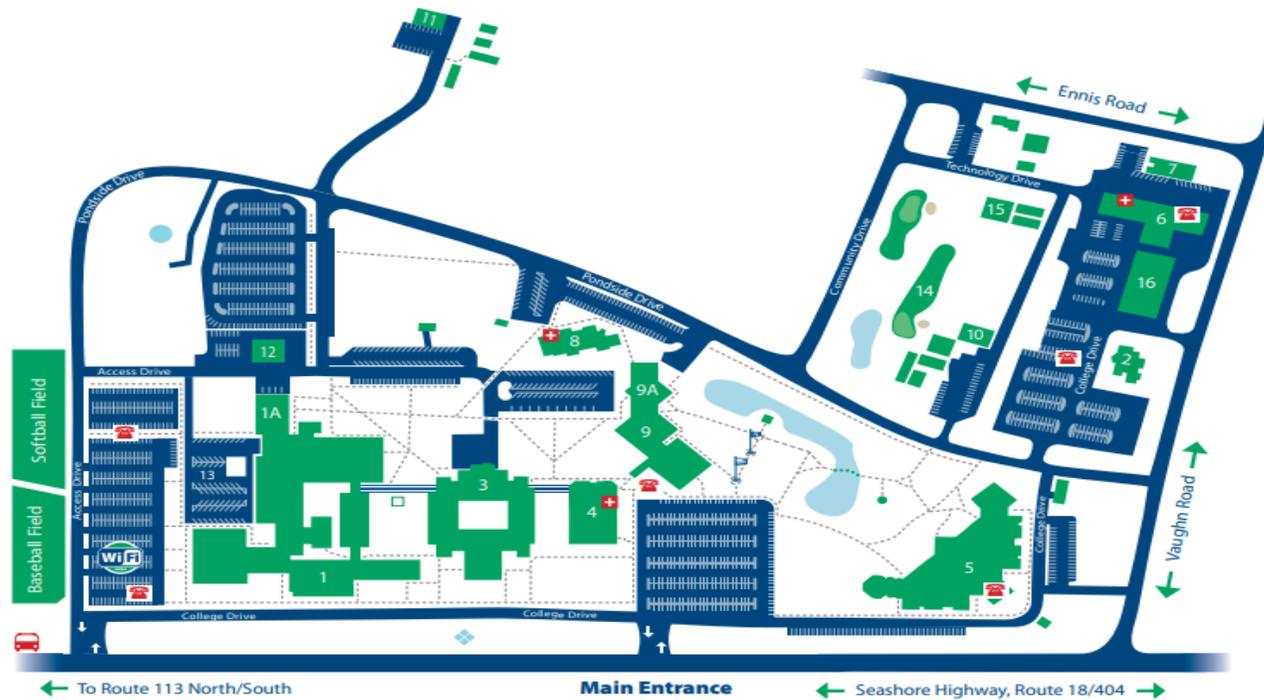
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Campus Map

LOCATION	KEY	ROOMS
Jason Technology Center	1	001-199
Campus Store	1A	
Energy House	2	200 Series
Arts & Science Center	3	300 Series
Stephen J. Betze Library	4	400 Series
Carter Partnership Center	5	500 Series
Trade & Industry Building	6	600 Series
Environmental Training Center	7	700 Series
Child Development Center	8	800 Series
Student Services Center	9	900 Series

LOCATION	KEY	ROOMS
Campus Dining	9A	
Agriculture Education Building	10	1100 Series
Production Agriculture Education Building	11	1700 Series
Facilities/Shipping & Receiving Building	12	
Employee Parking	13	
Turf Grass Lab	14	
Environmental Training Lab	15	
Automotive Center of Excellence	16	

SYMBOL KEY

Walkways
Covered Walk
Bridge

Public Safety Information
First Aid Kit
Dart Bus Stop
Parking Lot WiFi Area

← Ennis Road →

Technology Drive

Pondside Drive

Community Drive

College Drive

Vaughn Road

Access Drive

Softball Field

Baseball Field

College Drive

← To Route 113 North/South

Main Entrance

← Seashore Highway, Route 18/404 →

Mailing address: 21179 College Drive, Georgetown, DE 19947 · For driving directions visit: dtcc.edu/our-campuses/georgetown/directions

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Level 4 & 5 Grades

- No progress reports
    - a mid-term grade report is generated in D2L and sent to the student's DTCC email, but these are not sent to parents from the AC office
- Only semester grades are issued
- Numerical Grades are sent to counselors at home schools and appear on high school transcript
- Students can access grades on D2L for courses
- Students can access their full DTCC transcript in MyDTCC under the Student Information Tab any time

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Delaware Tech Grade Scales

DTCC Grade Scale	
90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
69 or below*	F

*Numerical grades are sent by the AC office to the Home Schools, so a grade between 60-69 translates as a "D" in school districts with the 10-point scale. On the DTCC transcript, a grade below 70 is recorded as an "F."

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Best Advice for College Success?

GO TO CLASS!!!

- You are getting <u>COLLEGE CREDIT </u>for your classes

- You must go to class . . . every time

- If you cannot attend class, please notify your instructor

- In case of delays or campus closures, you will receive alerts from DTCC at the phone numbers or email addresses that you have been getting alerts for the last several years. You can update this information in MYDTCC under the "Delaware Tech Alerts" tab. If classes are not canceled on a questionable weather day, **parents make the call on driving to Del Tech—<u>Safety First.</u>** Students will have an excused absence.

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If you decide to drop . . .

- Please contact me right away if you think you want to drop a course that you are enrolled in—DON'T JUST STOP GOING TO CLASS!!!!

- Fill out a Withdrawal form and submit it through your counselor at your home school, who will send it to the Academic Challenge office.

- The drop dates to withdraw so that the course does not appear on your DTCC transcript are Friday, September 4, for Fall 2026, and Friday, January 22, for Spring 2027

- If you withdraw after the withdrawal date up to three weeks before the end of the semester, you will receive a W on your transcript; a withdrawal within three weeks of the last day of class will appear as an F

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The Big Question:

Do all Colleges take Dual Enrollment Credit?

- Ivy League schools and some highly selective institutions do not take Dual Enrollment Credit—Google the name of the school + "dual enrollment" and/or "transfer" credit for school policies

- Colleges and Universities may limit the number of transfer credits based on many factors:

  - The major you plan to pursue

  - The system of credits that college uses

  - If there is a course equivalent in the school's catalog

  - Sometimes students test out of required courses, but the school does not grant transfer credit

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Graduates Surveyed

AC sent a survey to 170 email addresses of AC graduates from the classes of **2015, 2016, 2017 & 2018**.

93 students responded. Here's what they said:

- ❖ 5 students said they didn't attempt to get their credits transferred
- ❖ 5 said their ivy league school didn't accept transfer credit
- ❖ 83 students said their schools accepted their transfer credit. 30 of these students attend UD, so all credit transferred
- ❖ 38 of the remaining 53 students took AC English. Of those students:
    - ✓ 23 students reported 4/4 English courses transferred – 61%
    - ✓ 9 students reported 3/4 English courses transferred – 24%
    - ✓ 3 students reported 2/4 English courses transferred – 8%
    - ✓ 3 students reported 1/4 English courses transferred – 8%
- ❖ 36 of the remaining 53 students took AC Math. Of those students:
    - ✓ 22 students reported 4/4 Math courses transferred – 61%
    - ✓ 7 reported that 3/4 Math courses transferred – 19%
    - ✓ 3 reported that 2/4 Math courses transferred – 8%
    - ✓ 4 reported that ¼ Math courses transferred – 11%

AC sent a survey to 215 AC graduates from the classes of **2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022**.

89 students responded. Here's what they said:

- ❖ 8 students said they did not receive any transfer credit due to the school's policies
- ❖ 81 students said their schools accepted their transfer credit. 32 of these students attend DTCC or UD, so all credit transferred
- ❖ 38 of the remaining 49 students took AC English. Of those students:
    - ✓ 23 students reported 4/4 English courses transferred – 61%
    - ✓ 7 students reported 3/4 English courses transferred – 18%
    - ✓ 2 students reported 2/4 English courses transferred – 8%
    - ✓ 6 students reported 1/4 English courses transferred – 16%
- ❖ 27 of the remaining 49 students took AC Math. Of those students:
    - ✓ 17 students reported 4/4 Math courses transferred – 63%
    - ✓ 6 reported that 3/4 Math courses transferred – 22%
    - ✓ 2 reported that 2/4 Math courses transferred – 7%
    - ✓ 2 reported that 1/4 Math courses transferred – 7%

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If credits don't transfer are AC courses still helpful?

"Yes!! My AC classes prepared me for my courses, much more than I think AP courses at my home school would have. I was able to get out of the first two levels of calculus and go right into multivariable calculus, which I had taken with AC, so I had seen that subject before college which was super helpful...

Having experience with writing research papers has been huge in my humanities/writing courses! Additionally, the once-a-week meeting time and heavy workload helped me develop the time management skills that are currently helping me be successful in my classes. Overall, my preparation from Academic Challenge really helped me transition in my first semester."

--Student enrolled at Princeton

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AC Alumni Schools

Air Force Academy*
Arizona State University
Boston College*
Brown University*
Clemson University
Cleveland Institute of Art
College of William & Mary
Cornell University*
Davidson College
Delaware State University
Delaware Tech
DigiPen Institute of Technology
Drexel University*
Duquesne University
East Carolina University
Eastern University
Emory University
Frostburg State University
George Washington University
Georgia Institute of Technology

Harvard University*
Hollins University
Johns Hopkins University
Lehigh University
Liberty University
Louisiana State University
McDaniel College
Mercer University
Middlebury College*
Mount Aloysius College
Ohio University
Old Dominion University
Pace University
Penn State University
Princeton University*
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rowan University
Saint Joseph's University
Salisbury University
Sarah Lawrence College*

Southern New Hampshire University
St. John's College, Annapolis*
Stanford University*
Stevenson University
Susquehanna University
Swarthmore College*
Temple University
The Ohio State University
Tufts University
Tulane University
United States Air Force Academy*
University of Alabama
University of Arkansas
University of California Los Angeles
University of Florida
University of Lynchburg
University of Maryland
University of Maryland College Park
University of Miami
University of Mississippi

University of Pennsylvania*
University of Pittsburgh
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of South Carolina
University of South Florida
University of Southern California*
University of Tampa
University of Tennessee
University of Utah
University of Virginia
Villanova University
Virginia Tech
Washington College
Wesley College
West Virginia University
Wilmington University

*Schools that do not take transfer credit

Why stick it out?

- Taking a college course on a college campus with a college instructor is the best preparation for college

- Rigor of AC course load distinguishes the student transcript from other top students in the competitive admissions process

- Transferability of credits can provide many advantages:
  - Early graduation
  - Lighter course load throughout 4 years of college
  - Allows room in schedule to pursue minors
  - Early registration for classes or housing

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"Path to College" Presentation

- AC & Sussex Tech 2016 and University of Pennsylvania 2020 graduate Zack Varrato delivered a webinar on how to approach the college search to AC students in September 2020, and again in September 2022

- His presentation gives step-by-step directions on how to
  - Keep track of your high school activities and accomplishments and create a resume
  - Approach test taking
  - Search for colleges that fit your academic goals, personal interests, and family finances
  - Live a balanced life in high school

- I recommend taking time to look at this presentation linked at the Level 4 Orientation page

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TO-DO LIST:

1. **Fill out your Advisement Form** and submit by 2/16

2. Go to the Student Information System page (at your Student Resources Page in MyDTCC) and **fill out the Release of Non-Directory Information (FERPA Form)** naming your parent(s) or guardian(s) on the form

3. While at the Student Information System page, go to the Change of Personal Data form and **add your Social Security Number**, submitting a photo of your number

4. Also at the Student Information System page, retrieve your DTCC ID number on the Student Profile page to **Register for Fall 2026 courses**. The Registration link will go live at the end of this meeting. Refresh the Orientation page to get the live link.

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QUESTIONS?