



**Waterloo Catholic  
District School Board**  
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

**UCEP**

University Cooperative Education Program

# Learning Goals

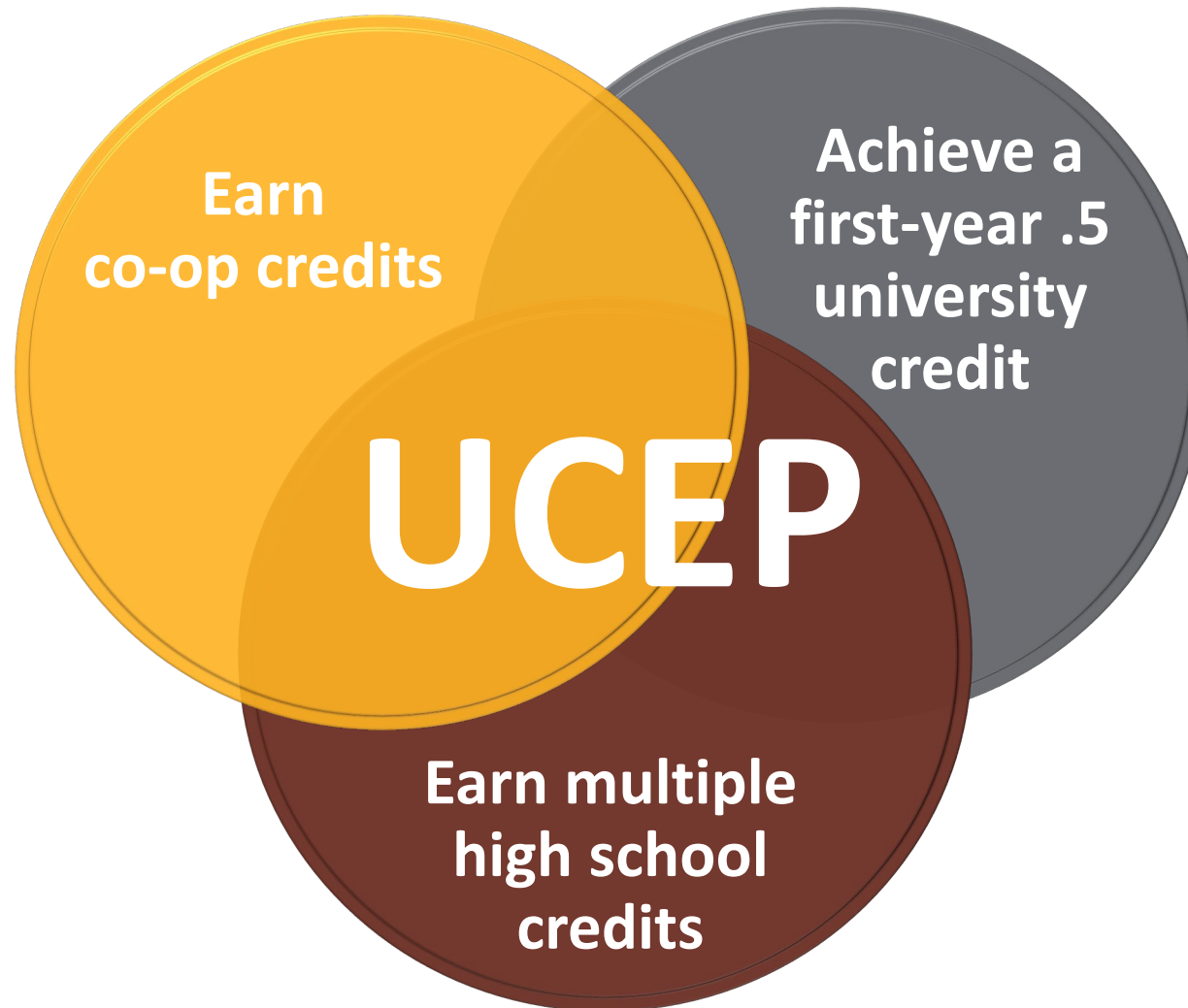
Students can ...

- Define UCEP and identify the three components that are a part of the program
- Recognize the academic traits and learning skills required for including UCEP as part of their Pathway Plan
- Initiate a Pathway Plan Update in consultation with their guidance counselor to select the courses that best allow them to achieve their own goals

# What is UCEP?

- UCEP is a specialized co-op program for Grade 12, or 5<sup>th</sup> year students with an 80% + average whose well-established post-secondary Pathway Plan includes university

# UCEP Components



# UCEP Students must be:





- Independent
- Organized
- Motivated
- Conscientious



# UCEP Facts:

- Students spend all day during their 1<sup>st</sup> semester on the university campus
- Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the university on a daily basis \*\*\*
- The schedule of a UCEP student is anything but traditional and therefore time management and self discipline are essential for entry and on-going success

# At UCEP, Students Develop:

- Self Regulation  • On campus all day
- Initiative  • Responsible for transportation
- Independence  • University course / Co-op tasks
- Responsibility  • Manage a unique schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30	PSYCH 101 8:30 – 9:20	ENGLISH 8:30 – 9:50 SJ2 2007	PSYCH 101 8:30 – 9:20	ENGLISH 8:30 – 9:50 SJ2 2007	PSYCH 101 8:30 – 9:20
9:00					
9:30	RELIGION 9:30 – 10:50 SJ1 3013		RELIGION 9:30 – 10:50 SJ1 3013		ENGLISH 9:30 – 10:20 SJ2 2007
10:00					
10:30		PSYCH & ECON 10:00 – 11:20		PSYCH & ECON 10:00 – 11:20	
11:00	CO-OP IN-CLASS 11:00 – 11:50 SJ1 3014				
11:30					
			CO-OP PLACEMENT		CO-OP PLACEMENT
12:00	CO-OP PLACEMENT	CO-OP PLACEMENT		CO-OP PLACEMENT	
12:30					
1:00					
1:30					
2:00					
2:30					
3:00					



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30	ENGLISH 8:30 – 9:50	PSYCH 101 8:30 – 9:50	ENGLISH 8:30 – 9:50	PSYCH 101 8:30 – 9:50	
9:00					
9:30					
10:00	CO-OP CLASS (all UCEP students)				
10:30		CO-OP PLACEMENT	CO-OP PLACEMENT	CO-OP PLACEMENT	CO-OP PLACEMENT
11:00					
11:30	CO-OP PLACEMENT				
12:00					
12:30					
1:00					
1:30	MCV4U (Calculus) 1:30 – 2:20		MCV4U (Calculus) 1:30 – 2:20	MCV4U (Calculus) 1:30 – 2:50	MCV4U (Calculus) 1:30 – 2:20
2:00					
2:30					
3:00					

# Ask Yourself ...



Am I ready to begin planning for the *Transition* from a high school learning environment to a university learning environment?



Am I *Reliable, Responsible* and looking to take advantage of *New Learning Opportunities*?



Am I ready to continue increasing my *Independence* in my school studies?

# UCEP is a Partnership between:



**Waterloo Catholic  
District School Board**  
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

**ST. JEROME'S  
UNIVERSITY**



**UNIVERSITY OF  
WATERLOO**



# Co-op Component

- Student driven
  - In an area of study requested by the student
- Experiential learning
  - Work alongside faculty and graduate students
- Build a skill set
  - Develop “real” world transferable skills



# University Course

- Registered as a part-time university student
- Responsible for paying tuition costs for the course
- Regular first-year university course
  - Not a transition course designed for high school students
  - All instruction and evaluation will be completed by university staff, not high school staff



# University Course Offerings:

UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**



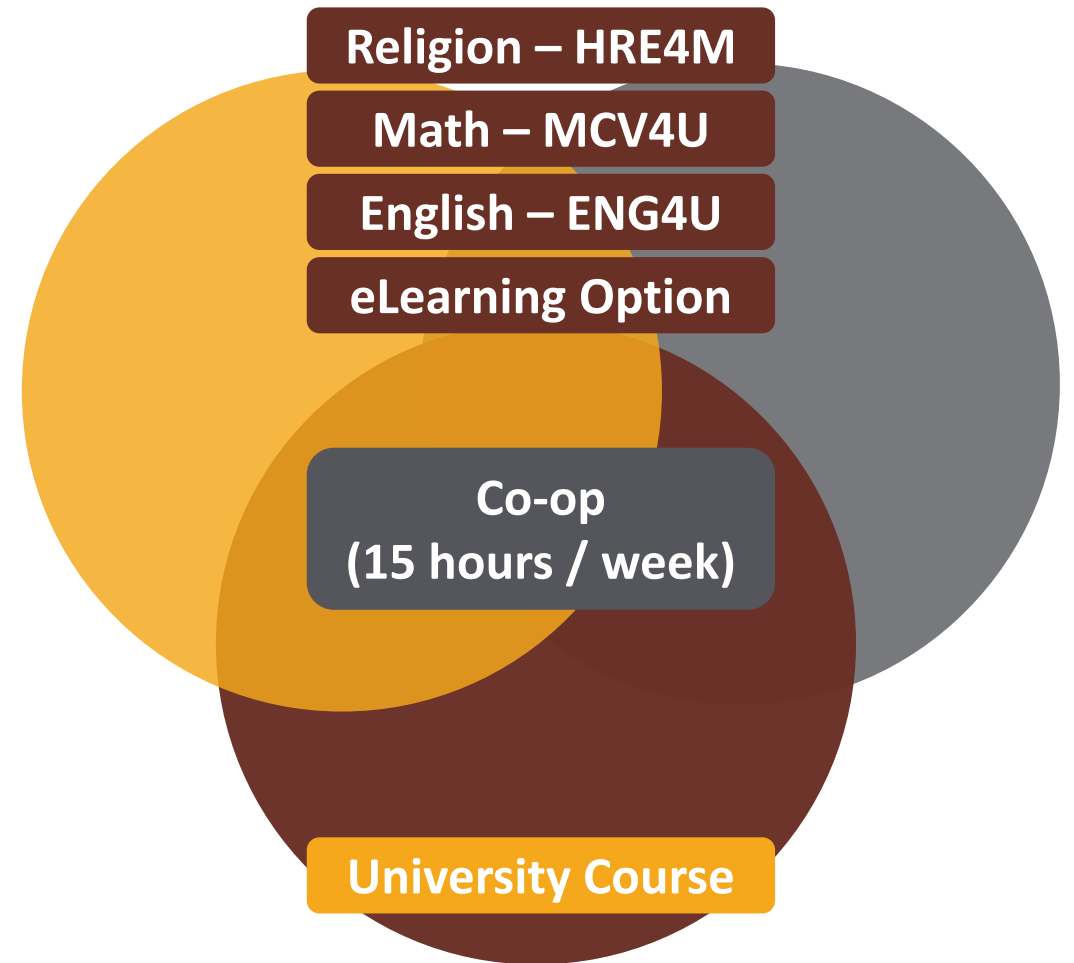
**Psychology – PSYCH 101**



**Microeconomics – ECON 101**

# While in UCEP, students will ...

- Take either one or two Grade 12 (academic) courses. Courses offered are based on student enrolment.
- Participate in a co-op placement and earn two co-op credits.
  - Co-op credits cannot be used for university application and therefore are not considered part of your six “U” or “M” level courses.
- Take a first year university course.



# How UCEP Benefits Students

Some of the most common areas of growth (as acknowledged by the students):

- Grit / Perseverance
- Increased confidence
- Improved time management



# High School

vs

# University

Your time is  
structured by  
your parents  
and teachers

You manage  
your own  
time



## High School

vs

## University

Your parents and teachers will remind you of your responsibilities and help you manage them

You must balance your responsibilities and **set your own priorities**



# Good News!

UCEP is an opportunity to achieve the Cooperative Education component to link to your Specialist High Skills Major



# There are many different ways to plan for UCEP

Speak with your Guidance Counsellor to develop a plan that allows you the most opportunity for success combined with appropriate courses is highly recommended and important pathway planning.





UCEP is the perfect **transition** program to help you complete the requirements for graduation and simultaneously provide you with a university experience.



# How to Plan Your Courses for UCEP

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In order to apply to university, you need to have graduated from high school with 30 credits.

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Six of these must be “U” or “M” level grade 12 courses.

During their 4<sup>th</sup> year of high school, many students elect to take 3 courses during their first semester and 3 courses during their second semester – thereby creating space in each semester for other options.

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 2
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course

The difficulty with this path is that you must then take four Grade 12 U or M courses second semester.

Taking four Grade 12 U or M courses during semester two is possible, but could present a heavy workload for many students.

If you participate in UCEP during your 4<sup>th</sup> year of high school, your plan might look something like this.

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Co-op (15 hours / week)
University Course

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 2
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course



# Preferred Pathway Plan for students interested in UCEP

3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Semester 2	4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1	4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 2
Grade 11 U or M Level course	Grade 12 U or M Level course	Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 11 U or M Level course	Grade 12 U or M Level course	Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 11 U or M Level course	Co-op (15 hours / week)	Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course	University Course	Option Spare or Course

Advanced Functions (MHF4U) for STEM students OR  
Social Science/Business course for Art-based students

## Some students choose to take UCEP in a 5<sup>th</sup> year

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1	4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 2	5 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1
		Grade 12 U or M Level course
		Co-op (15 hours / week)
		University Course

5<sup>th</sup> year UCEP participants will often only take one grade 12 U or M course

# Interested in applying to UCEP?

- Maintain a consistent and minimum academic average at least in the 80's.
- Meet with your guidance counsellor to begin an effective pathway plan (i.e. course selection over the next two school years).

# How to Apply to UCEP (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> year)

- Students applying to UCEP must have an average in the mid 80's
- Select "UCEP" in myBlueprint
- When applying to UCEP students must also submit:
  - Cooperative Education Application Form
  - Two Student Readiness Forms  
(forms are available in your Guidance Department)
- Speak with your Guidance Counsellor to discuss course selection and pathway planning

# UCEP Timelines

**February** – applicants select UCEP during their course selection in myBlueprint.

**April** – Candidates are interviewed by UCEP teachers for entry into UCEP.

**May** – Candidates are informed of acceptance by the Board, invited for a campus information session, and apply for their potential University course.

**Mid-August** – UCEP students will receive their University acceptance & university schedule. University course fees and due date will be made available. Students will also receive a mailing/email from the Board Office for program start-up. Students must register at their home school as per usual.

**September** – UCEP commences at St. Jerome's University campus. High school courses start 1<sup>st</sup> week, while university course typically begins the 2<sup>nd</sup> week. Co-op placement by the last week of September.

Speak with your  
Guidance Counsellor  
to create the right  
Pathway Plan for you!

or visit:

<https://el.wcdsb.ca/programs/ucep/>





A word cloud shaped like the letters 'UCEP' in a dark brown serif font. The letters are filled with various words in different sizes and colors (brown, orange, and grey). The words include:

- Top:** St. Jerome's University, Organized, Conscientious, Responsibility, Religion, Wilfrid Laurier, Math, UCEP, PSYCH 101, ECON 101, Math, Wilfrid Laurier, Cooperative Education, Independence, Self Regulation.
- Left:** Pathway, English, Motivated, Responsibility, Conscientious, Grade 12, English, Grade 12, PSYCH 101, University, Math, Independence, Co-op, Motivated, Co-op, Pathway, Conscientious, Motivated, Self Regulation, ECON 101, St. Jerome's University, Wilfrid Laurier, Religion.
- Center:** Initiative, University, UCEP, PSYCH 101, Co-op, University, English, Pathway, Conscientious, Self Regulation, Grade 12, University, Of, Waterloo, Initiative, Co-op, Organized, Grade 12, Organized, Pathway, Religion, English, Initiative, University, Conscientious.
- Right:** Pathway, UCEP, Co-op, Motivated, Pathway, Wilfrid Laurier, University Of Waterloo, Self Regulation, St. Jerome's University, Independence, Pathway, Religion, English, Initiative, University, Conscientious.





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