

# UConn Early College Experience



University of Connecticut  
Early College Experience

“UConn Early College Experience is an opportunity for our instructors and students to enrich their learning through the unique connection they have with the UConn academic community.”

Matthew Dunbar  
*Principal, Glastonbury High School*





# Motivated Students

“UConn ECE gives you an idea of what college work is going to be like and you can realize that it’s not so scary.”

Jaimie Cordier  
*UConn ECE Student,  
RHAM High School*

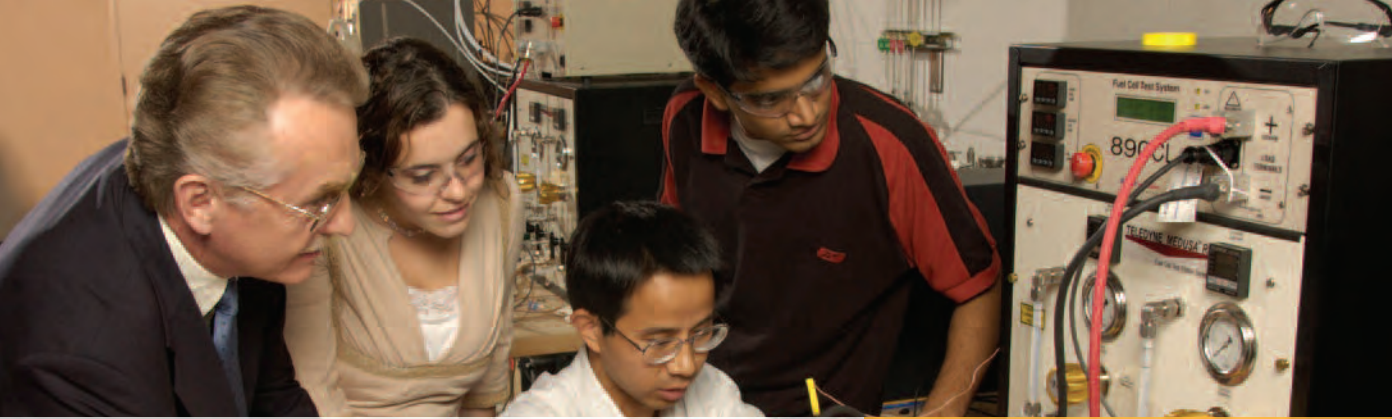
**U**Conn Early College Experience (ECE) is a concurrent enrollment program that allows motivated high school students to take UConn courses at their high schools. Every course taken through UConn ECE is equivalent to the same course at the University of Connecticut. Students benefit by taking college courses in a warm setting that is both familiar and conducive to learning.

UConn ECE students have an official University transcript that can be sent to the college of their choice. Many colleges and universities across the country accept UConn credit. UConn ECE is nationally accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships ([www.nacep.org](http://www.nacep.org)).

Earning college credit while in high school offers attractive options for the college years. Students gain additional flexibility to consider internships, studying abroad, community service and double-majors. Some students may even have the opportunity to graduate from college in three years, depending on the number of UConn ECE credits earned while in high school.

## University Access

**H**aving access to a Research One University gives UConn ECE students an academic edge over other college credit-bearing programs. UConn ECE students are encouraged to utilize their campus benefits. Highlighted benefits include lending privileges at all University of Connecticut libraries, access to thousands of online academic journals, and admission to virtual classrooms that are exclusively for University of Connecticut students. Discipline-specific events and activities are held on UConn campuses throughout the year for UConn ECE students.



# Dedicated Instructors

“The annual ECE physics workshop is generally the most meaningful meeting I attend each year.”

Ernest Fontaine  
*UConn ECE Physics Instructor,  
Tolland High School*

**H**igh school instructors who have been certified through the University of Connecticut teach UConn ECE courses. Becoming a certified instructor for UConn Early College Experience is a significant professional achievement. UConn ECE instructors reflect the credibility of UConn ECE, and represent a high level of professional trust and respect. The opportunities that UConn ECE instructors provide to their students will make a difference in their students' success in college and may even help some students decide that college can indeed be their goal.

UConn ECE instructors are considered University of Connecticut adjunct faculty and receive similar academic privileges. Certified instructors have a University identification card that allows them lending privileges at all University libraries and the ability to utilize many services on campus. Virtual classrooms and online resources are available to all UConn ECE instructors.

## Unique Collegial Network

**F**aculty coordinators are UConn professors who manage UConn ECE course specifications within their appropriate discipline. UConn ECE instructors and faculty coordinators are a community of educators dedicated to providing a rigorous college curriculum to motivated high school students. Faculty coordinators often visit UConn ECE courses in session and UConn ECE instructors attend annual events on campus that aid in course delivery. Discipline-specific professional development events are held regularly for UConn ECE instructors to share knowledge, strategies, and techniques. Professional development opportunities also assure course comparability between the high school and University. Certified instructors gain Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for attendance at UConn ECE-sponsored professional development events.



# Involved Parents

“This program helps students to continue to raise their standards and their demands of themselves.”

Kay Garkusha  
*Parent of Alexis Garkusha,  
Academy of Information Technology  
& Engineering*

## Economic Benefits

**S**tudents participate in UConn ECE for a small fraction of the cost of taking the identical course on a UConn campus. It is not uncommon for a student to graduate from high school with over a semester’s worth of college credits through UConn ECE. This results in substantial long-term tuition savings for students and parents. The money saved by taking courses through UConn ECE may even play a factor in what institution a student ultimately decides to attend.

## College Bound

**S**tudents who participate in UConn ECE can transition from high school to college knowing that they can successfully take college courses. UConn ECE students graduate from high school feeling comfortable with a college syllabus and ready for the next phase in their educational journey. Parents gain peace of mind knowing that, based on proven performance, their son or daughter is truly prepared for college.

## At a Glance

**Program Founded:** 1955

**Course Offerings:** Over 50 courses in more than 20 disciplines

**Annual Number of UConn ECE Students:** Approximately 5,000

**Number of Certified UConn ECE Instructors:** Approximately 600

**Number of Participating High Schools:** Approximately 130

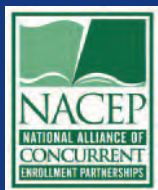


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**“Being a UConn ECE instructor provides my students and me with a wonderful opportunity to participate in a program of the highest educational quality and purpose.”**

**Matthew Magda**

*UConn ECE History Instructor, Wilby High School*



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