



Ovilla Christian School Partners to Provide Associate Degree for Local Students

Ovilla, TX -- Setting another milestone in its 25th anniversary year, Ovilla Christian School is partnering with LeTourneau University to provide additional dual credit classes for students in the fall of 2017. The dual enrollment program allows high school students to earn college credit in conjunction with their high school coursework with the option of earning an Associate degree from LeTourneau.

"Beginning their sophomore year, our students will have an opportunity for dual enrollment classes with LeTourneau, allowing them to get a head start on their college education," OCS Headmaster Ron Clyde said. "We are proud to offer this accelerated academic experience in an atmosphere that will help high school students prepare for the rigors of college work while surrounded by the support of our faculty."

LeTourneau University is internationally recognized as a full 4-year and postgraduate higher education community with a Christian worldview and commitment to excellence in education.

"LeTourneau University is pleased to partner with Ovilla Christian School to provide their students with dual-credit opportunities that will not only save ambitious students time and money, but will also provide scholarship incentives that can ease the transition into college and them reach their career goals faster," said LETU President Dr. Dale A. Lunsford. "This partnership eventually will enable OCS students to earn enough college credits for an associate's degree while they are earning their high school diploma. We know Ovilla students value Christian education and so we have created a specific scholarship to attend LeTourneau University after they graduate high school."

As a college preparatory school, OCS has offered dual credit programming in the past. The LeTourneau partnership significantly increases the number of college credits students will be able to earn before high school graduation.

"Dual credit classes range across English, history, math, and science, humanities, and Biblical studies, offering our students as many as 63 college credit hours by the time they graduate," OCS Dean of Academics Penny Hayes said. "Not only will this program help appropriately challenge academically advanced students, but it allows parents and our faculty to be part of the process in a student's transition from high school to college-level coursework."

Another benefit is that costs associated with dual credit classes are much lower than resident college and university costs.

"Parents can expect significant savings when their child earns college credit through this program before they head off to university," Clyde said. "Ultimately this might mean savings to parents in total college expenses of between \$20,000 and \$120,000 over a two-year period."

LeTourneau's vision of developing Christ-like graduates made the university most appealing to OCS leaders, whose mission is to develop servant leaders who love God and love people.

"The university's commitment to Christian higher education aligns perfectly with our goals here at OCS," Clyde said. "We are honored to further local students' ability to learn in a Godly environment as they integrate their faith with their goals for the future."

Ovilla Christian School is a K4-12th grade college-preparatory school serving more than 300 students from its facilities in Ovilla, Texas. Partnering with families who seek a Christian environment and rigorous academics, OCS is an education ministry of Ovilla Road Baptist Church. Learn more about its academics, athletics and extracurricular opportunities at www.ovillachristian.org, or call 972-617-1177 to schedule a personal tour.

LeTourneau University is the premier Christian polytechnic university in the nation where educators engage students to nurture Christian virtue, develop competency and ingenuity in their professional fields, integrate faith and work, and serve the local and global community. LETU offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs across a range of disciplines and delivery models at LETU's residential campus in Longview, Texas, and in hybrid and fully online options at centers in Dallas and Houston.