



College Prep with ACT

Course Summary:

This course will help the student navigate through the Shmoop ACT Exam Prep Web site, access two full ACT® practice tests, and learn the necessary skills in order to take the ACT test. This course also includes several lessons on other critical aspects of preparing for college, including developing a college resume, writing effective personal essays, and requesting letters of recommendation.

This course is intended to prepare the student to take the ACT test. As the student works through the course, he will focus on learning more about his strengths and weaknesses as well as learn test-taking strategies that are specific to the ACT test. That way, when the student takes the actual test, the scores will be a good representation of the student's abilities.

Finally, the student will submit a College Planning Portfolio, which will reflect the areas for improvement that the student has identified throughout this course.

Course Outline

1. College Prep with ACT

1. Preparing for College: Follow Your Dreams
 - Begin to document your strengths, interests, talents, and goals
 - Begin researching colleges and universities
2. Introduction to the ACT & Diagnostic Testing
 - Take diagnostic tests to assess current abilities
 - Research ACT test registration information
3. Preparing for College: Official Transcripts
 - Examine the features of transcripts and fully understand what they mean
 - Relate transcript information to the college admissions process
 - Review academic coursework to determine college readiness
4. College Readiness Standards
 - Document and analyze current areas of academic strength and weakness
5. ACT Practice Test: English
 - Take practice test to assess current English knowledge and abilities
 - Review ways to improve English content knowledge and abilities
6. Preparing for College: Resumes & Recommendations
 - Learn how to craft a résumé
 - Draft and revise your résumé
 - Begin documenting your achievements in résumé form
 - Learn how to obtain appropriate letters of recommendation
7. ACT Practice Test: Math
 - Review practice test questions and answers to develop content knowledge and abilities

- Review ways to improve mathematics skills
- 8. ACT Practice Test: Reading
 - Review reading content areas and test-taking strategies
 - Analyze areas of academic strength and weakness
- 9. ACT Practice Test: Writing
 - Take practice test to assess current writing abilities
 - Review ways to improve writing abilities
- 10. ACT Practice Test: Science
 - Take practice test to assess current science knowledge and abilities
 - Review ways to improve science content and knowledge
- 11. Preparing for College: The Application Essay
 - Become familiar with the essential components of the college application essay
- 12. Take the Online Timed ACT Practice Test
 - Practice taking the ACT test under timed conditions
 - Review and analyze test results
 - Develop strategies for improving test scores
- 13. Preparing for College: Face-to-Face Interviews
 - Learn about and practice interview techniques and strategies
 - Understand what a good "fit" for college means to you
- 14. Preparing for College: Financial Aid
 - Become familiar with financial aid terminology and process
 - Start to research financial aid options
- 15. Create Your College Planning Portfolio
 - Create a College Planning Portfolio to fully prepare for taking the ACT