How do we Define an Outside Course?

Courses are given the designation of “outside course” when the course is taken at another institution, online or traditional, public or private.

What Outside Courses are Accepted as Part of the Diploma Program?

We allow outside courses to count toward elective credits or to be counted if we don’t offer the course ourselves (for example, Arabic or Mandarin Chinese for Modern Foreign Language credits) and if the institution is approved by VPSA. VPSA pre-approved institutions are Stanford Online and accredited community colleges. Online K-12 learning institutions such as Logos Online, Potter School and Wilson Hill are not approved. Also, we do not allow Outside Courses taken at other educational institutions to replace our core requirements or electives that we offer.

Why Do We Not Allow Outside Courses to Replace our Core Requirements?

The Veritas Press Scholars Academy Program is designed to assist parents in providing a Christian, Classical education for their children. VPSA courses are carefully selected and developed to meet our high standards, which include: presentation using classical pedagogical methods, following the curricular levels of the Trivium, and maintaining a Biblical worldview. The VPSA Diploma signifies our seal of approval of all content, methods, and credits used to count towards that Diploma. Therefore, to receive a VPSA Diploma, courses must meet our standards.

What is the Approval Process?

Outside courses need approval using the Outside Course Approval Form found on the Diploma Program Home Page. Once an outside course is approved, only a grade report or progress report from the institution is required to be submitted by the parent. Outside courses do not need to follow the Coursework Submission Guide. Instead the grade report for first and second semesters is uploaded by the parent to the Diploma Program website. See the Diploma Program Calendar in the appropriate year for exact submission due dates. Science courses taken at a public institution have an additional end of year submission. Students must write a two page paper that articulates the Christian worldview of the material covered in the class.

Will the Grade from the Outside Course be Part of the Transcript?

Courses from an accredited institution taken during 9th through 12th grades will have a grade listed on our transcript rather than pass or fail. The grade will not be factored into the VPSA GPA. At the end of the course, the parent must request the institution to mail us an official transcript with the grade.