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Contact: Connie Morris Fox
Dean of Extended Learning
Connie.fox@bridgevalley.edu
304.734.6635

BridgeValley Offers Courses Allowing Area High School Students to Get a Head Start on College

Montgomery, W.Va. – For the past few years, hundreds of area high school students interested in getting a head start on their college education have been able to enroll in college courses offered by BridgeValley Community and Technical College. Students take these courses either at their local high school or vocational center, and the courses are taught by the adjuncts from BridgeValley. These courses, which have been reviewed and approved by appropriate BridgeValley faculty, mirror those offered at the BridgeValley campus for both content and outcomes. BridgeValley is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

High school students take the courses at a discounted rate, which is typically less than 1/3 the normal price and in some cases they are totally free! Upon passing the course, the student will receive BridgeValley credits for the courses taken and can use these credits in a BridgeValley program or as transfer college credits. Many high school students eventually come to BridgeValley to pursue their Associate's degrees. In this way, both the students and BridgeValley benefit from the early admission program.

Courses offered include English 101/102, Sociology, Psychology, Life-Span Psychology, College Algebra, First-Year Experience, Spanish, French and American Sign Language (4 semesters). The participating schools have included all career-technical centers and many high schools in BridgeValley's service region, as well as private schools and home-schooled students.

Since it started, the program has grown significantly in the range of courses offered and the number of participating schools—and it has grown over 1,000 percent in the number of students enrolled.

For more information about the taking classes or programs at BridgeValley in general, contact Connie Morris Fox, Dean of Extended Learning, at 304.734.6635 or email her at connie.fox@bridgevalley.edu.

BridgeValley Community and Technical College was founded on March 20, 2014 and serves a six-county region including Fayette, Raleigh, Nicholas, Clay, Putnam and Kanawha counties. The college operates two campuses in Montgomery and South Charleston, along with the addition of the new Advanced Technology Center. BridgeValley awards one-year certificates and two-year associate degrees in many fields including civil, mechanical and electrical engineering technology, business and health management, nursing, dental hygiene, business technology, medical assisting, diesel technology, computer information technology, and welding.