



# Counseling Early College Students

---

Brittany Hartl, Mount Mary University  
Kate Virgo, Beloit College



# Mount Mary University

---

## Youth Options

- High school juniors and seniors can take MMU courses and earn dual credit; paid for by school district
- Max 18 credits throughout junior and senior years (limit per semester varies by school district)
- Scholarship awarded to participants who then attend MMU for undergrad
- Most popular courses include fashion, interior design, sociology, and American Sign Language

# Beloit College

---

## Porter Scholar Program

- Students who are in top 10% of graduating class at partner high schools can apply to take one class each term, tuition-free
- Students pay for books, travel
- About 60-80 students admitted, about 25-35 take a class each semester
- In existence since 1958
- Porter Scholars who matriculate can get an additional scholarship
- Host orientation every fall, invite Youth Options students as well

# Benefits to Students

---

- Dual credit
- Satisfy core requirements earlier
- Experiencing college-level academics first-hand
- Not as test-focused as AP
- Explore possible major interests
- Paid for by school district
- Take classes your high school doesn't offer

# Benefits to the colleges

---

- Serve the students in your local community
- Work closely with high school counselors
- Expose students to your campus early
- Fill classes that may be under-enrolled
- Students are a positive addition to class
- Professional development for admissions staff to learn curriculum and advising

# What we wish someone had told us...

---

**What's involved in recruiting for this, and how do you recruit the students you want to keep as degree-seeking students**

# What we wish someone had told us...

---

**Students will try to take anything and everything, and you need to know your curriculum well.**

# What we wish someone had told us...

---

**You will be planning orientation and there are a lot of things  
you need to prepare students for**

# What we wish someone had told us...

---

**You need to comply with state requirements for Youth Options, as well as your own institution's policies**

# How can high school counselors help?

## Encourage students to consider:

---

- Does the student have room in his/her schedule?
- Is the student ready for a college-style environment?
- Is the student able to get to the college?
- Is the student someone who has to miss class often for athletics or other commitments?
- Does the student understand what a prerequisite is?
- Is the student ready to not be the smartest person in the room?
- Does the student understand that some courses may be limited by enrollment or term?
- Is the student a self-advocate in regard to disability services?



Questions?

Ideas to Share?