

## **DSST Program**

### **DANTES Subject Standardized Tests**

**DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST), formerly known as DANTES Standardized Tests, can be encoded in DARS, and students can include DSST exams in u.select > My Courses. In the examples below, the Examination score will be entered as the credit for the course. In the articulation rules, the LimHrs field will be used to test for a minimum score.**

The DSST Program is a credit-by-examination program owned by The Chauncey Group and currently used by DANTES (Defense Activity of Non-Traditional Education Support) and colleges and universities. The DSST Program comprises thirty-seven titles covering knowledge and skills commonly acquired through one-semester or one-year courses at a post-secondary institution. All examinations carry ACE credit recommendations.

American Council on Education credit recommendations for DSST examinations are at:

[http://www.acenet.edu/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Search&section=Guide\\_PDFs&template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentFileID=1401](http://www.acenet.edu/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Search&section=Guide_PDFs&template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentFileID=1401)

The list of current DSST examinations is found at:

[http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/DSST\\_list.pdf](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/DSST_list.pdf) .

Note: Request a DARS Catalog for DSST at  
[http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/Standardized\\_Exams.pdf](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/Standardized_Exams.pdf)

Encoding occurs in

- Source Institutional Reference Table
- Target Institutional Reference Table
- Source Transfer Articulation Table

#### **Source Institutional Reference Table**

Establish the Source ID for DSST on the Institutional Reference Table. The SourceID is < **DSST** > (this is not FICE defined but must be < **DSST** > to show in CAS). On the General tab, the Report InstID is a unique identifier, and the SPEEDE InstIDQ is set to < **ZZ** > (Other). Status is set to “Normal Processing” to display in u.select.

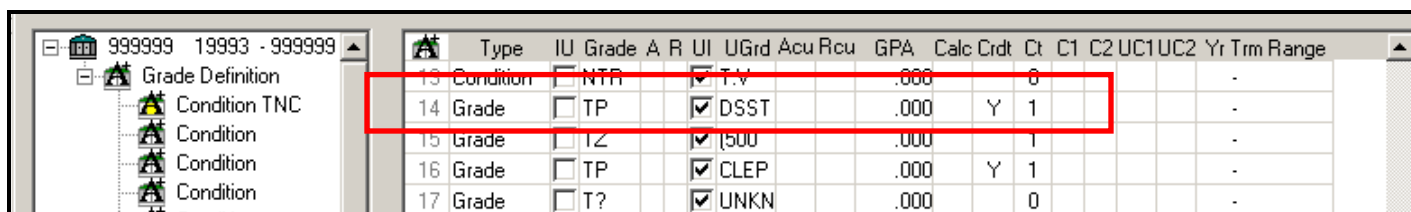
Course tab values: Mask is < **AAAA99** >, Department Begin < **1** >, Department End < **4** >, Course Begin < **5** >, Course End < **6** >. Set the BACC value to < **D** > DANTES Program, and ACTC set to < **S** > Semester.

On the Source Grade Definition table, the Institution-to-Universal grade of an asterisk (any grade) < **\*** > is translated to the Universal Grade (UGrade) of < **DSST** >.

Type	IU Grade	A	R	UI	UGrd	Acu	Rcu	GPA	Calc	Crdt	Ct	C1	C2	UC1	UC2	Yr	Trm	Range
1 Grade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *				DSST			.000	N	Y	X							
2 Grade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> #				(513)			.000	N	N	0							

## Target Institutional Reference Table

In the example below, the Universal Grade of < **DSST** > is defined on the Target institutional reference table. The Universal Grade of < **DSST** > is ( √ ) checked in the U-to-I direction. The Universal Grade of < **DSST** > becomes < **TP** >. To process non-successful DSST scores, add a user-defined course condition (T:COND) assigned in Transfer Articulation. In the example, the condition we have used < **T:V** >, with the non-successful grade of < **NTR** >, with no credits, no count, and no GPA affect.



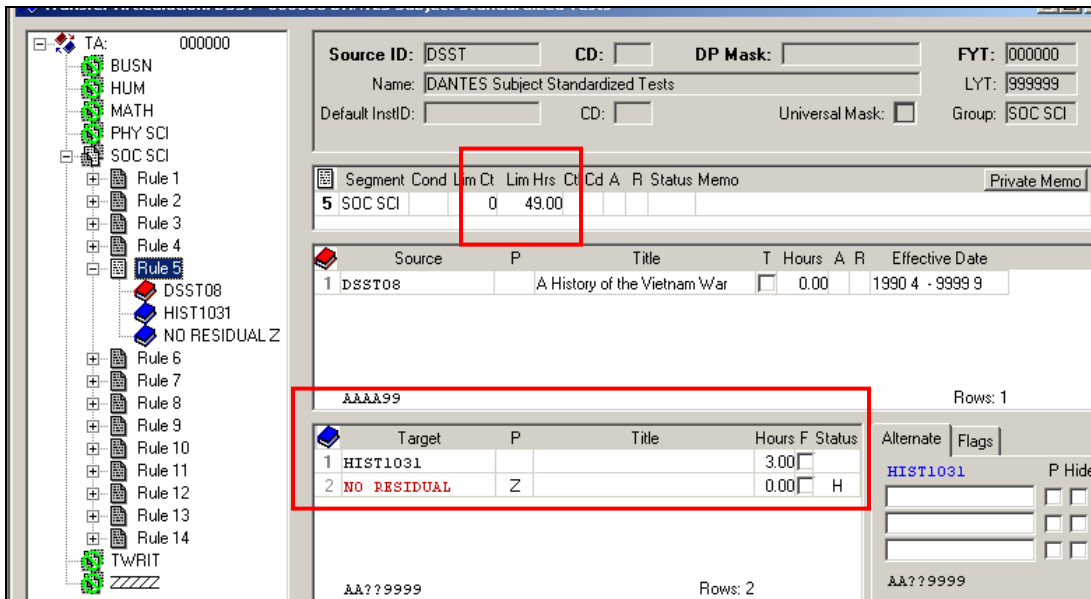
	Type	IU Grade	A	R	UI	UGrd	Acu	Rcu	GPA	Calc	Crdt	Ct	C1	C2	UC1	UC2	Yr	Trm	Range
13	Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> NTR			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> T:V				.000			0							-
14	Grade	<input type="checkbox"/> TP			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DSST				.000	Y	1								-
15	Grade	<input type="checkbox"/> TZ			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1500				.000		1								-
16	Grade	<input type="checkbox"/> TP			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CLEP				.000	Y	1								-
17	Grade	<input type="checkbox"/> T?			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNKN				.000		0								-

If the grades (TP and NTR) are new, add them to your Globe Grade table.

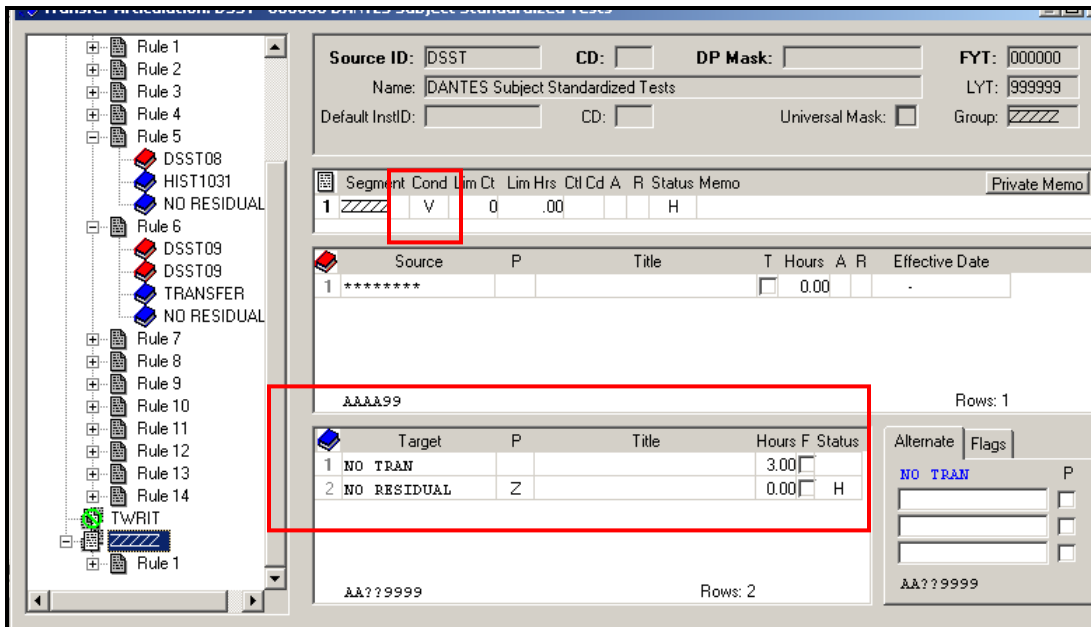
DSST exams are scored from 20 to 80. Since a variety of different scores could be the minimum needed to grant credit for different tests, using the score as the grade is not realistic. In this application, the score is entered as the credit for the course. On the articulation rules, the LimHrs field is used to test whether the minimum score has been reached. LimHrs is set to the ACE recommended minimum score which the source course must have in order to be articulated by this rule.

NOTE: Exam scores for some DSST Examinations were revised in 2008. Scores of 400 are discussed at the end of this document.

In the example below, A History of the Vietnam War (**DSST08**), with a minimum score of 49, is awarded 3 credits of HIST1031. The Target course credits are not forced. The remaining (residual) credits are eliminated by the NO RESIDUAL rule and the < **Z** > flag (Eliminate Residual Credit/GPA). The residual credit must be eliminated, and hidden from u.select, on each rule.



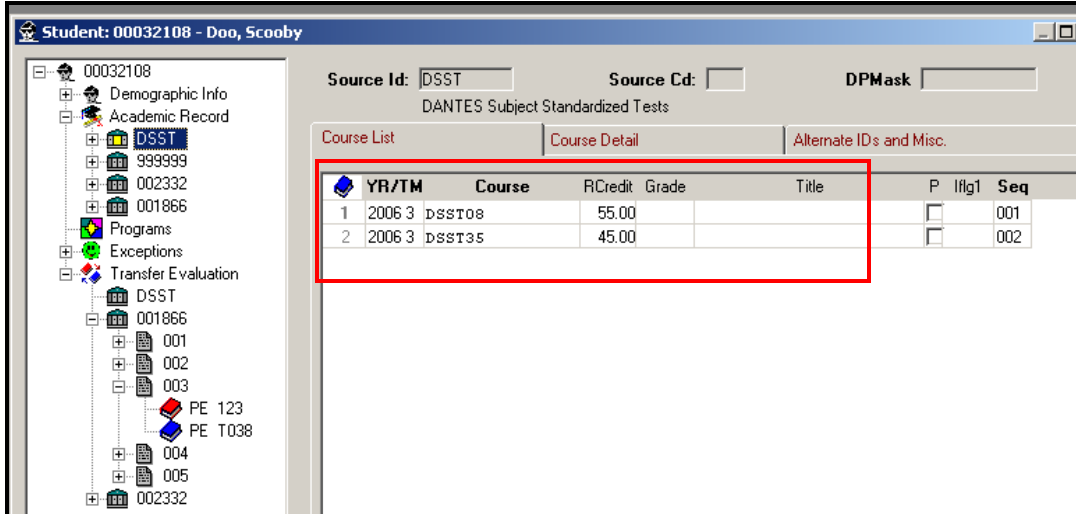
Any course not meeting the minimum LimHrs check for an exam will fall to the last (ZZZZZ) rule. In the rule shown below, the NO TRAN course, with 3 hours. The NO RESIDUAL is assigned the institutional course flag of < Z > with the Status hidden < H >. The assigned condition code applied to unacceptable courses is a user-defined Cond (< V > in this example).



### Student Academic Record (Joe Cool)

In our example, the student has taken A History of the Vietnam War with an acceptable score of 55, and Ethics in America, with an unacceptable score of 45. The DSST exam scores are entered as Registered Credit.

A History of the Vietnam War is < **DSST08** >  
 Ethics in America is < **DSST35** >



**Appearance on the audit:**

A History of the Vietnam War, with an acceptable score of 55, articulated to HIST1031 with 3 credits of TP. Ethics in America, with the unacceptable score of 45, articulated to NO TRAN, with zero credit of NTR.

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* DANTES Subject Standardized Tests
  Abbreviated on report as: DSST
  Courses Taken From F 2005 to F 2005
  F 05 HIST1031      3.00 TP      A History of the Vietnam War
                    DSST      : DSST08
  F 05 NO TRAN      0.00 NTR     Ethics in America
                    DSST      : DSST35

* Anoka-Ramsey Community College
  Abbreviated on report as: ANOKARA
  Courses Taken From F 2005 to F 2005
  F 05 TRANSFER     3.00 TA      Course needs to be evaluated
                    ANOKARA   : MATH1123
  
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Revised Examinations taken 2008 and after.

The following DSST Examinations were revised in 2008: Here's to Your Health, Management Information Systems, Personal Finance, Introduction to Computing, Introduction to World Religions, Ethics in America, Criminal Justice, Substance Abuse, Principles of Statistics, and Fundamentals of College Algebra. These examinations have an ACE recommended cut score of 400.

These examinations must be articulated manually with a grade rather than a score.

To do this, you will need to add the grade of < P >, with the Universal grade of < (501 > to the DSST Institutional Reference Grade Definition table. Make sure this grade is also defined on your Target Institutional Reference Grade Table and the Globe Grade Table.

	Type	IU	Grade	A	R	UI	UGrd	Acu	Rcu	GPA	Calc	Crdt	Ct	C1	C2	UC1	UC2	Yr	Trm	Range	
1	Grade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	P			<input type="checkbox"/>	(501			.000	N	Y	1								-
2	Grade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NP			<input type="checkbox"/>	(502			.000	N	N	0								-
3	Grade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	*			<input type="checkbox"/>	DSST			.000	N	Y	X								-
4	Grade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	#			<input type="checkbox"/>	(513			.000	N	N	0								-

The operator must manually review the score for the revised examinations. If the score for any revised Examination is 400 or higher, the student successfully passed the exam. On the student academic record (Joe Cool), enter the passing examination (e.g. DSST02,) with a grade of < P >. You will not enter the score of these exams. If the student's score is less than 400, enter a grade of < NP >.

The Transfer Articulation table must include the revised examinations. In the example below, Principles of Statistics, effective 20095, has been added. Principles of Statistics, effective 19904, has been end-dated with 20093.

Source ID: DSST    CD:    DP Mask:    FYT: 000000  
 Name: DANTES Subject Standardized Tests    LYT: 999999  
 Default InstID:    CD:    Universal Mask:    Group: MATH

Segment	Cond	Lim Ct	Lim Hrs	Ctl	Cd	A	R	Status	Memo
2	MATH		0	48.00					

Source	P	Title	T	Hours	A	R	Effective Date
1 DSST02		Principles of Statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.00			1990 4 - 2009 3

AAAA99    Rows: 1

Target	P	Title	Hours	F	Status
1 TRANSFER			0.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2 NO RESIDUAL	Z		0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	H

AA??9999    Rows: 2

Alternate    Flags

TRANSFER    P Hide

The TA rules for the revised examinations are Pass or Fail, and not looking for LimHrs. Because these examination results are processed with a grade rather than a score, no

LimHrs or NO RESIDUAL rule are necessary. The Target course(s) must have the hours forced.

**Transfer Articulation: DSST 000000 DANTE'S Subject Standardized Tests**

TA: 000000

Source ID: DSST CD: DP Mask: FYT: 000000  
 Name: DANTE'S Subject Standardized Tests LYT: 999999  
 Default InstID: CD: Universal Mask: Group: MATH

Segment Cond Lim Ct Lim Hrs Ctl Cd A R Status Memo Private Memo  
 3 MATH 0 .00

Source	P	Title	T	Hours	A	R	Effective Date
1 DSST02		Principles of Statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.00			2009 5 - 9999 99

AAAA99 Rows: 1

Target	P	Title	Hours	F	Status
1 YOUR COURSE			3.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

AA??9999 Rows: 1

AAAA99 Rows: 1

AA??9999 Rows: 1

PHY SCI  
 SOC SCI  
 TWRT

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