



Staying on Course

High School Curriculum Requirements for the University System of Georgia

Office of Student Affairs

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The high school curriculum is the cornerstone of the University System of Georgia admissions policy. Students should pursue a challenging and rigorous high school curriculum to be best prepared for a successful college experience. The following appropriate high school curriculum must be met by all freshmen applicants and transfer applicants with less than 30 transferable semester hours.*

Graduating Prior to 2012

The College Preparatory Curriculum (CPC) should be completed by students graduating high school prior to 2012.	
Carnegie Unit Requirement	In Specific Subject Areas
4 Carnegie Units of college preparatory English	Literature (American, English, World) integrated with grammar, usage and advanced composition skills
4 Carnegie Units of college mathematics	Algebra I and II, geometry and a fourth year of advanced algebra and trigonometry, algebra III, pre-calculus, discrete mathematics, calculus, statistics, IB mathematics or analysis
3 Carnegie Units of college preparatory science	Including at least one lab course from life sciences and one lab course from the physical sciences
3 Carnegie Units of college preparatory social science	Must include one unit focusing on US studies and one unit focusing on world studies
2 Carnegie Units of the same foreign language or American Sign Language	Must be two consecutive units emphasizing speaking, listening, reading and writing skills

Graduating 2012 or Later

The Required High School Curriculum (RHSC) should be completed by those students graduating high school in 2012 or later.	
CPC Carnegie Unit Requirement	In Specific Subject Areas
4 Carnegie Units of college preparatory English	Literature (American, English, World) integrated with grammar, usage and advanced composition skills
4 Carnegie Units of college mathematics	Mathematics I, II, III and a fourth year of advanced math or equivalent courses**
4 Carnegie Units of college preparatory science	The four science units should include two courses with a laboratory component. Students graduating from a Georgia public high school should have at least one unit in biology, one unit of physical science or physics, one unit of chemistry, earth science or environmental science and a fourth science.***
3 Carnegie Units of college preparatory social science	Must include one unit focusing on US studies and one unit focusing on world studies
2 Carnegie Units of the same foreign language or American Sign Language	Must be two consecutive units emphasizing speaking, listening, reading and writing skills

*Students who graduate from a Georgia public high school having participated in the Georgia Alternative Assessment will not be eligible for admission to a USG institution.

** The list of courses that may be used to meet the four units of mathematics can be found on page 4 of this document.

*** The list of courses that may be used to meet the fourth science requirement can be found on page 3 of this document.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I will graduate high school in 2012, how many science classes should I complete?

Students graduating high school in 2012 or later must complete a total of 4 units of science. The four sciences should include two courses with a laboratory component. Students graduating from a Georgia public high school should have at least one unit in biology, one unit of physical science or physics, one unit of chemistry, earth science or environmental science and a fourth science, which should come from the list of courses found in this document.

My school or school system only offers physical science in the 8th grade, will I be considered deficient if I don't take it in high school?

Students enrolled in Georgia private high schools and high schools in other states often complete physical science while in the eighth grade and then take three or more additional science units in high school. Consequently, students from private high schools and public high schools in other states can count physical science courses taken in the eighth grade as one of the required four science units.

Should I take a foreign language in high school?

While the Georgia Department of Education will no longer require students to complete two years of a foreign language in order to graduate from high school (after 2012), the colleges and universities comprising the University System of Georgia WILL require the completion of two years of the same foreign language or two years of sign language in order to be considered for admission.

Which math classes should I take in high school?

Students should complete 4 units of math which should include Algebra I and II, geometry and a fourth year which should consist of advanced algebra and trigonometry, algebra III, pre-calculus, discrete mathematics, calculus, statistics, IB mathematics or analysis. Students graduating from a Georgia public high school in 2012 or later should complete 4 units of math, which should include Mathematics I, II III and a fourth year of advanced math or equivalent courses.

How many total academic units must I complete in order to be considered for admission to a University System of Georgia college or university?

Students graduating high school prior to 2012 must complete a total of 16 academic units consisting of 4 English, 4 mathematics, **3 science**, 3 social science and 2 foreign language. Students graduating high school in 2012 or later must complete a total of 17 academic units, consisting of 4 English, 4 mathematics, **4 science**, 3 social science and 2 foreign language.

Should I pursue a challenging and rigorous high school curriculum?

Yes, in order to be best prepared for college, students are encouraged to take a challenging and rigorous high school curriculum. Students should consult with their high school counselor and parents to select courses suitable to their ability level in each subject area.

What else do colleges look for in addition to the completion of the high school curriculum?

While the rigor of the high school curriculum is very important, it is not the only factor considered when determining an applicant's potential to succeed in college and eligibility for admission. The grade point average (GPA) in academic courses and standardized test results (SAT and ACT) are also considered. Information regarding these requirements can be found online at www.gacollege411.org/StudentPlanner/CollegeEntranceRequirements/usg/. Some colleges also have additional requirements and admission requirements vary depending on the type of college and space available. Prospective students should check with the admission office for additional information.

I will graduate from a Georgia public high school but will have participated in the Georgia Alternative Assessment. Will I be eligible for admission to a University System of Georgia institution?

Students graduating from a Georgia Public High School having participated in the Georgia Alternative Assessment are not eligible for admission to a University System of Georgia institution.

COURSES THAT MAY BE USED TO SATISFY THE SCIENCE REQUIREMENT

Academic Courses		CTAE Courses	
26.01300 Biology II (Grades 9-12) 26.01400 Advanced Placement Biology 26.01500 Genetics 26.01800 International Baccalaureate Biology SL 26.01900 International Baccalaureate Biology HL 26.03100 Botany 26.05100 Microbiology 26.06100 Ecology 26.06110 Environmental Science 26.06200 Advanced Placement Environmental Science 26.06300 International Baccalaureate Environmental Systems 26.06400 Advanced Genetics/DNA Research 26.07100 Zoology 26.07200 Entomology 26.07300 Human Anatomy/Physiology 40.01100 Physical Science 40.02100 Astronomy 40.04100 Meteorology 40.05100 Chemistry I 40.05200 Chemistry II 40.05300 Advanced Placement Chemistry 40.05500 International Baccalaureate Chemistry SL 40.05600 International Baccalaureate Chemistry HL 40.06300 Geology 40.06400 Earth Systems 40.07100 Oceanography 40.08100 Physics I 40.08200 Physics II 40.08300 Advanced Placement Physics B 40.08410 Advanced Placement Physics C: Mechanics 40.08420 Advanced Placement Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism 40.08500 International Baccalaureate Physics SL 40.08600 International Baccalaureate Physics HL 40.08900 Advanced Physics Principles/Robotics 40.09100 Advanced Scientific Internship 40.09200 Advanced Scientific Research 40.09300 Forensic Science 40.09400 Chemical & Material Science Engineering 40.09500 International Baccalaureate Design Technology SL 40.09600 International Baccalaureate Design Technology HL	02.44100 Plant Science and Biotechnology 20.41810 Food Science 20.41710 Food & Nutrition Through the Lifespan <i>Additional CTAE courses which may be used to satisfy the fourth science requirement are currently under review by the Georgia Department of Education and the University System of Georgia and will be posted here as they are approved.</i>	Other Acceptable Courses	
	11.01600 AP Computer Science A		

COURSES THAT MAY BE USED TO SATISFY THE MATHEMATICS REQUIREMENT

27.08100	Mathematics I – Algebra/Geometry/Statistics
27.08200	Mathematics II – Geometry/Algebra II/Statistics
27.08300	Mathematics III – Advanced Algebra/Statistics
27.08400	Mathematics IV – Pre-Calculus-Trigonometry/Statistics
27.06100	Algebra I
27.06300	Euclidean Geometry
27.06200	Informal Geometry
27.06400	Algebra II
27.06610	Algebra III
27.05100	Statistics
27.06700	Analysis (Pre-Calculus)
27.07100	Calculus
27.06500	Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry
27.06900	Discrete Mathematics
27.09100	Accelerated Mathematics I – Geometry/Algebra II/Statistics
27.09200	Accelerated Mathematics II – Advanced Algebra/Geometry/Statistics
27.09300	Accelerated Mathematics III – Pre-Calculus-Trigonometry/Statistics
27.05220	International Baccalaureate (IB) Mathematics Mathematical Methods
27.05240	International Baccalaureate (IB) Mathematical Studies SL
27.07200	Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB
27.07300	Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus BC
27.07400	Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics

All Other AP and IB Mathematics Courses

COURSES THAT MAY BE USED TO SATISFY THE ENGLISH REQUIREMENT

23.05100	American Literature/Composition
23.05200	English Literature/Composition
23.05300	Advanced Placement Literature/Composition (American Literature/Composition)
23.06100	Ninth Grade Literature and Composition
23.06200	Tenth Grade Literature and Composition
23.06300	World Literature/Composition
23.06400	Literary Types/Composition
23.06500	Advanced Placement Literature/Composition
23.06600	Contemporary Literature/Composition
23.06700	Multicultural Literature/Composition
23.06800	International Baccalaureate English SL (American Literature)
23.06900	International Baccalaureate English HL (World Literature)
23.06120	International Baccalaureate English B SL
23.06130	International Baccalaureate English B HL

COURSES THAT MAY BE USED TO SATISFY THE SOCIAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENT

COURSES FOCUSING ON WORLD HISTORY

45.08300	World History
45.08110	Advanced Placement World History

COURSES FOCUSING ON U.S. STUDIES

45.08100	United States History
45.08700	International Baccalaureate History of the Americas SL (US History)

COURSES THAT MAY BE USED TO SATISFY THE THIRD UNIT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

In addition to any of the above, any of the following:

45.01100	Comparative Religions
45.01200	Current Issues
45.01300	Technology and Society
45.01310	International Baccalaureate Information Technology in a Global Society SL
45.01320	International Baccalaureate Information Technology in a Global Society HL
45.01400	The Humanities/Social Studies
45.01500	Psychology
45.01600	Advanced Placement Psychology
45.01700	International Baccalaureate Psychology
45.02100	Anthropology
45.03100	Sociology
45.03200	Ethnic Studies
45.05200	Advanced Placement Government/Politics: United States
45.05300	Advanced Placement Government/Politics: Comparative
45.05500	Constitutional Theory
45.05600	The Individual and Law
45.05700	American Government/Civics
45.05800	Ethics and the Law
45.06100	Economics/Business/Free Enterprise
45.06200	Advanced Placement Microeconomics
45.06300	Advanced Placement Macroeconomics
45.06400	Comparative Political/Economic Systems
45.06500	International Baccalaureate Economics SL
45.07110	World Geography
45.07200	Asian Studies
45.07300	Latin American Studies
45.07400	Middle Eastern Studies
45.07500	Sub-Saharan Studies
45.07600	Local Area Studies/Geography
45.07800	International Baccalaureate Geography SL
45.08120	U.S. History in Film
45.08400	Advanced Placement European History
45.08500	Georgia History
45.08600	Local Area Studies/History
45.08900	Modern U.S. Military History, 1918-present
45.08910	Early U.S. Military History
45.08920	Recent U.S. Presidents
45.8930	International Baccalaureate History of the Americas HL
45.09100	United States and World Affairs
45.09200	World Area Studies