

Becoming College and Career Ready!

This is a purposeful recommendation of the proper courses you should take in order to be ready for life after high school. Students who attain the required skills in these courses have a better tendency to score 22 (or better) on The ACT by the end of their junior year. Though strong academic performances in these classes are important, the mastery of skills is what gives you the best chance to meet this trend. Below is not the only pathway, but is a general starting point for discussing your future options:

	Social Studies	Science	Math	English	Electives
Freshmen	World Geography	Biology	Algebra 1	English 1	
Sophomore		Chemistry	Geometry	English 2	CTE course (become a completer)

	Social Studies	Science	Math	English	Electives
Junior	US History *AP	Physics	Algebra 2; Pre-Cal; Algebra 3 *IB, Dual Credit math	English 3 *IB, AP, Dual Credit	CTE course (become a completer) -Honors or upper level course in an interest area.
Senior	Government Economics *Dual Credit	Other science of interest	Pre-Cal; Calculus *IB, AP, Dual Credit	English 4 *IB, AP, Dual Credit	CTE course (become a completer) -Honors or upper level course in an interest area.

Students who are college and career ready have successfully mastered a minimum of two foreign language classes/credits by the time they graduate. Some colleges require mastery of three years of a foreign language. Do **not** underestimate the value of the fine arts and other elective courses. Most colleges look for well-rounded students who have demonstrated a commitment to non-core curriculum classes/programs.

Recommendations for your junior year:

- Keep a GPA above a 3.0.
- Take a test prep class (*Log into NaviancePrepMe for free SAT/Act test prep*)(Use *Khan Academy for SAT prep*).
- Take a full schedule of challenging courses. Strongly consider Honors, AP, IB, and Dual Credit options.
Doing well in these courses will strengthen your transcripts, overall GPA and preparations for taking college entrance exams.
- Position yourself in a place to do a paid internship your senior year.

In addition to your ACT/SAT scores, colleges will review your transcripts from your freshmen to junior years to use in considering your admission. Having a late in/early out is not as impressive to colleges who value a broad exploration of other subject areas. You must distinguish yourself above other students in this competitive world.

This is **the minimum** of what you should do to maximize your potential to be prepared to take The ACT and SAT tests in the spring of your junior year. Always consult the other requirements for a high school diploma and entrance into your desired college.

Be intentional in reaching your goal!