

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Administrative Regulation

Instruction

AR 6146.1

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

At the direction of the Governing Board, the following program and graduation requirements are established for students in grades 9-12 (individual schools may have additional requirements):

Required Courses

Subject Area/Requirement/No. Unit

- English/Reading
8 semesters
40 units
- Mathematics
6 semesters
30 units

Pass an algebra course (see description below for alternate means of completion.) The following courses outside the mathematics department are approved units toward this requirement:

Course/Department

Accounting,1,2,Adv./Business Education 5/sem; 10 units
Business Applications/R.O.P. 5/sem; 10 units
Computer Accounting/R.O.P. 5/sem; 10 units

- Science
4 semesters, to include two semesters of Physical Science and two semesters of Life/Biological Science.
20 units

The following courses outside the science department are approved to satisfy units toward this requirement:

Course/Department

Electronics 1, 2/Industrial Technician

- Social Studies
2 semesters of World History/Studies, to be taken in grades 9 or 10
10 units

2 semesters of American History/Studies, to be taken in grade 11
10 units

1 semester of U.S. Government, to be taken in grade 12
5 units

1 semester of Economics, to be taken in grade 12
5 units

- Fine Arts, Foreign Language, Technology Education
3 semesters
15 units

2 semesters must be in Foreign Language or Fine Arts

The following courses outside the art and performing arts department are approved to satisfy units toward this requirement:

Course/Department

AP Art History 1, 2/Social Studies

5/sem.; 5 units

Arch. Drafting 1, 2

5/sem.; 5 units

Industrial Tech. Photography 1, 2/ Industrial Technology

5/sem.; 10 units

Graphic Arts 1, 2/Industrial Technology

5/sem.; 5 units

- Physical Education
4 semesters (SMHS may have additional requirements/opportunities Other sections of the California Education Code make exempt this requirement. (Education Code 51225.3))
20 units
2 semesters in grade 9
10 units
2 semesters in grades 10, 11, 12
10 units

The following courses outside P.E. and athletic departments are approved to satisfy units toward this requirement with the added requirement that the alternate P.E. course instructors collaborate with credentialed P.E. instructors to ensure students receive instruction that meets the California State Standards in Physical Education:

Course/Department

Interscholastic Sports

Marching Band/Theater Arts (Dance only)

5/sem.; 20 units

Drill/Flag Team

5/sem.; 20 units

Cheer/Song

5/sem.; 20 units

- Family Health Education
1 semester of Family Health
5 units

Credits Required for Graduation

Students must earn 240 units in grades 9-12 to qualify for graduation.

Minimum Competencies

Students must pass the California High School Exit Exam in English/language arts and mathematics to qualify for graduation.

Course Loads

All students may be continuously enrolled each semester in a minimum of three academic subjects - English, math, science, foreign language, social studies. Only one period of Reading Intervention is counted as an English credit per semester. (SMHS may have additional requirements/opportunities)

Additional courses in other subject areas may be recommended to the Board for approval as academic subjects for meeting this requirement.

1. All students must be continuously enrolled in a full schedule as determined by each high school during the regular school day, including if minimum of six credit earning courses (San Marcos High School- three credit earning courses).
2. During the semester of graduation, with written permission of parents or guardians, the student may take only five courses, 25 units, (San Marcos High School students will take three courses per term, 30 units for terms 3 and 4), provided these units complete the requirements for graduation.

Credit Limitations

Students may earn a maximum of 20 units in work experience in grades 9-12.

Credit by Examination

1. Students who qualify may challenge a required course. Currently, challenge exemptions are available for economics and health courses.
2. Upon passing such an examination, the student may choose to have the required course waived.
3. To challenge a course by examination, the student must acquire the endorsement of his/her parents or guardians and counselor. Final decision will rest with the Principal/Department Chair.
4. In order to allow sufficient time for a district departmental exam to be prepared, the student must complete the necessary endorsements in advance of the examination date.
5. Students who earn credit by examination still will be required to take a full course load during a semester that they are (or have been) enrolled in the course.
6. Examinations will be scheduled once each semester in time for students to plan their course of study for the following semester.

College Classes

Some students may wish to seek enrichment and/or acceleration opportunities through enrollment in college courses. The following items will govern high school students taking college courses:

1. Students must be enrolled in a full school schedule as defined by each school. Students attending college classes must be enrolled in a minimum of our district classes at the high school.
2. Students enrolling in college classes will do so in accordance with the guidelines and procedures set forth by the college or university.

3. If the student wishes to receive high school credit for a college class, a semester or quarter college class will earn one semester of high school credit. A college course that is equivalent in content to a two-semester high school course will fulfill the subject requirement of the high school course. (Example: A semester of college chemistry will earn 5 units of high school credit, but it will satisfy two semesters of high school required science.)
4. Students enrolling in college classes to complete physical education credit requirements for graduation must accrue the required 400 minutes of instruction every 10 days as prescribed by the California Education Code (Education Code 51222)
5. A student may make a written appeal to the high school principal to waive one or more of the above conditions. A principal's decision may be appealed to the Superintendent or designee.

Accelerated Students

For the high school student who has been pursuing an accelerated program through a combination of high school and university or college courses and who has acquired a sufficient number of units for graduation, the principal may waive specific course requirements, which would normally be taken after that point in time in the student's high school career. Such waiver must have the endorsement of the student's counselor and the appropriate subject area department chairperson. A waiver should be granted only after very careful study and consideration.

Alternative School Students

Students who enroll in district alternative schools such as the independent study school or the continuation school for credit recovery, and wish to graduate from the high school they attended prior to the alternative school, must transfer and complete the semester of graduation at that high school. Otherwise, continuation school students will graduate from the district continuation school.

Other Program Recommendations

Every student is required to receive instruction in the use of a computer.

Every student will be encouraged to participate in one of the following activities during enrollment in high school:

1. Visitation(s) to Santa Barbara City College
2. Visitation(s) to other two- or four-year colleges
3. Application(s) to two- or four-year colleges
4. Participation in CAL-Soap and/or AVID activities that encourage post secondary admission
5. Attendance at college fairs or presentations by college representatives on high school campuses
6. Taking the PSAT and/or SAT

Course Opportunities Outside the School Day

All high schools, except continuation schools, will, as feasible, offer before and/or after school course opportunities.

These before school, after school and/or evening programs will be for the purpose of facilitating more elective choices during the school day for those students desiring to take seven subjects in a given semester or school and who are carrying a full six-period schedule during the school day. Enrollment in before school, after school or evening courses will require the approval of the student's counselor.

Community Service: Citizenship in Action

Each school will develop and implement a program for facilitating student involvement in service to the

school and/or community.

All students, prior to graduation, will certify that they have completed 60 hours of community service.

Service that is required for discipline or class credit is not considered part of the 60-hour graduation requirement.

Alternative Means of Completing Algebra Requirements

California Education Code 51225.3 and 51224.5 establish that the adopted course of study for grades 7 through 12 shall include Algebra as part of the mathematics area of study. These sections of the California Education Code specify the minimum set of courses required for high school graduation, including one-year completion of coursework that meets or exceeds the academic content standards for Algebra 1.

1. Practical demonstration of skills and competencies,
2. Supervised work experience or other outside school experience,
3. Career technical education classes offered in high schools,
4. Courses offered by regional occupational centers or programs,
5. Interdisciplinary study,
6. Independent study, and
7. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution.

Completion of Algebra I content standards for a student with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or a 504 accommodation plan shall be verified by the IEP/504 team and approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee, in accordance with the student's specially designed instructional program. For all other students, completion of the Algebra I coursework requirements shall be verified and approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Summary

Total units required in grades 9-12 for graduation = 240

Required Courses

English	40 units
Mathematics	30 units
Science	20 units
Social Studies	30 units
Fine Arts, Foreign Language and/or Technology Education	15 units
Family Health	5 units
Physical Education	20 units
Electives	80 units
Total	240 units

Regulation: SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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