

Freshman 101: A Guide to Your First Year of High School!

Auburn Junior High Counseling Department

9th GRADE FACTS

- ▶ 9th grade is considered high school!
- ▶ You will begin earning **credit** for graduation.
- ▶ Your grades begin to count towards your **GPA**.

Pop quiz!

- ▶ What does GPA stand for?
 - ▶ Grade Point Average
- ▶ How many credits are required to graduate?
 - ▶ 26!

9th GRADE FACTS

- ▶ What is a GPA?
 - ▶ Grade Point Average
- ▶ How do I calculate my GPA?
 - ▶ Add the total number of points and divide it by the number of credits.
 - ▶ A = 4 points
 - ▶ B = 3 points
 - ▶ C = 2 points
 - ▶ D = 1 point
 - ▶ F = 0 points
- ▶ Let's practice!
 - ▶ You make an "A" in a one-credit course and a "B" in another one-credit course. What is your GPA?
 - ▶ $4+3=7$
 - ▶ $7/2 = 3.5$ - This is your GPA!

CORE CURRICULUM

- ▶ Students must earn **at least 26 credits** to graduate.
- ▶ To gain a credit, you must complete a course with a passing grade.
- ▶ Students earn 8 credits per year.
- ▶ Early graduation is possible!

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ 4 credits of English
- ▶ 4 credits of Math
 - ▶ 8th Grade Accelerated Math allows you to bypass Algebra 1
 - ▶ Math credits begin in 9th grade with Geometry
- ▶ 4 credits of Social Studies/History
- ▶ 4 credits of Science
 - ▶ Must include Biology (9th grade) and a Physical Science (Physical Science, Chemistry, or Physics)

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ 1 credit of PE (1 JROTC credit may be substituted)
- ▶ ½ credit of Health
- ▶ 1 credit of Career Preparedness
- ▶ 7 ½ credits of Electives (Career Tech, Fine Arts, Foreign Language, etc.)

MATH CREDIT OPTIONS

Math curriculum is changing this year!

▶ Option 1:

- ▶ 8th - 8th grade math
- ▶ 9th - Geometry w/ Data Analysis and Math Lab (1 math credit, 1 math elective credit)
- ▶ 10th - Algebra I (1 credit)
- ▶ 11th - Algebra II w/ Statistics (1 credit)
- ▶ 12th - Probability and Statistics, Discrete Math, Precalculus, or AP Statistics (1 credit)

MATH CREDIT OPTIONS

▶ Option 2:

- ▶ 8th - Accelerated Math
- ▶ 9th - Geometry (1 credit) AND Algebra II w/ stats (1 credit)
 - ▶ *You must take a placement test!*
- ▶ 10th - Probability and Statistics, Discrete Math, Precalculus, or AP Statistics (1 credit)
- ▶ 11th - Calculus or AP Calculus (1 credit)
- ▶ 12th - AP Calculus or IB Math (1 credit)

9th GRADE CREDITS

- ▶ The following credits are earned during the 9th grade year:
 - ▶ English 9 or English 9 Advanced - 1 credit
 - ▶ World History or Advanced World History - 1 credit
 - ▶ Biology or Advanced Biology - 1 credit
 - ▶ Math
 - ▶ Geometry with Math Lab - 1 math credit, 1 elective credit
 - ▶ Geometry and Algebra II with Trig. - 2 credits
 - ▶ Career Preparedness - 1 credit
 - ▶ 2 Elective Credits (or 3 if you take a zero period)
- ▶ *Pop Quiz! How many credits should you have after 9th grade?*
 - ▶ 8!

CURRICULUM OPTIONS

- ▶ Grade Level
- ▶ Advanced
- ▶ Advanced Placement (AP)
- ▶ International Baccalaureate (IB)

GRADE LEVEL COURSES

- ▶ Meet requirements for graduation
- ▶ Meet requirements for college admittance
- ▶ Grade points for GPA
 - ▶ A = 4 points
 - ▶ B = 3 points
 - ▶ C = 2 points
 - ▶ D = 1 point

ADVANCED COURSES

- ▶ More challenging
- ▶ Good preparation for AP/IB courses
- ▶ Grade points for GPA are different
 - ▶ A = 4.5 points
 - ▶ B = 3.5 points
 - ▶ C = 2.5 points
 - ▶ D = 1.5 points

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

- ▶ More challenging
- ▶ Comparable to college-level
- ▶ Choices (areas of strength)
- ▶ Weighted grade points (A=5)
- ▶ AP Exams administered at completion of course
- ▶ College credit = 4 or 5 on Exams
- ▶ There is a fee to take a test

www.collegeboard.com

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) COURSES

- ▶ More challenging
- ▶ College prep
- ▶ Weighted grade points (A=5)
- ▶ Limited choices
- ▶ Set curriculum
- ▶ 5 Foreign Language credits + other specific requirements
- ▶ IB Exams administered at completion of program
- ▶ College credit possible based on exam scores (1 - 7)
- ▶ IB Diploma administered on completion of requirements

www.ibo.org

DIPLOMA ENDORSEMENTS

- ▶ Advanced Academic
- ▶ Career/Technical
- ▶ Advanced Career/Technical

- ▶ Not required for graduation
- ▶ You can get more than one!



ADVANCED ACADEMIC ENDORSEMENTS

- ▶ Graduation requirements PLUS
 - ▶ Foreign Language - 2 credits
 - ▶ Math - 1 course higher than Algebra II w/Stats
 - ▶ Science - Must include Biology, a Physical Science and at least 2 of the following: **Biotechnology, Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy, and AP/IB Biology or Chemistry**

CAREER/TECHNICAL ENDORSEMENT

- ▶ Graduation requirements PLUS
 - Career Tech Electives - 3 in the same area

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COLLEGE ENTRANCE INFORMATION

- ▶ ACT or SAT required
- ▶ ACT perfect score = 36
 - ▶ All AHS Juniors are administered the ACT in April!
- ▶ SAT perfect score = 1600

- ▶ *Food for thought: many colleges require or recommend at least one high school Foreign Language credit for admission!*

9TH GRADE COURSE SELECTION

- ▶ Online course selection portal opens **March 1st** and closes **March 15th!**
- ▶ 9th grade schedules will be created based on the courses students select.
- ▶ All available courses are listed on the 9th Grade Course Request Form.
- ▶ All students must select 8 credits.
 - ▶ 1 English
 - ▶ 1 Math (at least)
 - ▶ 1 Science
 - ▶ 1 Social Studies
 - ▶ Career Prep
 - ▶ Electives

SUMMER OPTIONS

- ▶ Beginning Kinesiology
 - ▶ More info to come after Spring Break!

QUICK REVIEW

- ▶ Am I considered a high school student if I am in the 9th grade?
 - ▶ YES! It is your freshman year!
- ▶ Do my 8th grade courses count towards the graduation credits?
 - ▶ Nope! (Except for Foreign Language)
- ▶ How many credits are required for English, Math, Science, and History?
 - ▶ 4 credits each - 16 total!
- ▶ Which curriculum options have extra points towards the GPA? (Weighted GPA)
 - ▶ Advanced (+0.5), AP (+1), and IB (+1)
- ▶ What are the three types of diploma endorsements?
 - ▶ Advanced Academic, Career/Technical, Advanced Career/Technical
- ▶ When do I register for 9th grade courses?
 - ▶ March 1st - March 15th