

FRESHMAN Registration Directions and Advisement Notes for 2011-12

Student Directions:

Below are classes that are generally available for Freshmen to take in High School. If you want to know what will be taught in the class, refer to the Course Descriptions listed in the Curriculum Guide.

You may wish to **Circle** courses you are interested in on this page, then write in your final decisions on the registration form.

Start with the **Required Courses** column, then proceed to the **Other Courses Required for Graduation** then **Electives**. In 9th grade many of your "Elective Courses" will count toward your Other Required classes that are needed for graduation. Each semester class is worth five credits. Year-long classes, like English 9 will be worth a total of 10 credits – 5 credits for first semester (S1) and 5 credits for second semester (S2). Semester-long classes, like Keyboarding are worth a total of 5 credits. Add the total credits, which should be no less than 70 and no more than 80.

REQUIRED Core Courses:

Language Arts:

- English 9 (10 credits)
- Speech (5 credits) [Recommended for Freshmen Year]

Math: Freshmen may qualify to take the following Math courses:

- Algebra 1 (10 credits)
- Algebra Lab (per teacher request) (10 Elective credits)
- Geometry (10 credits) [per teacher recommendation and parent approval]
- Honors Geometry (10 credits) [per teacher recommendation and parent approval]

Science:

- General Science (10 credits)

Social Studies:

- World Geography (10 credits)

OTHER Courses REQUIRED for Graduation:

- PE 1 (10 credits) [Recommended for Freshmen Year]
- Life Skills (5 credits) [Recommended for Freshmen Year]
- Business and/or Technology (See Curriculum Guide)
 - Keyboarding (5 credits)
 - Computer Applications (5 credits)

Fine Arts (See Curriculum Guide)

- Advanced Speech (5 credits)
- Art 1 (10 credits) [Need Instructor Placement/Approval]
- Band (10 credits)
- Concert Choir (10 Credits)
- Drama 1 (5 credits)
- Drama 2 (5 credits)

ELECTIVES:

- Spanish 1 (10 credits) [Based Teacher Approval]
- Spanish 2 (10 credits) [Based Teacher Approval]
- *Study Hall (no credit) S1 S2 Both
- *Resource Study Hall (no credit) [per IEP] S1 S2 Both

*Note: Students may take only one study hall per semester.

ADVISEMENT NOTES:

1. Students planning to attend a four-year college like UNL generally are required to have a minimum of TWO years of the same Foreign Language to ENTER the UNIVERSITY. Once admitted to the University, certain colleges may require FOUR years of the same Foreign Language in high school to meet the COLLEGE's graduation requirements. Sometimes placement tests are required.
2. Students generally take 70-80 credits per year. Students may take only one study hall per semester.
3. Students need to earn a total of 250 credits AND pass required courses in order to meet graduation requirements for their class.
4. Once students have met the courses required for graduation, then they need to consider taking courses to specialize in order to develop and build skills and to support their interests and career preparation training requirements they will need to be successful beyond high school.
5. Four-year Personal Learning Plans (PLP) are required by the State of Nebraska. Students who do NOT return their PLP will be listed on the student's check-out form and s/he will not receive grades until the formal PLP is returned to the high school.
6. Students who do not return a registration form will result in the High School Counselor reviewing graduation requirements without the student/parent input to place the student in core required classes and open elective courses, which the student will not have recourse to change without a parent conference.
7. Before writing on your registration form, use the practice space below to write in your classes choices and credits.

Work Sheet Practice Section

REQUIRED Core Courses:

ENGLISH 9 _____	_____ 10 _____ credits
_____ (Math) _____	_____ credits
GENERAL SCIENCE _____	_____ 10 _____ credits
WORLD GEOGRAPHY _____	_____ 10 _____ credits

Other Courses REQUIRED for Graduation

_____	_____ credits
_____	_____ credits
_____	_____ credits
_____	_____ credits

ELECTIVES:

_____	_____ credits
_____	_____ credits

TOTAL credits _____

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FRESHMAN PARENT/GUARDIANS:

Dear Parent/Guardians,

Please note on your calendar that Freshman Orientation is scheduled in August, prior to the first day of school, from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Parents and students receive specific information about Freshman Orientation, dinner, and school photos over the summer.

During Freshman Orientation, students receive a copy of their Fall schedule, and they and their parents go through a "mini-school" day schedule and meet teachers. School photos and health screenings begin at 5 p.m. Dinner starts about 5:15 p.m. *A guest speaker gives a presentation to parents only at 5:45 p.m.* Drawings for prizes are done at the end of the evening. Students & parents must be present to win.

Be sure to sign your child's registration form and the copy of his/her computerized Personal Learning Plan (PLP). Your child needs to return his/her completed registration form, his Personal Learning Plan worksheet and a copy of the computerized PLP version to Mr Harris or Ms Kopish, the High School Counselor, no later than **February 24, 2011.**

Requirements for Graduation are two-fold: students must take and pass required classes and also earn a minimum of 250 credits. If students fail one or both of these requirements, they will not be eligible to graduate. Below is a sample checklist of these requirements.

- _____ English (45 credits) to include
 - _____ 1 year English 9
 - _____ 1 year English 10
 - _____ 1 year English 11
 - _____ 1 year of Senior English
 - _____ 1 semester of Speech
- _____ Math (40 credits) to include
 - _____ 1 year of Algebra 1
- _____ Science: (30 credits)
 - _____ 1 year General Science
 - _____ 1 year Biology
 - _____ 1 year Chemistry
- _____ Social Science (35 credits) to include:
 - _____ 1 year of World Geography
 - _____ 1 year of World History
 - _____ 1 year of U.S. History
 - _____ 1 semester of Am. Government (or S2 Hon. Am. Gov't)
- _____ Physical Education (10 credits)
- _____ Fine Arts (10 credits)
- _____ Business/Technology (10 credits)
- _____ Life Skills (5 credits)
- _____ Electives (65 credits)

Each class that is passed with a "D-" or above is worth 5 credits each semester. Generally, students earn 35-40 credits each semester, or a total of 70-80 credits at the end of each year. A minimum of 60 credits are needed to progress to 10th grade, 70 credits is the norm, and leaves the door open for future class options.

PERSONAL LEARNING PLAN (PLP)

Each year during high school registration, students will need to complete a 4-year Personal Learning Plan (PLP) that is required by the state as part of the registration process.

The four-year plan is to help students prepare for their post-graduate training, by taking not only the courses needed for high school graduation, but also to include classes that will help them meet entrance requirements for schools they plan to go to after high school.

Students are encouraged to consider the courses they will need junior and senior year to meet post-graduate entrance requirements.

Juniors who can fit it into their schedules, start taking dual credit classes as part of the Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Program (SENCAP) -- commonly called "Career Academy" for short. Students have to meet Southeast Community College's prerequisites. To do so, many juniors take the ACT before the end of junior year. Students/Parents are responsible for paying half tuition & fees, books and materials. BUT, if students pass a SENCAP class with a "C" -- it cannot be a "C-", Wahoo High School will reimburse the student the half-tuition after receiving final grades.

Senior Year, many students take advantage of Distance Learning (DL) dual credit (college and high school credit is granted), or college only classes (only credit is given from the college). Students take these classes in high school, so they can start earning General Education credits that colleges require. This way they are able to get a head start on college classes!

Freshmen and their parent/guardians should take the time to review the Appendices at the back of the Curriculum Guide and discuss the possibility of taking courses that will benefit the student, then complete the Personal Learning Plan (PLP) worksheet. Students need to go on the Nebraska Career Connections website www.nebraskacareerconnections.org and enter their courses, and print out a copy of the PLP for parents to sign and return with the registration form.

Student Parent/Guardian Update Info: If your child does not have the following, please ensure this information is available to the high school office as soon as possible. If home address, phone, doctor, emergency contact, etc. have changed, please contact the Main Office immediately, and report changes to the secretary.

- Immunization
- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Number (Keep it secure!)
- Does your child have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)? Yes No
- Any other Legal Documents