



CLASS REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & PARENTS

GRADUATION AND COURSE LOAD REQUIREMENTS

Credits are awarded on the basis of 5 credits per course per semester; thus a typical course taken for a full year will earn a student 10 credits toward graduation (NOTE: seniors opting for a Teacher Assistant assignment earn no credits for such duty. Students must receive a passing grade in a course in order to earn any credit for that course.

Graduation requirements are as follows:

SUBJECT/CONTENT AREA	REQUIREMENTS
English/Language Arts	40 credits (including 1 literature-based and 1 writing based course at the 10 th grade or higher level)
Social Studies	40 credits
Mathematics	30 credits (including Algebra I and Geometry or equivalents)
Science	30 credits
Health	5 credits
Physical Education	5 credits
Careers/Transitions	5 credits
Electives	100 credits
TOTAL REQUIREMENTS	255 credits
(Foreign Language)	(20 credits recommended)

Please note that figures given for meeting graduation requirements are minimums only. Students planning on attending most four year colleges and universities will want to exceed AGHS requirements in order to assure admission.

Ashland-Greenwood High School requires all students to register for at least seven classes, leaving no more than one study hall. Many students will find that the benefits to be derived from taking a full load of eight classes outweigh the perceived advantage or value of a study hall. This is particularly true when one considers that only during four years of high school can a student receive instruction in such a variety of subject material without having to pay for each and every class taken. At the same time, students registering for a college preparatory course load may find a study hall beneficial.

SUBJECT AREA COMMENTARY

FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES: Students and parents are advised that high school foreign language study is strongly recommended by virtually all colleges and universities. Many college major areas of study require a foreign language component; having a foreign language in high school thus is very beneficial.

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSES: Weight Training may be repeated if space is available; preference is naturally given to students who have not yet taken the course. Team Sports may be repeated if space is available. Students may take only one Physical Education class per year. All 10th and 11th graders will be required to take one semester of Health (either Personal Health or Family Health).

LANGUAGE ARTS COURSES: Current 8th graders must register for English Survey. Students are reminded that they will need one literature-based course and one writing-based course in order to meet graduation requirements.

MATHEMATICS COURSES: All 9th grade students will be enrolled in Algebra 1, unless, Algebra 1 was completed in the 8th grade and the credits were assigned. Students that may be identified by school staff or testing, may be enrolled in a MATH LAB that will be a guided study hall for MATH work. This will help support those students who need the extra support. The Nebraska standards are very heavy in Algebra II concepts, so, this is a next step in our efforts to get more students to be successful at the Algebra II level (following our current move of some qualified 7th graders to 8th grade math, 8th graders to Algebra I, and now this step).

GRADE LEVEL REQUIREMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

GRADE	REQUIRED	RECOMMENDED	ELECTIVES
Ninth	English Survey Biology World Geography Algebra I <u>OR</u> Geometry or ALG II if ALG I completed as 8 th grader	Spanish I	Classes of personal or career interest to the student sufficient to fill the student's schedule. May include only one study hall.
Tenth	American Literature American History Chemistry (if enrolled in ALG II) or General Science Health (or 11 th grade) Careers/Transitions (or 11 th grade) <u>Required coursework failed as a ninth grader</u>	Geometry (may be taken in combination with Algebra II) <u>OR</u> Applied Math II Spanish I <u>OR</u> Spanish II	Classes of personal or career interest to the student sufficient to fill the student's schedule. May include only one study hall.
Eleventh	Composition, Expository Writing World History Health (if not at 10 th grade) Careers/Transitions (or 10 th) Geometry or Algebra II Required coursework failed as a ninth or tenth grader	Additional math, science, or foreign language coursework needed to meet AGHS graduation or college admission requirements.	Classes of personal or career interest to the student sufficient to fill the student's schedule. May include only one study hall.
Twelfth	An English class Civics/Economics Coursework needed to meet AGHS graduation requirements (review transcripts with the counselor).	Additional math, science, social studies, English, or foreign language coursework needed to meet college admission requirements.	Classes of personal or career interest to the student sufficient to fill the student's schedule. May include only one study hall and one TA request.

**For a complete list of courses available, go to: news.agps.org
Click on STUDENT tab, then click on handbook and forms HANDBOOK and FORMS**

INFORMATION REGARDING COURSE SELECTION AND COLLEGE PREPARATION

Introduction

In the discussion that follows, students will learn:

What performance requirements must be met in order to be eligible for university level study

What high school coursework requirements must be met in order to be eligible for university level study

What high school course of study is recommended for students interested in continuing on to the university level

The University of Nebraska at Lincoln and its requirements are used as a basis for discussion in this booklet. Students and parents should understand that each college and/or university may have requirements that differ somewhat from those referenced here; at the same time, selecting a course of study that meets UNL's requirements will also meet requirements found at most colleges and universities. Anyone with questions or concerns about admission to an institution other than UNL should contact the guidance office. You will also find a fairly comprehensive listing of Nebraska two- and four-year program web links listed at the end of this section; accessing any link will take you to that institution's home page.

Students and parents are also cautioned that requirements for admission to university study are not the same as requirements for graduation from Ashland-Greenwood High School. In many subject areas, students can graduate from AGHS without being required to take the number of years of math, English, or science needed to gain admission to university study. That fact does not mean that the academic program at AGHS is in any way deficient; rather, the academic program at AGHS is designed to serve and provide opportunities for success to all students in the district. University admission requirements are designed to provide service only to a select group likely to be capable of success at the university level. Students wishing to be included in that select group must ensure that they complete the necessary coursework at the high school level.

Performance Requirements for Admission to University Level Study

The University of Nebraska at Lincoln has established standards for admission that are based on a student's performance relative to either other students in his or her class or to students nationwide. In order to be admitted to university level study, a student must:

Be ranked in the 50th percentile or higher of his or her graduating class in an accredited high school OR

Have received an enhanced ACT composite score of 20 or greater OR

Have received an SAT total score of 950 or greater

Specific colleges within the university system may have more restrictive requirements for admission; the guidance office should be consulted for questions on that matter.

High School Coursework Requirements for Admission to University Level Study

(NOTE: References to requirements below are expressed in terms of "units," a term preferred by UNL for evaluating high school transcript. A unit is equal to one full year of study for a given course; that would be equivalent to 10 credits toward meeting high school graduation requirements.)

English/Language Arts Requirements: 4 units; all units must include intensive reading and writing experiences

Foreign Language Requirements: 2 units of the same language; in most cases, students graduating from high school with 4 units of the same language will be exempted by the university from any college level language requirement; even students graduating with only 2 or 3 units may be eligible to test out of the college level language requirement

Mathematics Requirements: 4 units (must include Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and one unit that builds on a knowledge of algebra); two years of Applied Math will count as the equivalent of one year of Algebra I; students

following the applied math sequence and seeking admission to university level study will need to take Geometry and Algebra II during their junior year and Advanced Math during their senior year.

Natural Sciences Requirements: 3 units (including at least 2 units selected from biology, chemistry, physics, or earth science); 1 unit must include laboratory instruction

Social Sciences Requirements: 3 units (at least 1 unit of American and/or World History and one additional unit of history, government, and/or geography)

Recommended High School Course of Study for Students Interested in Continuing on to the University Level

<p><u>Ninth Grade</u> English Survey Algebra I or Geometry or Algebra II Biology World Geography Spanish I Electives to Fill Schedule</p>	<p><u>Tenth Grade</u> American Literature Geometry or Algebra II American History General Science or Chemistry Spanish II Electives to Fill Schedule</p>
<p><u>Eleventh Grade</u> Expository Writing Algebra II or Geometry or Trigonometry World History Chemistry Spanish III Electives to Fill Schedule</p>	<p><u>Twelfth Grade</u> College Composition or Literature course College Statistics <u>or</u> College Algebra, <u>or</u> College Calculus Economics/Civics Physics or College Biology Spanish IV Electives to Fill Schedule</p>