

Your Child's Grades at BCA

In Bridger courses, students are graded on how well they comprehend concepts and can apply what they've learned. Rather than simply memorizing information, students focus on developing a strong grasp of class material and effective application of key skills. This sets them up to succeed both within the classroom and beyond.



The main factors that determine students' grades:

BCA English, Social Studies, and Science Courses	
<p>20%=Average of Focus Area Scores (15% Power Focus Areas + 5% Additional Focus Areas)</p>	<p>80%=Average Cognitive Skill Scores from Projects</p>
BCA Math Courses	
<p>20%=Average of Focus Area Scores (15% Power Focus Areas + 5% Additional Focus Areas)</p>	<p>80%=Average Cognitive Skill Scores from Concept Units (10% Cog Skill Projects + 70% Math Units)</p>

Cognitive Skills—like communication, critical thinking, and articulating a clear point—are at the core of your child's learning. Cognitive Skills are graded based on how well students apply them to projects.

- Students work on projects that relate to the real world, which require them to produce a final product (such as an essay or presentation).
- Cognitive Skills have a rubric score range appropriate for your student's grade level.

Focus Areas ensure that students develop foundational content knowledge of a given subject area. Students demonstrate that they've grasped the subject matter by completing and passing Content Assessments.

(Note that students can take Content Assessments as many times as needed. This ensures that they move on only when they gain a full understanding of the subject.)

There are three types of Focus Areas:

POWER FOCUS AREAS (PFAs)

They contain required areas of content knowledge for a given course. Students must complete all PFAs to avoid receiving an “incomplete” grade by the end of the grading period. PFAs contribute 14-19% of the final course grade.*

ADDITIONAL FOCUS AREAS (AFAs)

They contain complementary areas of content knowledge for a given course. Students are not required to complete AFAs in order to pass a course. AFAs contribute 6-9% of the final course grade, however; students are not required to complete AFAs in order to pass a course.*

CHALLENGE FOCUS AREAS (CFAs)

They aren't required areas of content knowledge and don't impact a student's grade. CFAs are available for students who want to go above and beyond or prepare for standardized tests.

Unit Assessments are the final assessments for each Math Unit. Unit Assessments apply to math courses only. They include a range of Portfolio Problems learned throughout a Math Unit.

- Unit Assessment final scores are represented as a % grade.

There's no such thing as Ds in BCA

Anything lower than a C grade is considered “**off track**,” which means a student is:

- Not meeting Cognitive Skill or Unit Assessment grade-level requirements (below 70%).
- Behind in one or more Power Focus Areas.
- Overdue to submit a project's Final Product.

Any course grade that is “off track” at semester's end will result in an “incomplete” grade until the student resolves the above issue(s).