

GRANADA HILLS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Mathematics Course Placement Policy - Grades 10 Through 12

The policy of Granada Hills Charter High School (“GHCHS” or the “Charter School”) is to place students into an appropriate mathematics course based on a fair, objective, and transparent protocol to ensure that all students have the opportunity to excel in mathematics and are properly prepared for college and their future careers.

Mathematics Course Sequences

This placement policy and mathematics course sequences have been designed with the following core tenets:

- 1) Offer students a variety of courses designed to appeal to different students’ strengths, interests, and goals
- 2) Provide all students the opportunity to reach Advanced Placement (AP) and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses, regardless of initial math placement
- 3) Employ multiple measures that ensure students are adequately prepared for subsequent mathematics courses, college, and careers

Potential mathematics course sequences:

All students must complete

Algebra 1* → Geometry* → Algebra 2*

Algebra 1* → Geometry* → Algebra 2* → Pre-Calculus → AP Calculus AB

Algebra 1* → Geometry* → Algebra 2* → Pre-Calculus → CP or AP Statistics

Algebra 1* → Geometry* → Algebra 2* → Honors Pre-Calculus → AP Calculus BC

Algebra 1* → Geometry* → Algebra 2* → CP or AP Statistics**

Algebra 1* → Geometry* → Algebra 2* → CP Statistics → AP Statistics

Algebra 1* → Geometry* → Algebra 2* → IB Standard Level 1 → IB Standard Level 2

Algebra 1* → Geometry* → Algebra 2* → Honors Pre-Calculus → IB High Level 1 → IB High Level 2

Algebra 1* → Geometry* → Algebra 2* → Honors Pre-Calculus → IB Standard Level 1/2 → AP Calc/Stats

*Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra 2 are required to earn a GHCHS diploma. In the event that students complete these courses in middle school, placement into grade 9 mathematics course follows the GHCHS Grade 9 Mathematics Placement Policy. Students who take the minimum math requirements limit their post-secondary options.

**The math department does not recommend that students go directly from Algebra 2 to AP Statistics. It has been shown that students are more successful if they first complete Pre-Calculus or Honors Pre-Calculus.

Foundational Courses Required for Graduation

All students at GHCHS must complete Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. To proceed to the next course in this sequence, students must complete both semesters of these courses with a final grade of C or higher.

Students who are not on pace to complete the math courses required for graduation may proceed to the next mathematics course with a grade of D or higher. For example, a student who earns a D in Geometry in grade 11

would proceed to Algebra II in grade 12. However, if students proceed with a grade of D, these courses would not be counted towards UC or CSU eligibility. Additionally, these students will be recommended to complete additional summer or intervention courses before proceeding.

Placement into Secondary Level Courses Not Required for Graduation

Students who complete the mathematics graduation requirements with a grade of C or higher are eligible to enroll in secondary level mathematics classes.

Pre-Calculus, CP Statistics and AP Statistics do not require teacher recommendations and are available to all students who have completed the prerequisite course, Algebra 2 with a final grade of C or higher in both semesters.

Placement into Honors Pre-Calculus requires the following:

1) A in Algebra 2 class

or

2) Algebra 2 Teacher recommendation, B in Algebra 2 class and 265 or higher on Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) or 70% on the UCLA Mathematics Diagnostic Testing Project Analysis Readiness Exam (MDTP)

AP Calculus AB does not require a teacher recommendation and is available to all students who have completed the prerequisite course, Pre-Calculus, with a final grade of C or higher in both semesters (recommended that students have earned a grade of B or higher in Pre-Calculus).

AP Calculus BC does not require a teacher recommendation and is available to all students who have completed the prerequisite course, Honors Pre-Calculus or Calculus AB with a final grade of C or higher in both semesters.

Accelerated Summer Courses

Students in grade 9 are eligible to enroll in Accelerated Geometry in the summer before grade 10. Enrollment is based on space available. To be enrolled in the class, students must meet the following requirements:

1) A in grade 9 Algebra I class

or

2) Algebra 1 Teacher Recommendation, B in Algebra I class + 245 or higher on NWEA or 60% on the Geometry Readiness Exam (MDTP)

Students (including students in grade 10 and 11) not meeting these requirements may be placed on a space available wait list (with administrative approval). Without prior written administrative approval, GHCHS does not offer credit or placement for courses completed at other schools.

Credit Recovery Options

Students in grade 9 who do not earn a C or higher in both semesters of Algebra I must complete both semesters of Algebra I the following year. These students are not eligible to complete Algebra I in summer school. This is due to the foundational nature of the concepts and standards in Algebra I. Students in grades 10 and 11 who do

not complete Algebra I with a C or higher are eligible to complete the course in summer school, based on space available.

Recourse

The Charter School offers clear and timely recourse for each student and his or her parent or legal guardian who questions the student's placement, as follows:

a. A parent/legal guardian of any student may submit a written request to the Charter School Executive Director, or his or her designee, that:

- 1) Requests information regarding how the student's mathematics placement was determined. Within five (5) days of receipt, the Charter School Director or designee shall respond in writing to the parent/legal guardian's request by providing the information, including the objective academic measures that the Charter School relied upon in determining the student's mathematics placement.
- 2) Requests that the student retake any placement test, in which case the Executive Director or designee will attempt to facilitate the retest within two (2) weeks.
- 3) Requests reconsideration of the student's mathematics placement based on objective academic measures. Within five (5) school days of receipt, the Charter School Executive Director or designee shall respond in writing to the parent/legal guardian's request. The Executive Director or designee and the student's mathematics teacher must assess the objective academic measures provided by the parent in conjunction with the objective academic measures identified in this policy. Based on this assessment, the Executive Director or designee must determine whether the most appropriate mathematics placement for the student is the student's current placement or another placement, in which case the Executive Director shall specify the mathematics course or level recommended for the student. The Executive Director's or designee's response must provide the determination as well as the objective academic measures that the Executive Director or designee relied upon in making that determination.

b. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Executive Director or designee requires additional time to respond to a parent/legal guardian's request, the Executive Director or designee will provide a written response indicating that additional time is needed. In no event shall the Executive Director's or designee's response time exceed one (1) month.

c. If, after reconsideration of the student's mathematics placement by the Executive Director or designee, the parent/legal guardian is dissatisfied with the student's mathematics placement, the parent/legal guardian may choose to sign a voluntary waiver requesting that the student be placed in another mathematics course against the professional recommendation of the Executive Director or designee, acknowledging and accepting responsibility for this placement.

d. This recourse does not apply to placement into courses required for graduation.