

# GPA is Important but... CREDIT is the Key to Graduation!



## *What do I need to graduate from Del Norte High School?*

It's ALL about that **CREDIT**! By the end of your senior year, you must have **25 credits** in the following content areas:

Course Content	Required Credits
English (9 -12)	4 credits
Math	4 credits one of which must be algebra II or higher
Science	3 credits (Biology, Chemistry, Physics @ DNHS)
Social Studies	3.5 credits
Health	0.50 credit
Physical Education	1 credit
Career or Workplace Readiness or Language other than English	1 credit (See our course catalog for a list of these courses)
Electives	8 credits

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** At least 1 but any one, of the required credits must be an Honor or Advanced Placement course, or a Dual Enrollment or on-line (distance learning) course.

## *How do I get Credits?*

There are two semesters each year, and each semester you will take 7 courses, which are valued at 0.50 a course for a total of 3.5 credits per semester and a total of 7 credits for the year. In order to **EARN** credit for each course you must **PASS** the course with a grade of D (60%) or better! Be careful, attendance also plays a huge roll in your grade!

## *What happens if I don't pass the course with a D or better?*

If you fail a course, that credit will be **LOST** for that specific course for that semester, and will need to be made up as soon as possible. We call this, "credit recovery". The more credits or courses you fail, the further behind you become. Staying on-track from the very beginning of your freshman year is **KEY** to graduation success!

Also keep in mind that if at the end of each year you don't have the required amount of credits to move forward, you will be "reclassified" until you earn the credits you need to move on to the next grade. Take a look at the credits needed to move on to the next grade level:

Credits to Promote to	
Sophomore (10 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	6
Junior (11 <sup>th</sup> )	13
Senior (12 <sup>th</sup> )	19
Graduate	25

## *Success!*

From the very beginning of your freshman year, the *courses* you need to complete are planned out in a very systematic way to help you succeed and to easily attain the *credit* you need to earn your diploma and to graduate from Del Norte High School!

So welcome, and if you have any questions or concerns always stop by to see your counselor in the counseling office 208. Have a successful school year!