

High School Planning Guide



College and Career Readiness Roadmap

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Suggested Course of Study

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English (p)	English (p)	English (p)	English (p)
Integrated Math 1 (p)	Integrated Math 2 (p)	Integrated Math 3 (p)	Pre-Calculus (p)/Math and Personal Finance (p)
Biology (p)	Chemistry (p)	Physics (p)	Environmental Science (p)/Astronomy (p)/Earth and Space Science (p)
College Prep Elective	World History (p)	US History (p)	Government (p)/Economics (p)
Language Other Than English	Language Other Than English	Language Other Than English	College Prep Elective
PE	PE	Visual/Performing Arts	Computer/Study Skills

Graduation Requirements

To graduate from the Learning Choice Academy, students must successfully complete 220 credits (units) of coursework. Ten credits equals one year of work in one class. The Learning Choice Academy considers 5-6 classes a full semester load.

To satisfy the UC/CSU subject requirements, students must complete 150 credits of UC-approved high school coursework in the subjects listed below. These courses are also known as the "a-g" subjects or requirements. At least 70 of the 150 units must be taken in the last two years of high school.

[TLC Graduation Checklist](#) is a useful tool to track progress toward graduation.

Students will complete **an EP approved [community service learning project](#) of 80 hours (minimum)**. Projects should be aligned to college or career goals. It is recommended students complete 20 hours per school year to reach the 80 hours minimum requirement by the end of their senior year. Community service projects are due during the spring semester of students' senior year.

Required "a-g" Subject Courses:

a | History/Social Science – 2 years required

Two years of history/social science, including one year of world history, cultures and geography and one year of U.S. history or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of civics or American government.

b | English – 4 years required

Four years of college-preparatory English that include frequent and regular writing and reading of classic and modern literature. Not more than two semesters of ninth-grade English and no more than one year of ESL-type courses can be used to meet this requirement.

c | Mathematics – 3 years required, 4 years recommended

Three years of college-preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry.

d | Science – 2 years required, 3 years recommended

Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in two of these three core disciplines: biology (which includes anatomy, physiology, marine biology, aquatic biology, etc.), chemistry and physics. The final two years of an approved three-year integrated science program may be used to fulfill this requirement. Not more than one year of ninth-grade laboratory science can be used to meet this requirement.

e | Language Other than English – 2 years required, 3 years recommended

Two years of the same language other than English. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, composition and culture. Courses in a language other than English taken in the seventh and eighth grades may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if your high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.

f | Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) – 1 year required

Two semesters of approved arts courses from a single VAPA discipline: dance, drama/theater, music or visual art. Students entering in the fall of 2006 or later must satisfy the VAPA requirement by completing an appropriate single course in a year-long sequence (i.e., the second semester must be the continuation of the first semester).

g | College Preparatory Electives – 1 year required

One year (two semesters), in addition to those required in "a-f" above, chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts, history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science and language other than English (a third year in the language used for the "e" requirement or two years of another language)

TLC vs. 4-year University Comparison Chart

High School Subject Area	The Learning Choice Academy Requirements	UC/CSU Required Courses
English	40 Units	40 Units
Math	30 Units Must include completion of Integrated Math 1 or equivalent	30 Units Integrated Math 1 or equivalent, Integrated Math 2, Integrated Math 3 (40 recommended)
Science	30 Units Life Science Physical Science Earth Science Environmental Science Astronomy	20 Units Must be a lab science in 2 of these 3 disciplines: Biology, Chemistry & Physics (30 recommended)
Foreign Language	20 Units	20 Units (30 Recommended)
Social Science	30 Units World History US History Government/Economics	20 Units World History US History Government
Physical Education	20 Units	0 Units
Visual & Performing Arts	10 Units	10 Units
Computers/Study Skills	10 Units (Maybe a combination of both or 10 credits of Computers or Study Skills)	0 Units
Electives	30 Units	10 Units
Total Units	220	150
Community Service	Service Project	N/A

UC/CSU Validation of Subject Requirements by Other Courses

Mathematics

A letter grade of C or better in the second semester of Geometry will validate the first semester. A letter grade of C or better in the first semester of Algebra II validates both semesters of Algebra I. A letter grade of C or better in Statistics will validate Algebra I and Algebra II, but will not validate Geometry. Integrated style Math 2 will be accepted in lieu of a Geometry course.

Language Other Than English (LOTE)

A letter grade of C or better in a semester of a higher-level course validates a lower-level course. A higher-level LOTE course can validate the appropriate number of years based on the level. A college course can validate high school LOTE courses. The level of validation depends on the college course prerequisite and description. For courses offered at a California Community College refer to ASSIST and look for the footnote indicating the course is equivalent to two years of high school instruction.

Chemistry

A grade of C or better in the second semester of Chemistry will validate the first semester. (CSU only). UC does not allow validation of Chemistry.

UC/CSU Validation of Deficient Grades (D/F) in Required Courses

Courses in which grades of D/F are earned may be validated in the areas of Math and Language Other Than English (LOTE) by successful completion of higher-level coursework, including D/F grades in Geometry. For UC, refer to the Validation Matrices in [Quick Reference Guide to UC Admissions](#).

UC/CSU Validation of Subject Requirements By Test Scores

Required A-G courses may be satisfied with appropriate test scores on SAT, SAT Subject Tests (taken prior to 2021), Advanced Placement exams, and designated International Baccalaureate exams. A list of acceptable tests and scores is available on the [CSU website](#); for UC, refer to [Quick Reference Guide to UC Admissions](#). For UC, the omission of a course in Geometry cannot be validated by any examination score.

Guidance Information

Grade Point Average

A student's grade point average (GPA) is calculated each semester on the basis of grades received from all of the courses in which the student is enrolled, and these grades are included in transcripts as a part of the student's permanent school record. The GPA is used to determine college and university admissions, scholarships and academic eligibility for graduation.

Beginning with the class of 2025, **students who earn a D** in a course will receive zero credit for the course and the course will need to be completed again for credit.

Below is the grading scale:

A	90-100%	4 points
B	80-89%	3 points
C	70-79%	2 points
D	60-69%	0 points
F	<60%	0 points

Repeating Courses for Credit

A student's GPA for a single grading period and/or their cumulative GPA may be improved if a student 1) earned a grade lower than a "C" and 2) repeats the course with a higher grade. Students may repeat any similar course taken outside the district at TLC in order to improve their GPA. Students should check with their EP or counselor prior to repeating a course to ensure that proper credit will be earned. Note: students who repeat a course for grade improvement will NOT receive additional units of credits. Colleges will not accept a repeat course for grade improvement unless the original grade was below a "C".

Examinations

The SAT & ACT are designed to support the choices juniors will make about their life beyond high school. In fact, millions of students take the test each year as a step on their path to college. It's a globally recognized test to show off the skills and knowledge colleges care about.

The [California State University](#) (CSU) has suspended the use of ACT/SAT examinations in determining admission eligibility for all CSU campuses for the 2022-2023 academic year. This change of admission eligibility applies for the fall 2022, winter 2023 and further admission cycles. Campuses will use a combination of students' "a-g" GPA and supplemental factors to determine admission eligibility.

The [University of California](#) (UC) will not consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admissions decisions or awarding scholarships.

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Concurrent Enrollment

Community College courses may be used to meet some of the above requirements. **A Concurrent Enrollment form must be submitted, approved and signed by the guidance counselor prior to enrolling in Community College.** Only 2 semester-long CC (Community College) courses may be taken at any one time; students must also maintain no less than 4 courses per semester with TLC. Students may also meet the VAPA requirement by taking a UC-transferrable community college course from IGETC category 3A. To determine which courses meet this requirement you can go to the "ASSIST" website at: www.assist.org/web-assist/welcome.html

Financial Aid

Students may apply for the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (FAFSA) starting October 1 of senior year. By applying to FAFSA students may receive a Cal Grant, Pell Grant, work-study, and or loan to help pay for college. Check out the financial aid [newsletter](#).

Undocumented students may apply for financial aid using the [CA DREAM ACT application](#). The DREAM Act (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act) was a bill in Congress that would have granted legal status to certain undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children and went to school here.

Students may apply for [scholarships](#) as early as elementary school. There is no limit in the amount of scholarships you can receive. The more scholarships you submit, the greater chances for receiving FREE money for college.

Additional Information

Students who took a language other than English in 8th grade may have this counted toward language other than English requirements for UC schools and may enroll in a higher level language other than English each year than noted here.

Because all courses that are College Prep must be sent to the University of California system for approval, only textbooks used in the creation of these courses may be utilized by students seeking college prep credit.

Questions?

Contact the school counselors:

Ms. Peterson at samantha.peterson@learningchoice.org

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Ms. Bailey at angelique.bailey@learningchoice.org