



**CLASS OF 2029
FRESHMEN PARENT
NIGHT
AUGUST 21, 2025**

GIA OFFICE OF STUDENT SERVICES

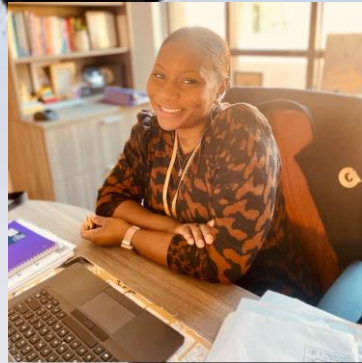
TEAMING UP FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

CASELOADS BY STUDENT LAST NAMES

A-J

Brittany Gibson

GibsonB@fultonschools.org



Marina Berry
MTSS/504

BerryM@fultonschools.org



Nichole Taylor
Social Worker

TaylorN4@fultonschools.org



K-Z

Antonio Grissom

Grissom@fultonschools.org



Deanna Turner
Registrar

TurnerDM@fultonschools.org



Patricia White
Data Clerk

WhiteP1@fultonschools.org



@GIACounselors



GIACounselors

THE ROLE OF A SCHOOL COUNSELOR

We are here for every student

- Academic, career, and social-emotional support
 - Safe space for students to talk and grow
 - Advocates for all students



A PROGRAM LEADER

More Than One-on-One Conversations

- Designs comprehensive school counseling program
- Collaborates with teachers, staff, and families
 - Uses data to support student success



A CONNECTOR OF RESOURCES

Link School, Home, and Community

- College & career readiness guidance
- Referrals for mental health support
- Parent and community partnership



WHAT A SCHOOL COUNSELOR IS NOT

Clearing Up Misconceptions

- ⊙ Not a disciplinarian (that's administration)
- ⊙ Not a therapist (refers for long-term counseling)
 - ⊙ Not just a “schedule changer”
 - ⊙ Not only here for crises



WHY THIS MATTERS FOR PARENTS

- School counselors support every child

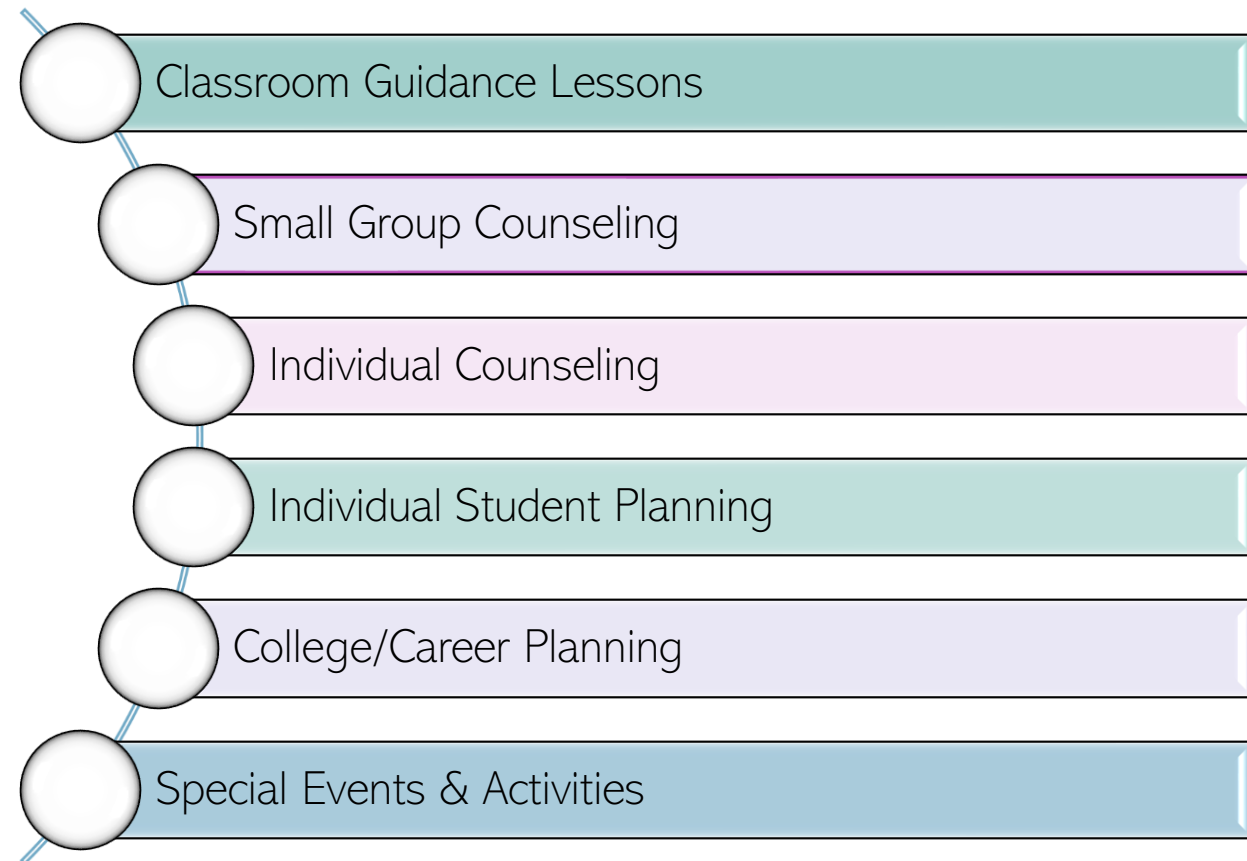
A large, light purple downward-pointing arrow connects the first box to the second box.

- Work with families to break down barriers

A large, light purple downward-pointing arrow connects the second box to the third box.

- Help prepare students for future success

GIA COUNSELING PROGRAM



GIA COUNSELING PROGRAM

9TH GRADE

Classroom Guidance Lessons

- Career Exploration
- High School 101
- Mental Health Awareness/Signs of Suicide

Groups

- Odyssey Counseling
- Counselor Lead Small Groups

Individual Student Meetings

- Student Check-In
- Academic Review & Planning
- Social/Emotional
- Career Interest

GIA COUNSELING PROGRAM

SPECIAL EVENTS

Pathways to
Possibilities(Dual
Enrollment/AP)
December 2025

Honors and
Awards
Spring 2026

Suicide Awareness
Month
September 2025

College Fair
September 12
*Juniors and
Seniors only*

Parent
Information
Nights

Participating Remotely

Students can substitute up to 5 absences per semester (a max of 10 per year) with a remote learning day by meeting the remote learning participation benchmarks listed in policy. This would result in the student being counted as present for the day(s) they participate remotely.

- To be marked present, work must be submitted within 2 days of absence.
- Students may not use a remote learning day on a test day.
- Parent/guardian or student must notify teacher in advance to the start of the instructional day to utilize the participation benchmark rule.
- Schools will make their best effort to provide instruction given early notice.
- For security reasons, students who are out of the country may not participate in remote learning.

Students need to meet the following guidelines to receive credit:

Elementary School (Daily Attendance):

Student participates in synchronous Reading/Language Arts and Math instruction remotely or participates asynchronously as defined by the teacher.

Middle & High School (Period Attendance)

Participates in at least 50% of the school day to be given credit for attendance. Participation may be synchronous instruction remotely or student may participate asynchronously as defined by the teacher.

For excused absences, submit excuses to Mrs. Turner/Ms. White in the Office of Student Services

ATTENDANCE PROTOCOL

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS



- 4- Units of Literature
- 4- Units of Math
- 4- Units of Science
- 3- Units of Social Studies/Social Science
- 1- Unit of Health/Personal Fitness
- 3- Units in a CTAE(Pathway Completer)
- 2- Units World Language
- 2- Units of Electives

9 TH → 10TH : 5 CREDITS

10TH → 11TH : 11 CREDITS

11TH → 12TH : 17 CREDITS

12TH → GRAD: 23 CREDITS + Grad Requirements



UNDERSTANDING CREDITS

EARNING CREDIT

1 Semester Class = .5 credit

1 Yearlong Class = 1 credit (.5 earned per semester)

EACH SEMESTER IS INDEPENDENT

Example:

9th: Grade English/Language Arts

- Semester 1: 60% FAILED
- Semester 2: 80% PASSED

PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

9 TH		10 TH	5 CREDITS
10 TH		11 TH	11 CREDITS
11 TH		12 TH	17 CREDITS
12 TH		GRAD	23 CREDITS

MAKING UP FAILED CLASSES

- Put class on schedule next year
- Summer School (Information around Spring Break)
- On-Line- Fulton Virtual School OR Fulton County Credit Recovery (FCCR)
- If a student fails a class and retakes the class, the new grade does not replace the failing grade. Grades for all attempted classes are shown on the transcript.

UNDERSTANDING GRADES

GRADING SCALE

A (90-100)

B (80-89)

C (70-79)

F (<70)

7 additional points are added to a final grade of 70 or above in approved Honors, Advanced Placement (AP) courses, and Dual Enrollment Courses

PROGRESS REPORTS:

Distributed every 4.5 weeks

REPORT CARDS:

January and May

Final Grades:

Semester grades earned in December and May

INFINITE CAMPUS PARENT PORTAL:

View grades from home via Infinite Campus. Email campusparent@fultonschools.org for login assistance.



Global Impact Academy

Academic Progressions

2025-2026

Content Area	Path	Course 1 (9 th Grade)	Course 2 (10 th Grade)	Course 3 (11 th Grade)	Course 4 (12 th Grade)
Language Arts (4 years of courses required for graduation)	Standard	Lit/Comp I	Lit/Comp II	American Lit/Comp Multicultural Lit/Comp	World Lit/Comp Multicultural Lit/Comp (2025-2026 only)
	Advanced	Lit/Comp I Honors	Lit/Comp II Honors	AP Seminar AP Language and Composition Dual Enrollment	World Lit/Comp Honors AP Research AP English Literature and Composition Dual Enrollment
	Accelerated	Lit/Comp II <i>(must have taken Lit/Comp I or equivalent)</i>	American Lit/Comp Multicultural Lit/Comp	AP Seminar AP Language and Composition Dual Enrollment	AP Research AP English Literature and Composition Dual Enrollment
Mathematics (4 years of courses required for graduation)	Standard	Algebra: Concepts and Connections	Geometry: Concepts and Connections	Advanced Algebra: Concepts and Connections	Pre-Calculus
	Advanced	Geometry: Concepts and Connections Honors <i>(must have taken Algebra: Concepts and Connections or equivalent)</i>	Advanced Algebra: Concepts and Connections Honors	AP Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus AB AP Statistics Dual Enrollment
	Accelerated	Advanced Algebra: Concepts and Connections Honors	AP Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus AB AP Statistics Dual Enrollment	AP Calculus AB AP Statistics Dual Enrollment
Science (4 years of courses required for graduation)	Standard	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Forensic Science Scientific Research
	Advanced	Biology Honors	Chemistry Honors	Physics AP Physics 1	AP Environmental Science AP Biology AP Physics 1 Dual Enrollment
Social Studies (3 years of courses required for graduation)	Standard	Current Issues w/ American Government and Civics	World History	US History	Personal Finance and Economics
	Advanced	AP Human Geography	AP World History	AP US History	AP Macroeconomics w/ AP Microeconomics AP African American Studies Dual Enrollment



Global Impact Academy

Elective and Pathway Progressions

2025-2026

Content Area / Subject		Course 1 (9 th Grade)	Course 2 (10 th Grade)	Course 3 (11 th Grade)	Course 4 (12 th Grade)
World Language	Spanish	Students are required to complete 2 consecutive years of World Language courses for graduation. GIA offers Spanish 1 -5 courses on campus. Other World Language courses can be completed virtually.			
Health and Physical Education	Offered Virtually	Students are required to complete 1 semester of Health and 1 semester of Personal Fitness for graduation. Students participating in extracurricular activities may be eligible for a Physical Education waiver.			
Fine Arts	Applied Design I-IV	GIA offers Visual Arts education through four Applied Design courses focused on the acquisition and application of design elements and principles. In each level of the course, students employ mixed media techniques to develop product designs and presentations that aid prototyping within the Design Thinking framework.			
Cluster	Pathway	Career Technical Clusters and Pathways All students are required to complete at least one pathway.			
Energy	Energy Systems	Foundations of Energy Technologies	Energy & Power Technology	Appropriate & Alternative Energy Technologies	Dual Enrollment or Internship or Work Based Learning
Health Science	Biotechnology Research and Development	Introduction to Healthcare	Essentials of Biotechnology	Applications of Biotechnology	Dual Enrollment or Internship or Work Based Learning
	Patient Care	Introduction to Healthcare	Essentials of Healthcare	Patient Care Fundamentals	Dual Enrollment or Internship or Work Based Learning or 2 nd Pathway
	Pharmacy	Introduction to Healthcare	Essentials of Healthcare	Pharmacy Operations and Fundamentals	Dual Enrollment or Internship or Work Based Learning or 2 nd Pathway
Information Technology	Computer Science	Introduction to Software	Computer Science Principles or AP Computer Science Principles	AP Computer Science A	Dual Enrollment or Internship or Work Based Learning or 2 nd Pathway
	Cybersecurity	Introduction to Hardware	Introduction to Cybersecurity	Advanced Cybersecurity	Dual Enrollment or Internship or Work Based Learning
	Game Design	Introduction to Software	Computer Science Principles or AP Computer Science Principles	Game Design: Animation and Simulation	Dual Enrollment or Internship or Work Based Learning or 2 nd Pathway
Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics	Engineering and Technology	Foundations of Engineering and Technology	Engineering Concepts	Engineering Applications	Dual Enrollment or Internship or Work Based Learning

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS



- College level courses taken in high school and taught by a trained high school teacher.
- Must pass the AP exam with a 3-5 to earn college credit. Scores needed to earn credit varies by college.
- Courses taken 9th -12th grade.



- Grades 10-12 are eligible for Dual Enrollment
- Earn College Credit while still a high school student
- Courses are funded through the state of Georgia
- Students are allowed 30 semester hours/45 quarter hours at no charge

ADVANCED LEVEL COURSES:
Honors/Gifted
Advanced Placement (AP)*
College Courses(Dual Enrollment)*

Seven (7) additional points are added at the end of each semester to passing grades in advanced level courses.

*Student can receive college credit.

HIGH SCHOOL TESTING

PSAT-October 2025

*Students do not need to register

GEORGIA MILESTONES-Milestones subject areas include:

Science: Biology*

Math: Algebra*

Literature: Lit/Comp II

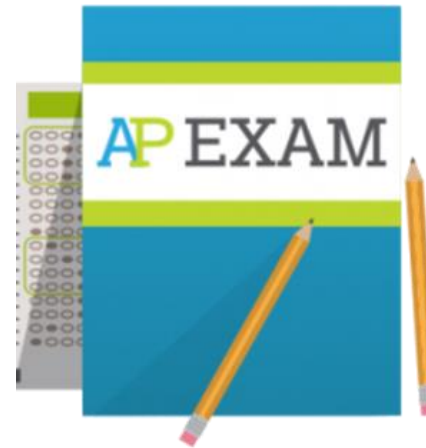
Social Studies: US History

AP EXAMS: May 2026

FINAL EXAMS

Semester 1 December 2025

Semester 2 May 2026



FRESHMEN PARENT TOOL KIT

- Encourage your student to check their student email at least once a day.
- Teach your child how to advocate for themselves.
- Know when to assist and when to step back.
- Check grades often, but not too often!
- Know who your child's friends are.
- Know what your child is doing during non-school hours.
- Stay informed about what is happening at your child's school.
- Push your child but know and accept who your child is.
- Encourage them to take courses that are a best fit for them.
- Encourage student involvement in extracurricular activities.
- Get involved!



BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND

- Pathway Completers(all students)
- End of Pathway Assessment(EOPA)
- National Honor Society(invite only NGA 90+) 10-12
- BETA Club(invite only NGA 85+) 10-12
- Dual Enrollment Honors(3 courses--minimum B average in DE courses)
- World Language Pathway(3 Years)
- Honors Grad—NGA 88+
- Order of the Hive(Top 15%)
- UGA Certificate of Merit(Top 10% during Junior year)



HELPFUL RESOURCES



Create an Account

Sign In



HOPE & State Aid Programs

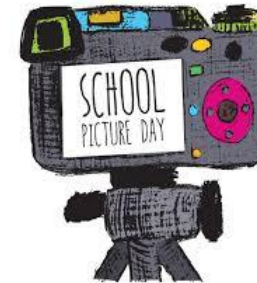


FRESHMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS

GET INVOLVED



- Underclassmen Picture Day
Tuesday, August 26th
- Freshmen SGA Interest Meeting
Monday, August 25th at 4 PM



JOIN THE GIA PTO!!

Your support is greatly appreciated!

FLEX FRIDAY



GIA FLEX FRIDAYS

2025-2026
1st SEMESTER

PATHWAY-SPECIFIC DATES

SEPTEMBER 12

ENGINEERING &
TECHNOLOGY

OCTOBER 10

INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

NOVEMBER 7

HEALTHCARE
SCIENCE



NON-PATHWAY DATES

SEPTEMBER 26

FRESHMAN
ONLY

OCTOBER 24

SOPHOMORES &
JUNIORS

DECEMBER 12

AMNESTY DAY
FOR ALL

*Seniors will be invited each month for special Senior activities.

Ignite the Spark. Illuminate the World!

STAY IN THE LOOP



@GIACounselors



@GIACounselors

Visit GIA's website for up-to-date information:
<https://globalimpactacademy.fultonschools.org/>
Visit the Counseling Department's Web Page.

**FOLLOW
FOLLOW
FOLLOW**

**YOUR FEEDBACK IS
WELCOMED!
THANK YOU 😊**

*Thank
You*

