

Program of Studies

2026-2027

Students and parents should also review the minimum requirements for admission to South Carolina public four-year colleges and universities as specified by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, as well as, the South Carolina requirements for a high school diploma.

Disclaimer: G*CA makes every effort to ensure that the information in this Program of Studies is informative and accurate; however, new statutes and regulations may impact, negate, or change the implementation of the programs and/or courses described. This Program of Studies should in no way be seen as a contract, but as a guideline for students as they move through their high school years.*

GRAY COLLEGIATE ACADEMY'S MISSION STATEMENT

Gray Collegiate Academy will serve high school students in a safe, small, family-centered setting who seek the opportunity and challenge of a rigorous curriculum, high academic standards, outstanding athletics while earning up to two years of college credit while in high school.

GRAY COLLEGIATE ACADEMY'S VISION STATEMENT

Students will: graduate as responsible and contributing citizens; graduate with a high school diploma and up to 56 dual enrollment credits; graduate having been immersed in a college culture and therefore ready to engage in coursework at higher levels; be provided the necessary coaching and skill development to be successful beyond high school; develop into leaders through athletic competition and community service; attain academic, educational, personal, and career-awareness skills in a smaller educational setting; benefit from a multi-ethnic community. At GCA, students, staff, parents and business partners work together to create a safe environment where all have opportunities to learn and respect one another through the use of innovative, collaborative and focused instructional and coaching strategies.

SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Based on State Law, requirements to receive a South Carolina High School Diploma (graduation requirements) for students in grades 9 - 12 are prescribed as follows:

REQUIREMENTS FOR A SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

English/Language Arts 4.0
Mathematics 4.0
Biology 1.0
Science 2.0
U.S. History and the Constitution 1.0
Economics 0.5
Government 0.5
Social Studies Elective 1.0

PE or JROTC 1.0
Computer Science 1.0
World Language/CTE Course 1.0
Electives 7.0
Total 24.0

In order to receive a state high school diploma, the student must have attended the high school issuing the diploma for at least the semester immediately preceding graduation except in the case of a bona fide change of residence to a location where the sending school will not grant the diploma.

In November 2022, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved the requirement that, beginning with the entering freshman class of 2023–24, students will be required to complete a one-half credit in financial literacy to earn a South Carolina High School Diploma.

The graduation requirements beginning with the entering freshman class of 2023–24 will be as follows:

English/Language Arts 4.0
Mathematics 4.0
Biology 1.0
Science 2.0
U.S. History and the Constitution 1.0
Economics 0.5
Government 0.5
Social Studies Elective 1.0
PE or JROTC 1.0
Computer Science 1.0
World Language/CTE Course 1.0
Electives 6.5
Personal Finance 0.5
Total 24.0

SOUTH CAROLINA END OF COURSE EXAMINATION POLICY

After completion of the following courses, the State of South Carolina mandates an end-of-course examination (EOCEP) which will count as 20% of student's final grade:

1. Algebra 1
2. Biology 1
3. English 2
4. U.S. History and the Constitution

GRADING POLICY

Grades will be interpreted for all purposes using the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale. Numerical grades will appear on the report card.

A high school student may withdraw from a course if circumstances warrant. If a student withdraws from a course after the 10th day of a 180-day course or the 5th day of a 90-day course, a grade of 50 will be posted and included in the student's grade point average (GPA). The grade penalty for late withdrawal does not apply in cases in which the school administration cancels a course or initiates other schedule changes. In any case, administrative approval is necessary prior to withdrawal from a course.

Students may retake a course in which a D or F has been earned within the same academic year or no later than the next academic year. Only one course attempt and the highest grade earned for the course will be calculated in the GPA. Students may retake a middle school Carnegie unit only in the 9th grade and, no matter what grade was earned in middle school, only the highest grade will be used in figuring the student's GPA.

Dual Enrollment (DE) courses are college courses taken through the University of South Carolina Union (USCU) which also satisfy the high school credit requirement. A 3-hour college course shall transfer as 1 Carnegie unit on the high school transcript. Students must meet admission requirements set by the university.

Drop/add dates for Dual Enrollment courses will be the same as all the high school courses.

Our Rank Policy follows the SC state-mandated uniform grading scale (UGS) and system.
It is the same for ALL students; includes ALL academic courses at the end of each academic year for every student enrolled in grades 9-12; is demonstrated on the high school school transcript and official end-of-year school rank; and ranks for grades 10-12 are submitted to the SCCHE as required at the end of each school year.

Computing Grade Point Averages (GPA): The state-mandated uniform grading scale and system for calculating GPAs and determining class rank will apply to all courses taken by a student carrying Carnegie units, including units earned at the middle or junior high school level. GPAs are computed using the following formula:

Sum (quality points x units) / Sum of units attempted

The formula will yield each student's GPA, and all grade point averages are then ranked from highest to lowest in the class.

A 90-100
B 80-89
C 70-79
D 60-69
F Below 60
USCU GRADING SCALE

A 90-100
B 80-89
C 70-79
D 60-69
F Below 60
S.C. UNIFORM GRADING SCALE

If a student is enrolled in a college course and a numerical grade isn't assigned the numerical grade will be assigned according to the chart below.

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade
A	95
B	85
C	75
D	65
F	55

GCA CLASS SESSIONS

GCA students playing on GCA teams will get top priority in scheduling. There is no guarantee that your student will get the schedule they prefer. Additionally, a student's schedule may change per semester based on what classes are available and what sports the student is playing. Students who are in the morning session should arrive 10 minutes prior to the start of the school day. Students are considered tardy if they are not in their seat in their classroom when the tardy bell rings. Student start times are staggered throughout the day. Students must be under the direct supervision of a teacher or a coach while on campus. Students who are not attending class, tutoring sessions, or practicing with their coach are not allowed on campus. Students will report to the cafe before their school session. Students will report to the cafe if they wish to purchase snacks or eat their lunch before practice or while waiting for their class session to begin.

DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES

GCA will offer Dual Enrollment courses which allow students to earn both Carnegie units (high school) and college credit. Qualifying students will take these courses on the GCA campus.

We partner with the University of South Carolina Union for the delivery of our dual credit college courses. Students cannot take dual enrollment courses prior to 10th grade and are limited

to two elective dual enrollment courses (a total of 6 college credits) as 10th grade students. Students must qualify for dual enrollment by obtaining a 3.0 GPA or higher at the end of each academic year. Students can earn up to 56 college credit hours at GCA. All dual enrollment courses taken at GCA are also included in the student's college GPA. Dual enrollment students will need to send a USC transcript after graduation to their intended college for the credits to be transferred. Dual enrollment courses offered at GCA are among a list of courses that transfer among and between in-state 4 year colleges. Private and out of state colleges can be subjective about what dual enrollment credits they accept.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The GCA educational program will offer students a service learning component that seeks to develop service to others. Each GCA student will be required to participate in 40 hours of community service as part of the educational program. Research shows that youth who participate in community-based service learning are likely to benefit in the following manner. (Tannanbaum, 2007)

- Young people in service learning gain a wide range of access to developmental assets that enable them to grow up healthy, caring, and responsible.
- Young people gain an increased sense of self-efficacy as they realize their impact on social challenges, problems, and needs.
- Higher academic achievement and furthering their education
- Enhanced problem-solving skills, ability to work in teams, and plan
- Enhanced civic engagement attitudes and behaviors

NCAA & NAIA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) serves as the athletic governing body for more than 1,200 colleges, universities, conferences, and organizations.

The NCAA Eligibility Center certifies the academic and amateur credentials for all college bound student athletes who wish to compete in NCAA Division I or II athletics.

Questions regarding NCAA eligibility should be directed to the Athletic Director. Information pertaining to the NCAA can be found at http://www.eligibilitycenter.org . Students are responsible for ensuring NCAA eligibility and should go to the above website to obtain a copy of the NCAA Guide for the College Bound Athlete.

<u>The NAIA and NAIA Eligibility Center</u>

The NAIA is a community of nearly 300 member colleges and universities, 60,000 student athletes and an environment that focuses on athletic participation as one part of the total education process. The NAIA Eligibility Center is responsible for determining the NAIA eligibility of first-time student-athletes.

Questions regarding NAIA eligibility should be directed to the Athletic Director. Information pertaining to the NAIA can be found at www.naia.org . Students are responsible for ensuring NAIA eligibility and should go to the above website to obtain a copy of the NAIA Guide for the College Bound Student Athlete.

COMMENCEMENT

Only those students who meet all requirements for graduation may participate in the commencement exercises held at the end of the school year. Failure to complete graduation requirements will prohibit participation in commencement exercises. For any student at Gray Collegiate Academy, for all official school business, our school uses our students' legal names. If any student or family changes a student's legal name, we update that student's official record in our student information system (PowerSchool) which impacts, among other examples, their schedule, official transcript, and diploma. Likewise, we use the students' legal names in graduation programs and during the graduation ceremony.

HOMEWORK, MAKEUP WORK, AND GRADING POLICY

HOMEWORK

The immediate educational purpose for homework is:

- To reinforce skills and concepts learned in class;
- To develop study skills and habits;
- To practice skills and knowledge in ways not readily accomplished in the classroom; and
- To inform parents of what is being taught in the classroom.

Homework assignments should be expected Monday through Friday of each week and on some weekends. The amount of time required to complete homework assignments will be based on the student's ability and the instructor's curriculum timeline. As cited in A Nation at Risk, "the single most important factor for determining whether children will go to college is being properly prepared." College is the destination for GCA students; becoming a lifelong learner to ensure success throughout one's lifetime is the ultimate goal.

GCA is proud to have a challenging, rigorous curriculum. This is one of the many things that makes GCA a great school. With such a rich and rigorous curriculum, the students need time to work at home. We are aware that the student is involved with other interests and activities outside of school. The staff and administration will attempt to coordinate their schedules and calendars, so the students are not inundated with work on the same day. It is understood that homework will be given and will vary depending on the work assigned on a given day, the student's organizational skills and study habits, and the nature of the assignments. Students are expected to learn how to use their free time effectively to complete the required work at each grade level.

MAKE-UP WORK

A student who misses class work, homework assignments, or other assignments with established due dates because of excused absences, will be allowed three (3) school days to complete work missed.

REPORT CARDS

Current grades are available by accessing the student or parent portal PowerSchool account. Grades are considered final at the quarter, semester, and year end terms. GCA students will receive student report cards at the end of each quarter which will be sent home with students. Final report cards for all grades will be available approximately one week after conclusion of school.

GRADING RATIO AND CLASS RANK

Honors credit may be earned only for courses that have published syllabi that establish higher standards. Honors credit may be awarded at all levels of English, science, mathematics, and social studies but only for the third and fourth levels in a course sequence in other content areas.

- Honors - add 0.5 quality points
- Dual Credit/Advanced Placement -add 1.0 quality points (unless otherwise noted).

The formula below will yield the student's GPA that can be ranked from highest to lowest rank in class. The GPA will be calculated to three decimal places. All diploma candidates will be included in the ranking. Students who tie for a rank will share the rank.

Grade Point Average will be calculated using the following formula: GPA = Sum (quality points x units attempted) / Sum of units attempted

SAT AND ACT

SAT

T**he SAT (formerly the Scholastic Aptitude Test)** is a college entrance exam now administered in a digital, adaptive format. It consists of two sections: Reading and Writing, and Math. Each section is delivered in two adaptive modules. The test lasts approximately 2 hours and 14 minutes. Math questions assess skills in algebra, advanced math, problem-solving, data analysis, and some geometry and trigonometry. Each section is scored on a 200–800 scale, for a total score range of 400–1600. The optional essay is no longer offered.

ACT

The ACT (American College Test) is a college entrance exam consisting of four required sections: English, mathematics, reading, and science. An optional writing section may also be taken. Each of the four required sections is scored on a scale of 1–36, and the ACT composite score is the average of these four section scores.

Both the SAT and ACT scores are accepted by all South Carolina state-supported colleges and universities for admission, as well as for LIFE and Palmetto Fellows scholarship qualification.

SOUTH CAROLINA UNIFORM GRADING SCALE CONVERSIONS

10 Point Grading Scale

South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions				
Numerical Average	Letter Grade	College Prep Weighting	Honors Weighting	AP/IB/Dual Credit Weighting
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All core classes will be taught at the honors level in middle school and during the freshman and sophomore year to support our mission and prepare students for the dual enrollment curriculum their junior and senior year.

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

The South Carolina College- and Career-Ready (SCCCR) Standards have been adopted by South Carolina as the standards for English Language Arts. The standards provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents know what they can do to help students succeed. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers.

English I Honors
302400 HW
Grades 8, 9
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of English Language Arts
Prerequisite: Eighth Grade Language Arts or English I CP/H in Eighth Grade for high school credit.
This course is based on the South Carolina Curriculum Standards for English Language Arts, Grade 9. English I Honors is a fast-paced, rigorous, enriched course that requires independent learning from the students. Students develop skills through a sustained and structured study of classic World Literature. The standards emphasize authentic, real-world and higher-level reading and writing skills. Students learn to identify the characteristics that distinguish literary forms and to explain the influence a historical period has on the form, style, and point of view of a written work. Students synthesize, analyze, and critique reading selections and build an extended and specialized vocabulary. Student writings include argumentative and literary expository essays. Students will select and utilize effective literary characteristics and techniques appropriate for the audience and purpose of the writing.

English II Honors
302500HW
Grades 9, 10
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of English Language Arts
Prerequisite: English I CP or English I Honors
This course is based on the South Carolina Curriculum Standards for English Language Arts, Grade 10. English II Honors is a fast-paced, rigorous, enriched course that requires independent learning from the students. Students develop skills through a sustained and structured study of classic and contemporary works from World Literature. The standards emphasize authentic,

real-world and higher level reading and writing skills. Students will explain the similarities and differences in literary genres as well as analyze universal themes from literature of different cultures. Students critique reading selections and build an extended and specialized vocabulary. Students also interpret, compare/contrast, synthesize, analyze, and apply information from reading selections. Student writings include argumentative and literary expository essays. Students will select and utilize effective literary techniques appropriate for the audience and purpose of the writing. A state-mandated end-of-course examination must be given to every student enrolled in this course. The score on this examination will count 20% of the final grade.

English III Honors
302600HW
Grades 10, 11
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of English Language Arts
Prerequisite: English II CP or English II Honors
In this course, students gather relevant information from multiple print and multimedia sources. Students effectively assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience, integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and over-reliance on any one source and follow a standard format for citation. Students write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences. Students must initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one- on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners about topics, texts and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively. Students present information, findings, and supporting evidence to convey a clear and distinct perspective, such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning. Students ensure the organization, development, substance, and style of their presentation (written or oral) are appropriate to the purpose and audience in a range of formal and informal tasks. Students engage in Socratic Seminars where they seek deeper understanding of complex ideas in text through rigorously thoughtful dialogue. Students acquire and use accurate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level. By the end of the course, students should be able to read and comprehend a variety of literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

English IV Honors
302700HW
Grade 12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of English Language Arts
Prerequisite: English III CP or English III Honors
In this course, students gather relevant information from multiple print and multimedia sources. Students effectively assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience, integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation. Students write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection,

and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences. Students must initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners about topics, texts and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively. Students present information, findings, and supporting evidence to convey a clear and distinct perspective, such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning. Students ensure the organization, development, substance, and style of their presentation (written or oral) are appropriate to the purpose and audience in a range of formal and informal tasks. Students acquire and use accurate general academic and domain specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level. By the end of the course, students should be able to read and comprehend a variety of literary and informational texts proficiently.

MATHEMATICS

A quality mathematics program is essential to help students develop ways of thinking, solving problems, communicating mathematically, and making decisions that enable them to become informed citizens and consumers, competent employees and employers, and productive members of society. The following high school math sequence will be implemented starting in 2025-2026 to provide a strong foundation in concrete and foundational math learning before moving to the more abstract algebraic concepts: Geometry with Statistics Honors, Algebra I Honors, Algebra II with Probability Honors, and either DE College Algebra or Discrete Math Honors.

Geometry with Statistics Honors

412200HW
Grades 8, 9
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of Mathematics

Geometry with Statistics Honors meets the South Carolina Mathematics standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses. This course is designed to formalize and extend students' geometric experiences from the middle grades. Students explore more complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, moving towards formal mathematical arguments. Geometry provides students with tools to solve problems about objects and shapes in two- and three-dimensions, including theorems about universal truths and spatial reasoning. In this course, students are expected to apply mathematics in meaningful ways to solve problems that arise in the workplace, society, and everyday life through the process of modeling. Transformations are emphasized in this course. Some additional areas of focus will be reasoning to complete geometric constructions, prove theorems - using a variety of formats, apply similarity in right triangles to understand right triangle trigonometry, develop the law of sine and cosine, write the equation of circles, and continue their study of quadratics by connecting the geometric and algebraic definitions of the parabola.

Algebra I Honors

411400HW
Grades 9, 10

Graduation Credit: 1 unit of Mathematics
Prerequisite: Geometry
Algebra I Honors meets the South Carolina Mathematics standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses. This course is designed for students who have completely mastered the middle level SC state math standards and are ready to begin moving into advanced topics. Emphasis is placed on deepening and extending understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other, to include arithmetic and geometric sequences. Students will engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. Other areas of focus will be utilizing rational exponents, systems involving quadratic expressions, using functions to model relationships, interpreting functions, and making judgments about the appropriateness of linear models. Students enrolled in this course will take a South Carolina End-of-Course Exam that will count for 20% of their final grade.

Algebra II with Probability Honors (Algebra 2 Honors prior to 2025-26)
411500HW
Grades 10, 11, 12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of Mathematics
Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry
Algebra II with Probability Honors meets the South Carolina Mathematics standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses. In Algebra 2, students extend their study of foundational algebraic concepts, such as linear functions, equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, absolute value functions, and exponential functions. In this course, students are expected to apply mathematics in meaningful ways to solve problems that arise in the workplace, society, and everyday life through the process of modeling. Students should use a variety of technologies, such as graphing utilities, spreadsheets, and computer algebra systems, to solve problems and to master standards in all Key Concepts of this course.

Discrete Math Honors
414200HW
Grades 11, 12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of Mathematics
Prerequisites: Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2
Discrete Math Honors meets the South Carolina Mathematics standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses. This course includes the study of mathematical properties of sets and systems that have a finite number of elements. The topics include set theory, logic, graph theory, numeration systems and number theory, modeling, consumer mathematics, descriptive statistics, and apportionment (fairness, voting methods). Students will use graphing calculators and/or computer software as tools for solving problems.

NATURAL SCIENCES
High school science, through a number of separate courses, includes instruction in the content areas of the South Carolina Science Curriculum Standards: life science, earth science, and physical science. Since the major objective of science instruction is to promote scientific

thinking, the inquiry strands are integrated into all the science content areas. All GCA Science based courses will have at least 40 percent of the instructional time devoted to student- centered laboratory experiences as per Strand I Inquiry in the South Carolina Science Standards, grades 9 - 12. A sound grounding in science strengthens many of the skills that people need to use every day, such as solving problems creatively, thinking critically, working cooperatively in teams, using technology effectively, and valuing lifelong learning. Although only three science courses are required for graduation with a South Carolina High School Diploma, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education recommends four science courses. College bound students are required to take three units of laboratory science.

Biology I Honors
322100HW
Grade 9
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of Lab Science
Prerequisite: Ninth Grade - Completion of an honors Eighth Grade Science course
Biology I Honors meets the South Carolina Science standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses.This introductory laboratory-based course is designed to give students a sound background in the major biological concepts. Biology I is designed to be both academically rigorous and realistic for students pursuing entry into a four-year college. Biology I builds on the chemical principles learned in physical science. Topics include: the cell; molecular basis of heredity; biological evolution; interdependence of organisms; matter, energy, and organization in living systems; and taxonomy. Laboratory activities provide numerous opportunities for students to develop science process skills, critical thinking, and an appreciation for the nature of science through investigative, hands-on lab activities. Biology I Honors requires more effort and in-depth learning than College Prep Biology. A state mandated End-of-Course Examination must be given to every student enrolled in this course. The score will count 20% of the final grade.

Biology II CP
322200CW
Grades 11-12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of Lab Science
Prerequisite: Biology I; and or Chemistry
Biology II CP is a lab science course designed for students who have completed Biology 1 and Chemistry. The course includes the study of animal behavior, the basics of biotechnology, anatomy and physiology of the human body and ecology. Laboratory investigations are included to reinforce the understanding of living things, their functions, and their interrelationships.

Chemistry I Honors
323100HW
Grade 10
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of Lab Science

Prerequisite: Algebra I or teacher placement Recommended: Biology I
Chemistry I Honors meets the South Carolina Science standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses. The course provides an introduction to major chemistry principles and builds on concepts introduced in physical science and earth science. This is a mathematics-based course in which a working knowledge of algebra is critical for success. Through well-designed laboratory experiences students will master concepts, use problem solving skills, and apply them to real-world situations. Topics included in the course are: chemical safety, atomic theory, the periodic system, chemical reactions and stoichiometry, gas laws, solutions and solubility, and acid base chemistry. Investigative, hands-on lab activities that address the South Carolina Inquiry Standards are an integral part of this course. Honors Chemistry I prepares a student for College Chemistry through an in-depth study of the sequential development of major principles with emphasis on a quantitative approach to problem solving, research, and extensive laboratory experiences.

SOCIAL STUDIES
All social studies courses are aligned with the South Carolina Social Studies Academic Standards. To receive a South Carolina High School Diploma students must earn three units in social studies. United States History (1 unit), United States Government (½ unit), and Economics (½ unit) are required courses. The third unit must be a course designated as a social studies elective. These courses are designed to provide students with an understanding of the culture and history of the United States and the world around them while developing as informed, responsible citizens in a democratic society.

Human Geography Honors
330700HW
Grade: 9
Graduation Credit: 1 unit of Social Studies
Human Geography Honors meets the South Carolina Social Studies standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses. Throughout the course, students will use the skills of geographers. As an honor course this class will distinguish itself from the college prep course through additional rigor, depth of content, and an emphasis on the use of social science data. Scholarly inquiry and research skills will be promoted. Using a variety of materials, students will deepen their understanding of the themes of human geography. The course is challenging and requires students to take greater responsibility for their learning by participating in problem solving.

American Studies
339911CW
Grade 10
Graduation Credit: 1 unit
American Studies is a blended English and U.S. History course for 10th grade students that emphasizes the connections between literature, culture, and history. Students who take this course will have the opportunity to study early American history simultaneously with literature

from the period. This course is designed as a pre-U.S. History course to prepare the 11th grade students for the U.S. History and the Constitution Honors course.

U.S. History and Constitution Honors
332000HW
Grade 11
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (U.S. History and Constitution)
United States History and the Constitution Honors meets the South Carolina Social Studies standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses. This course is designed to teach students the basic historical facts, concepts, and essential understandings needed to comprehend the history of our country. The course includes events and topics from colonization to the end of the nineteenth century and emphasizes the political, economic, social, and cultural history of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Particular emphasis is given to the interrelationship of history, geography, government, and economics. Students will develop their analytical and writing skills through work with primary source documents. A state-mandated End-of-Course Examination must be given to every student enrolled in this course. The score will count 20% of the final grade.

U.S. Government Honors
333000HH
Grade 12
Graduation Credit: ½ unit (U.S. Government)
United States Government Honors meets the South Carolina Social Studies standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses. This course in American Government and politics is designed for the responsible, self-motivated student. Candidates considering this course should be prepared to complete extensive group and independent study projects as well as class presentations. While this course satisfies objectives common to all Government offerings, the pace will be accelerated, providing the opportunity for in depth examination of current issues, events, and trends in national, state and local politics.

Economics and Personal Finance Honors
330800HH
Grade 12
Graduation Credit: ½ unit (Economics)
Economics and Personal Finance Honors meets the South Carolina Social Studies standards as well as the state criteria for honors courses. This is a course in micro- and macro-economics designed for the advanced student. Candidates applying for this course must be self-motivated and capable of working independently, especially in research. The emphasis and pace of this course differs from that of the other economics courses. Students are responsible for developing an awareness of current national and international economic topics. Classroom participation is expected and is included in the student's final evaluation. Instruction in the area of personal finance is included. The course curriculum satisfies the South Carolina state standards in

Economics. The curriculum used in this course is guided by the Economics and Personal Finance 2020 SC Standards.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Spanish I
365100CW
Grades 9–12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (World Language)
This course introduces the structure and phonetic system of the Spanish language with emphasis on oral proficiency and writing skills. The cultures of Spain and Latin America are studied.

Spanish II
365200CW
Grades 9–12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (World Language)
Prerequisite: Spanish I
This course expands and continues the skills introduced in Spanish I with continued emphasis on oral and written proficiency.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH EDUCATION

One unit of credit in physical education is required in order to receive a South Carolina High School Diploma. Physical Education 1, which includes a personal fitness and wellness component and a lifetime fitness component, meets this requirement.

Physical Education I - ONLINE
344100CW
Grades 9-12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (Physical Education with Health)
This Physical Education I course is a performance-based class that is mandatory and meets the requirements for graduation in the State of South Carolina. This co-educational course is designed with a variety of activities from which to choose along with the skills to live a healthy lifestyle. The course is designed to focus on and help the student achieve and maintain a health enhancing lifestyle.
Students will participate in three basic fitness categories: cardiorespiratory fitness, muscular strength/endurance and flexibility. The class includes a health and wellness component. The curriculum used for this course is from the Edmentum courseware.

Physical Education II-IV
Grades 9-12
Graduation Credit: ½ unit or 1 unit
Prerequisite: Physical Education I
This course combines personal fitness and team and individual sports. It presents a wide array of topics related to health, physical fitness and the establishment of a high quality lifestyle. Students

learn how to assess their own health and fitness levels, and based on that knowledge, to design their own personal fitness programs. Students are involved in a wide range of fitness activities and are expected to perform only at their own level. Every effort is made to help each student recognize significant gains in self-esteem. It includes an emphasis on lifetime sports, recreational activities, and team activities.

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

GCA will provide a free and appropriate public education for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who attain the same competencies required of non-disabled students receive a South Carolina State High School Diploma. GCA understands and will comply with the requirements of all State and federal statutes, laws, regulations and sponsor-specific policies/procedures when serving students with special needs. GCA will provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to all students with disabilities, including all documentation, assessments, adaptations, modifications and accommodations.

The purpose of the special education teacher will be to help identify students that may need special services and to provide support within the classroom for those students already identified.

29030120 Academic Support

379950 MLP Prep English - English for Speakers of Other Languages I - This elective course is designed to assist non-English speaking students in their transition to regular high school classes.

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (CTE) IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL

Career Technology Education includes courses and career majors which serve the total school population through relevant curricula oriented toward providing career direction, a sound foundation for advanced study in a variety of career pathways, and the development of employability skills. CTE pathways include courses that are structured to develop specific skills and knowledge for particular career majors designed to build upon previous coursework and connect high school learning to post-secondary education and industry certifications.

ALL GCA students are required to take a CTE course during the entire school year, every year. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Personal Finance (Required for freshmen entering 2023-2024. Course does not replace the yearly CTE requirement.)

514100CH

Grade 9

Graduation Credit: .5 Credit Unit (CTE-Personal Finance)

Personal Finance fulfills the requirement for graduation credit. It is designed to help students develop skills to make informed financial decisions, manage financial resources, and plan for future financial success. Using experiential activities, students will learn the basic principles of personal finance and how to manage their money in a global economy, which include budgeting, banking, insurance, mortgages, savings, investments, inheritance, retirement, tax, and estate

planning. Students will also learn about consumer protection laws, internet safety, and cyber security, enabling them to safeguard financial information against technology-based attacks.

Fundamentals of Computing
502300CW
Grade 9
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (Computer Science)
Fundamentals of Computing is designed to introduce students to the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Through creativity and innovation, students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills to implement projects that are relevant to students' lives. They will create a variety of computing artifacts. Upon completion of the course, students will be familiar with the basic principles of a personal computer, including the internal hardware, the operating system, and software applications.

Workplace Communications
504101CW
Grade 10-12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (CTE)
Upon completion of this course, students will learn to communicate in a clear, courteous, concise, complete, and correct manner on both personal and professional levels. Competency will be developed in oral, written, interpersonal, technological, and employment communication. Listening skills will be incorporated throughout the course.

Image Editing
534001CW
Grade 11
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (CTE)
Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Computing
The course is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to utilize digital imaging software in editing and designing images and graphics. Students also learn the use of technologies related to digital imaging such as basic computer operations, file sharing across networks, digital scanning, digital photography, and preparing documents for output to various types of media.

Digital Publication Design
517600CW
Grade: 12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (CTE)
Prerequisite: None
The Digital Publication Design course allows students to use their creativity to produce business and personal publications. Students create, format, illustrate, design, edit/revise, and print publications including newsletters, flyers, brochures, reports, advertising materials, catalogs,

posters, and other publications. Students who excel have the opportunity to earn a nationally recognized Adobe certification.

Sports Medicine I
555502CW
Grades 9-12
Graduation Credit:1 unit (CTE)
Prerequisite: Students are encouraged, but not required to have previous or concurrent course work in the biological sciences.
Sports Medicine I is designed for students who wish to pursue a career in the medical or paramedical fields. Students interested in healthcare careers in athletic training, physical therapy, medicine, exercise physiology, nursing, biomechanics, nutrition, psychology, and radiology will benefit from this course. Subject matter includes components of exercise science, kinesiology, anatomy/ musculoskeletal, injuries, nutrition, injuries, and rehabilitation. Other topics include first aid, safety, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), legal issues in the sports medicine field, and members of the sports medicine team. Students assist in after school activities and four athletic game experiences during the semester as part of a practiced experience.

Sports Medicine II
555601CW
Grades 9-12
Graduation Credit:1 unit (CTE)
Prerequisite: Sports Medicine I with 70 or above.
Sports Medicine II is designed to build off of the knowledge from Sports Medicine I with emphasis on assessment and rehabilitation of injuries along with how the other body systems are affected when an injury occurs. Topics will include the diagnostic process of an injury evaluation, the use of appropriate therapeutic modalities and therapeutic exercise in the care of injuries. Focus will be on the lower body. Advanced concepts related to the administrative aspects of the sports medicine program will also be covered in this course. Other career roles in Sports Medicine will be discussed as the athletic trainer takes the injured athlete through the pathway of recovery and which practitioners are involved. Students assist in 15 hours of after school activities and 4 athletic game experiences during the semester as part of a clinical experience.

Sports Medicine III
555700CW
Grades 10-12
Graduation Credit:1 unit (CTE)
Prerequisite: Sports Medicine I and II with a 70 or above.
Students must have successfully completed Sports Medicine 2 with a 70 or higher.
Sports Medicine III is designed to build off of the knowledge from Sports Medicine I and II with emphasis on assessment and rehabilitation of injuries along with how the other body systems are affected when an injury occurs. Topics will include the diagnostic process of an injury

evaluation, the use of appropriate therapeutic modalities and therapeutic exercise in the care of injuries. Focus will be on the upper body, head neck spine and core. Other career roles in Sports Medicine will be discussed as the athletic trainer takes the injured athlete through the pathway of recovery and which practitioners are involved. Students will assist in after school activities/practice coverage and participate in a minimum of 6 athletic game experiences during the semester as part of a clinical experience.

Sports Medicine Internship
559100CW
Grades 10-12
Graduation Credit:1 unit (CTE)
Prerequisite: Sports Medicine I, II, and III with a 70 or above.
The Sports Medicine Internship is designed to be the culmination of knowledge from Sports Medicine I, II, and III. Students will take this knowledge and complete work based learning through shadowing experiences and volunteer hours in local healthcare facilities such as physical therapy clinics, fitness gyms/weight rooms, hospitals, etc. The students will focus on hands-on learning in addition to classroom experiences.

Mechanical Design I
617200CW
Grades: 8-11
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (CTE)
Mechanical Design I is a broad introduction to mechanical design using Computer-Aided Design (CAD) tools and freehand sketching fundamentals. Emphasis is placed on a thorough understanding of projection principles and the visualization of exact space conditions relevant to 3D modeling. Students will understand basic drafting concepts and standards and use industry software to construct 2D and 3D drawings.

Mechanical Design II
617300CW
Grades: 9-12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (CTE)
Prerequisite: C or above in Mechanical Design I
Mechanical Design II will focus on the understanding of the standard engineering views used throughout the engineering profession. This course utilizes AutoCAD 2D design software as well as 3D Inventor Modeling software to help the student understand single view drawings, descriptive geometry, orthographic projection, section views, auxiliary views, pictorial drawings, threads, working drawings and gears.

Architectural Design 1
617000CW
Grades: 9-12
Graduation Credit: 1 unit (CTE)

Prerequisite: Mechanical Design 1 and 2 or Mechanical Design 1 with recommendation.
The Architectural Design program prepares students to perform entry-level tasks under the supervision and guidance of architects and/or architectural engineers in the development and preparation of plans for residential and/or commercial buildings. Instruction is given in design technology and techniques, computer-aided design, zoning laws, building codes, cost planning, material requirements, styling, and client preferences. Upon successful completion of the architectural design program, students will be prepared for postsecondary education and entry-level architectural-related careers.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Art Appreciation
351103CW
Grades 10–12
1 unit (Fine Arts)
This entry-level, survey-style course provides students with: foundational knowledge of various art forms; basic art concepts, terminology and techniques; tools and materials; cultural literacy; art history; and art career information. Hands-on learning activities are undertaken in drawing, printmaking, painting, ceramics and sculpture. Class critiques, written tests and written reports are required. The Art Appreciation offering will alternate each year with the offering of Music Appreciation.

Music Appreciation
356100CW
Grades 10–12
1 unit (Fine Arts)
A chronological survey of music through the ages, with emphasis on the development of music in relation to the other arts and history from antiquity to the present. Aside from the lectures, musical and artistic examples are employed through recordings and audio visual devices. Students are required to listen to assigned musical works outside of class.

COLLEGE/DUAL CREDIT COURSES

Dual Enrollment courses are college courses taken through USC Union and USC Lancaster or other accredited colleges that can also satisfy high school credit requirements. A 3-semester hour college course shall transfer as 1 Carnegie unit at the high school. Students must have a 3.0 GPA and turn in a completed dual enrollment application and financial aid forms along with a copy of valid driver's license or copy of birth certificate. South Carolina public two and four- year colleges and universities have a list of courses that are transferable within the state public college system.

ARTE 101: DE History and Appreciation of Art
352000EW
Grades 10,12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Fine Arts)
Introduction to art appreciation. Elements and principles of the visual arts, with examples from the history of art.

ARTE 111: DE Basic Drawing I
451000EW
Grades 11, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Fine Arts)
Introduction to the materials and basic techniques of drawing.

BIOL 101: DE Biology I and Lab
322800EW
Grades 11, 12
1 high school unit 4 college credits (Lab Sciences)
Introductory survey of macromolecules, cell structure and function, genetics, and molecular biology.
*This course requires a consumable workbook for the lab. The cost of this text will be the student's responsibility.

BIOL 110: DE General Biology and Lab
921900EW
Grade 11, 12
1 high school unit 4 college credits (Lab Sciences)
Introductory survey, science inquiry, cell structure and function, genetics, ecology, and evolution.
*This course requires a consumable workbook for the lab. The cost of this text will be the student's responsibility.

BIOL 243: DE Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab
326600EW
Grade 12 Prerequisite: BIOL 101 or BIOL 110
1 high school unit 4 college credits (Lab Sciences)
The first part of a two-semester sequence, this comprehensive transfer course is a lecture and laboratory study with models of the integrated structure and function of the human body.The course will cover basic cellular chemistry, tissues, integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous systems are presented. Cytology and histology are emphasized.
*This course requires a consumable workbook for the lab. The cost of this text will be the student's responsibility.

ENGL 101: DE English Composition I
301500EW
Grades 11, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (English Language Arts)
This course is a study of composition in conjunction with appropriate literary selections, with frequent theme assignments to reinforce effective writing. It also reviews standard usage and presents basic research techniques. Successful completion of English 101 fulfills the English 4 requirement.
*This course requires the purchase of a novel, the cost of which will be the student's responsibility.

ENGL 102: DE English Composition II
301600EW
Grades 11, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (English Language Arts)
Prerequisite: C or better in ENG 101
This course includes the development of writing skills through logical organization, effective style, literary analysis, research and an introduction to literary genres.
*This course requires the purchase of a novel, the cost of which will be the student's responsibility.

FINA 369 - DE Personal Finance (Satisfies graduation requirement for personal finance.)
528000EW
Grades 10-12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Finance)
This course covers life insurance, health insurance, wills, trusts, Social Security, stocks, bonds, real estate, mutual funds, and other uses of funds and meets the personal finance course requirement for graduation beginning with the Class of 2027.

HIST 111: DE American History to 1877
332100EW
Grades 11, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Social Studies)
A general survey of the United States from the era of discovery to 1877, emphasizing major political, economic, social, and intellectual developments.

HIST 112: DE American History 1877 to Present
332200EW
Grades 11, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Social Studies)
A general survey of the United States from 1877 to the present, emphasizing major political, economic, social, and intellectual developments.

MATH 111: DE College Algebra
413300EW
Grades 11, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Mathematics)
This course includes, but not limited to, the following concepts: linear, quadratic, and rational equations; equations with radicals; inequalities; equations and inequalities involving absolute values; equations of lines; properties of, transformations of, combining, composite of, inverse, quadratic, and polynomial functions; synthetic division; real and complex zeros; and rational functions.

MATH 115: DE Precalculus Mathematics
414400EW
Grades 11-12
1 high school unit 4 college credits (Mathematics)
Prerequisite: C or better in MATH 111
Topics in precalculus are specifically needed for MATH 141, 142, 241.
This course includes, but not limited to, the following concepts: angles; triangles; trigonometric functions; reference angles; trigonometric identities; right triangle trigonometry; radian measure; arc length; area of a sector; unit circle; amplitude and period; translations of circular functions; inverse trigonometric functions; trigonometric equations; law of sines and cosines; area of a triangles, subsets of the real line, absolute value; polynomial, rational, inverse, logarithmic, exponential functions; circular functions; analytic trigonometry.

MATH 141: DE Analytical Geometry & Calculus I
413600EW
Grade 12
1 high school unit 4 college credits (Mathematics)
Prerequisite: C or better in MATH 115
Functions, limits, derivatives, introduction to integrals, the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, applications of derivatives and integrals.

MATH 142: DE Analytical Geometry & Calculus II
413700EW
Grade 12
1 high school unit 4 college credits (Mathematics)
Prerequisite: C or better in MATH 141
This course includes the following topics: continuation of calculus of one variable, including analytic geometry, techniques of integration, volumes by integration, and other applications; infinite series, including Taylor series and improper integrals.

MGMT 371: DE Principles of Management
674000EW

Grade 10-12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (CTE/Business/Equated to CTE 5092 when DE)
This course is a study of management theories, emphasizing the management functions of planning, decision making, organizing, leading, and controlling.

MUSC 110: DE Music Appreciation
356500EW
Grades 10, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Fine Arts)
Perceptive listening and appreciation of musical elements, forms and style periods, including composers' lives, individual styles and representative works. Emphasis on classical music; jazz and American popular music included.

MUSC 145: Introduction to Music Literature
458700EW
Grades 10-12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Fine Arts)
Prerequisites: C or above in MUSC 110
Listening to examples of all style periods and genres of Western music. Analysis of form and other audible style characteristics. Study of major works of the concert repertory.

MUSC 114: DE Introduction to Music Theory NOT CURRENTLY OFFERED
952300EW
Grades 10-12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Fine Arts)
Prerequisite: C or better in MUSC 110
Listening to examples of all style periods and genres of Western music. Analysis of form and other audible style characteristics. Study of major works of the concert repertory.

PCAM 205: **DE Foundations of Leadership**
875100EW
Grade 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits
This course combines leadership theory with practical application, equipping students with the knowledge and skills needed to work more effectively with people, become better leaders, and reach their professional goals.

PEDU 302: DE Foundations of Coaching
942800EW
Grade 10-12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Physical Education)
The philosophical bases, leadership theory, administrative practice, and organizational problems of competitive athletics.

PSYC 101 (201): DE Introduction to Psychology
334200EW
Grades 10, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Social Studies)
An introduction to and survey of the basic concepts and findings within the field of psychology.

PSYC 103: DE Personal/Interpersonal Psychology
932200EW
Grades 11, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (Social Studies)
Introduction to theories and processes underlying and facilitating human adjustment in the community, family, and workplace.

SPAN 109: DE Elementary Spanish I
365700EW
Grades 10, 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (World Language)
Elementary Spanish I - Introduction to grammar and vocabulary necessary for fundamental communication skills.

SPAN 110: DE Elementary Spanish II
365800EW
Grade 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (World Language)
Elementary Spanish II - A continuation to the introduction to grammar and vocabulary necessary for fundamental communication skills.

SPAN 122: DE Basic Proficiency in Spanish
463800EW
Grade 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (World Language)
DE Basic Proficiency in Spanish - Practice and further development of essential listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills in Spanish.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPAN 109: DE Elementary Spanish I and SPAN 110: DE Elementary Spanish II

SPTE 240 - DE Business Law
504500EW
Grade 12
1 high school unit 3 college credits (CTE/Business/Equated to CTE 5044 when DE)

Formation of contracts and their operation as they apply to business; promissory notes and checks; agency and employment.

ONLINE COURSE CURRICULUM

Edmentum
Courseware used by GCA for supplemental courses students may be interested in taking. Any courses offered in the classroom at GCA may not be taken through Edmentum unless the student is behind and attempting to catch up in a subject area for graduation purposes. Alternative elective courses may be taken through Edmentum when approved by the school counselors. Any course taken through Edmentum will be recorded on your official GCA transcript. Edmentum courseware may be used to meet the scheduling requirements at GCA as deemed appropriate by the school's administration.

VirtualSC
This is a supplementary online learning program, sponsored by the South Carolina Department of Education. They offer free online courses to students in grades 7-12 who are already enrolled in and sponsored by a South Carolina School. You can take VirtualSC courses, as long as they are pre-approved by GCA. Students may not take any courses through VirtualSC that are offered in the classroom at GCA unless the student is behind in a subject area and attempting to catch up for graduation purposes. The courses are available 24/7 during each semester and during the summer, so you can complete your VirtualSC coursework at times that fits your schedule. VirtualSC has various options for high school credit that are offered in either a fall, spring, summer or year-long session. Credits earned through VirtualSC courses will be recorded on your official GCA transcript. The VirtualSC Course Catalog is a list of all potential courses offered by VirtualSC located on their website. https://virtualsc.org/