

## Curriculum Choices

### Curriculum Planning Document

Courses are aligned to the Common Core State Standards and the Arizona Academic Standards. Refer to the following attachments:

- Curriculum Planning Document Language Arts
- Curriculum Planning Document Mathematics
- Curriculum Planning Document Science
- Curriculum Planning Document Social Studies
- Curriculum Planning Document Technology
- Curriculum Planning Document Other Credits

### Minimum Course of Study

The Southern Arizona Community Academy offers both the Arizona State Board of Education and the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) high school graduation requirements. SACA provides a rigorous accelerated academic program in language arts, social studies, mathematics, natural sciences, and technology. These disciplines integrate the Common Core Standards and the Arizona Academic Standards in the high school curriculum. SACA instructors teach all courses using critical thinking, mastery learning, and technology. Instruction takes place one-to-one or in small groups.

Students must complete a minimum of three (3) credits per semester or six (6) credits per year in order to earn a high school diploma in four years.

### **Arizona State Board of Education High School Graduation Requirements for Cohort 2013 and beyond – minimum 22 credits**

1. Four credits of English
2. Three credits of Social Studies
  - a. One credit of American history, including Arizona history;
  - b. One credit of World History/Geography;
  - c. One-half credit of American government, including Arizona government; and
  - d. One-half credit of economics
3. Four credits of Mathematics, including Algebra 2
4. Three credits of Science
5. One credit of Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education and Vocational Education
6. Seven credits of approved additional courses (electives)
7. Meeting or exceeding the Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) is a high school graduation requirement.

The course of study for university-bound students is based on the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) entrance requirements of the college or university of the student's choice.

## **ABOR Tri-University Admission Standards**

1. Four credits of English
2. Two credits of Foreign Language
3. Two credits of Social Sciences
4. Four credits of Mathematics
5. Three credits of Science
6. One credit of Fine Arts

**ENGLISH** (grammar, composition, literary analysis)

4 YEARS/UNITS

*Note:* English courses taken must include literature and substantial emphasis on grammar and composition. Courses such as journalism, business communications, speech and any others not devoted exclusively to the study of English may not be substituted for an English course.

## **MATHEMATICS**

4 YEARS/UNITS

Algebra I, II; geometry; and any advanced math course for which Algebra II is a prerequisite, e.g. pre-calculus, calculus, analytical geometry. (It is strongly recommended that students take mathematics during their senior year of high school.)

**LABORATORY SCIENCE** (biology, chemistry, physics, earth science)

3 YEARS/UNITS

One unit from any three of the following: biology, chemistry, physics, earth science, integrated lab science (may include advanced study in one area)

## **SOCIAL SCIENCES**

2 YEARS/UNITS

One unit of American history; one additional unit from: (European/world history, economics, sociology, geography, government, psychology, anthropology)

## **FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

2 YEARS/UNITS

Two units of the same foreign language; a third year is recommended. American Sign Language may be used to fulfill this requirement.

## **FINE ARTS**

1 YEAR/UNIT

One unit of fine arts or any combination of two semesters of high school fine arts.

## **MEETING ACADEMIC COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS**

Students must earn a cumulative 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in each subject area to meet the academic competency requirements. A lower grade-point average is equal to one deficiency. Deficiencies in both math and lab science will *not* be acceptable.

**IF STUDENTS NEED TO FULFILL** one unit in one or two different subject areas (except math and science), course work may be completed during the first year at the university or through summer school or a community college. Additional course work required by a college major is not considered part of the Board of Regents' requirements for admission and may either be completed before enrollment or during the student's first year.

*Remember: Students must complete all course work requirements within one calendar year of their first enrollment or they will not be permitted to register for subsequent terms. Admission is based on the grade-point average of the 16- unit Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) requirements, not the entire curriculum.*

### Concurrent, Dual, Honors, or AP Credit

#### *Dual-enrollment: Community College*

All qualified students may concurrently enroll in community college courses. Students wishing to qualify for enrollment in college classes must have

- satisfactory attendance,
- complete all Academy coursework in a timely manner, and
- obtain two teacher recommendations from instructors in the current classes and Principal approval.

Tuition and books for classes are paid for by the Academy.

#### *Honors Courses*

Students may take almost any class at SACA as honors. Honors courses differ in assignments and foster high-order thinking skills.

### Post-secondary Success

#### **Occupational Programs**

The following are representative of, but not limited to, the opportunities for occupational preparation available through community colleges, with students' tuition paid by SACA. A dual credit agreement between SACA and community colleges allows SACA students to earn community college credit as well as high school credit.

#### *Business*

\* Accounting Administration \* Computer Science \* Finance \* Management \* Marketing  
\* Media Technology \* Office Occupations

#### *Health Occupations*

\* Dental Assistant \* Radiology Technology \* Emergency Medical Technology \* Nursing \* Lab Technology

#### *Service Occupations*

\* Law Enforcement \* Fire Science \* Hospitality \* Library Media Specialist \* Social Services

### *Technology and Trade Industrial*

- \* Air Conditioning & Refrigeration \* Aviation & Aeronautics \* Automotive Technology
- \* Building & Construction \* Commercial Art/Advertising Art \* Drafting Technology
- \* Environmental Technology \* Engineering \* Manufacturing \* Machinist \* Welding
- \* Electronics \* Computer Technology

### **Field Experiences**

The Academy actively participates in state, national and international field experiences. Scheduled field experiences may include: Biosphere 2, Arizona Historical Society, Fort Lowell Historic Museum, Fort Huachuca, Kartchner Caverns, Bisbee Historical District, Pima Air and Space Museum, Challenger Space Center, Titan Missile Museum, Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, art & cultural performances.