



**Grant High School
Course Guide
2018-2019**



FRESHMEN EDITION

Grant High School 2018-19

Our 9th grade Grant High School community model intentionally brings together students from different schools, neighborhoods, and backgrounds as well as students with different strengths, interests and needs. By creating a sense of community among our freshmen, we can fully appreciate our diversity and take advantage of the gifts each member brings.

Our goal is to ensure that our whole is greater than the sum of our parts.

We have developed our freshmen community model to ensure that students get to know many of their classmates and also build relationship with a small group of teachers who will help them apply their talents, build on their assets, and develop the habits needed to be successful at Grant High School. Our freshmen will deliberately have a common set of experiences and courses as they enter high school.

This common 9th grade community structure is designed to establish a strong foundation that will help ALL students maximize their potential. As we get to know our 9th graders, we will reshape what we do to better meet their needs.

Common Core Program for students entering 9th grade

FRESHMAN COMMUNITY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH: This course lays the groundwork for the English classes that students will encounter throughout their time at Grant. Coursework prepares students to read critically, write effectively, and communicate clearly. Students will read texts in a variety of forms, including short stories, poetry, nonfiction essays, and drama. In addition, students have the opportunity to analyze film by learning the cinematic techniques that the director uses. Students will read a variety of novels, some classics, and some contemporary. Writing and speaking opportunities will include narrative writing, expository essays, an introduction to persuasion, dramatic performances, and oral presentations.

PHYSICS: This course focuses on the core ideas of Physics - motion, forces, momentum, energy, waves, and electromagnetism. Students will experience the patterns approach of using experiments as a way to learn physics content and then apply what they have learned in engineering design tasks. The NGSS Physics class teaches students problem solving, innovation, design, and critical thinking. Physics is lab-based and STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) focused where students engage in regular scientific inquiry and engineering design. This class is the first science class of the new three-year science sequence.

MODERN WORLD HISTORY: This course provides students with a foundation of historical and geographic knowledge needed to understand the modern world. The course focuses on the last two centuries of world history and covers topics such as: cultural diversity, imperialism, industrialization, democratic government, and war.

WRITER'S WORKSHOP: Making the transition to writing for Grant High School can be daunting. Students will develop and practice foundational strategies and techniques necessary to excel in scholarly and creative writing during their four years at Grant. Students will focus on writing multiple drafts and revisions as well as learning the craft of writing through analysis of professional and peer texts. In this course, students will inquire into intellectually stimulating topics, write in a variety of genres, receive regular feedback, and experience authentic opportunities to publish and perform their work. Students will learn the joy of owning their own writing as they invest in a piece from concept to publication.

MATHEMATICS: Students will be placed in math classes based on their ability and prior high school credit(s) earned in middle school. The first three years of High School mathematics are: Algebra 1-2, Geometry, and Algebra 3-4. All three of these are required for graduation.

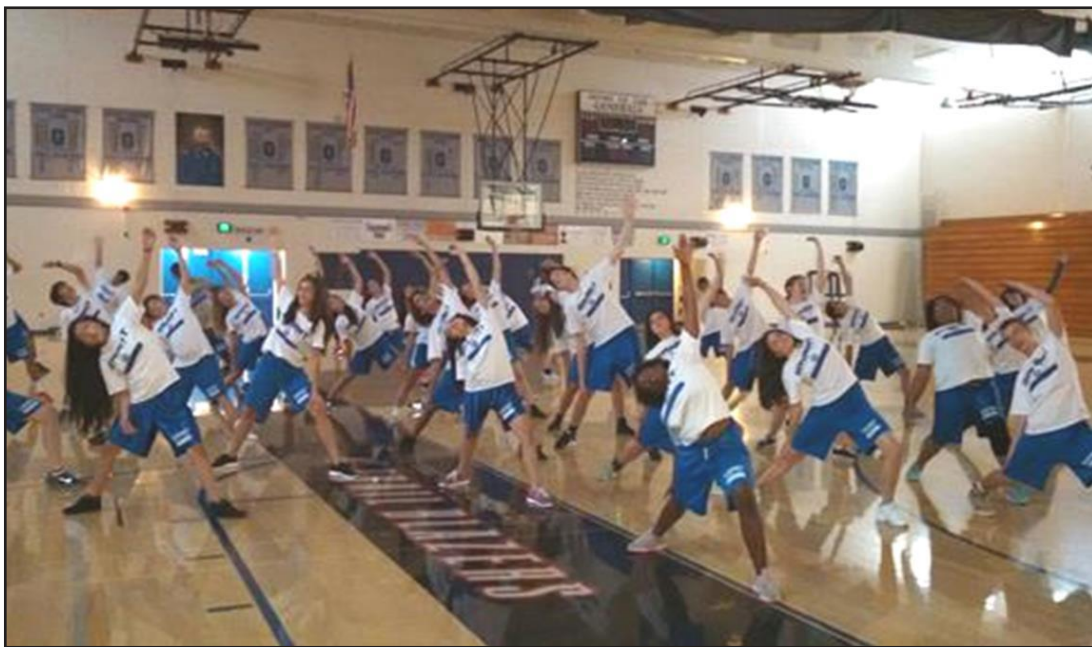
Other Graduation Requirements to Think About

It's helpful to think about freshmen and sophomore years together as you plan your classes for your freshmen year. There are a few graduation requirements that we recommend you start in your freshmen or sophomore year – specifically PE and Health and World Language.

PE and Health Every student needs to have PE and Health for graduation, and most students take those classes in their freshmen and sophomore years. Most students take a one-year class where they earn PE and Health credit – Fit 2 Live & Learn – that can be taken either your freshmen or sophomore year. Other students choose a two year track for these credits. These students earn PE credit freshmen year with Cross Training and then take a health class their sophomore year (see below for descriptions)

FIT 2 LIVE & LEARN*: This daily Health and PE course features a holistic approach to fitness and health. Fit to Live and Learn is a year-long program focused on developing optimal exercise habits, healthy eating patterns, and mental strength. Students exit the program with the skills and knowledge necessary to identify and apply healthy lifestyle choices essential for physical, cognitive, social, and emotional well-being.

CROSS TRAINING: This class uses the CrossFit model – a dynamic cross training program. Cross Training is for all levels from beginner to advanced. Each class consists of an inspirational warm up, skills lesson, and a workout of the day. Workouts are scalable for all individuals, and we aim to increase one's level of physical fitness, in addition to boosting self-esteem and confidence.



World Language Every student needs to take two years of the same world language during their high school career. Students have the opportunity to pursue the following languages: Spanish, French, and Japanese. Placement depends on whether students have already begun their language study prior to entering high school. There are two levels of Japanese language study available: KISO courses (beginner) for students who have never taken Japanese previously, and SOGO courses, which represent the continuation of the Japanese Immersion Program. If you have earned a world language high school credit in middle school, we recommend you keep studying your language in your freshmen year. If you haven't earned high school credit yet, you can start your world language credits during your freshmen or sophomore year (see insert for descriptions).

Plan your Freshmen and Sophomore Years

You take 8 classes each year and you work with your counselor to make a graduation plan in your freshmen year. This can help you as you start to think about earning all of your high school credits.

9th Grade	
Sample	Your Choices
English 1-2	English 1-2
Modern World History 1-2	Modern World History 1-2
Writer's Workshop 1-2	Writer's Workshop 1-2
NGSS Physics 1-2	NGSS Physics 1-2
Math – GeoTech	Math -
GeoTech (Building Const)	
Intro to Computer Programming	
Children's Theater Touring Co	

Remember
There are lots of different classes you can take at Grant. You will have four years to take everything you need.

10th Grade	
Sample	Your Choices
English 3-4	English 3-4
Chemistry 1-2	Chemistry 1-2
Algebra 3-4	Math -
Writing for the Arts	
Woodworking	
Fit to Live and Learn	
Fit to Live and Learn	
Spanish 1-2	

Remember
You need PE and Health credit in your freshmen and sophomore years.

Remember
You need to start your World Language requirement your freshmen or sophomore year