

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
Program of Studies Guide
2011-2012

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ACCREDITATION

Rockville High School is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc., a non-governmental, nationally recognized organization whose affiliated institutions include elementary schools through collegiate institutions offering postgraduate instruction.

Accreditation of an institution by the New England Association indicates that it meets or exceeds criteria for the assessment of institutional quality periodically applied through a peer group review process. An accredited school or college is one that has the necessary resources to achieve its stated purpose through appropriate educational programs, is substantially doing so, and gives reasonable evidence that it will continue to do so in the future. Institutional integrity is also addressed through accreditation.

Accreditation by the New England Association is not partial but applies to the institution as a whole. As such, it is not a guarantee of the quality of every course or program offered, or the competence of individual graduates. Rather, it provides reasonable assurance about the quality of opportunities available to students who attend the institution.

Inquiries regarding the status of an institution's accreditation by the New England Association should be directed to the administrative staff of the school or college. Individuals may also contact the Association by mail (New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc., 209 Burlington Road, Bedford MA 01730-1433), by phone (781-271-0022), or via the Internet (web address www.neasc.org)

PROGRAM OF STUDIES GUIDE

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PLANNING THE PROGRAM OF STUDIES

Dear Student:

Your planning and placement for the next school year should be a shared decision with your parents, teachers, and school counselor. The schedule which you select should allow each and every day to be challenging, enriching, and sequential in regards to your planned graduation.

Our Program of Studies Guide has countless opportunities to meet the needs of your planned career path. Before finalizing your courses for the 2011-2012 school year, please research the optimal educational program that will best meet your individual needs. The choices that you make will directly correlate to the value, worth, and "total" experience that you receive at Rockville High School.

In summary, when finalizing your selection, be conscious of graduation requirements, personal interests, and plans after Rockville High School.

Respectfully,
Kimberly Marinar
Director of School Counseling

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

All students in grades nine, ten, and eleven are required to take a minimum of 6.50 credits including four Junior Seminar sessions for juniors. Seniors are required to take a minimum of 6.00 credits and must attend six Senior Seminar sessions. All RHS students are encouraged to elect more than the minimum amount of credits.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Although a description of the prerequisites for a specific course may vary from department to department, it is important that students and parents understand the purpose of prerequisites. The primary purpose is to insure that students have the skills to be successful in the course. Prerequisites are not intended to deny students access to more demanding courses. Students who do not meet the prerequisites for a certain level course will have the opportunity to meet with their counselor and the department head to have a clearer understanding of the course expectations.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credit Requirements for Graduation

All students are required to complete and pass the following courses to be eligible to graduate from Rockville High School:

Classes of 2012, 2013, 2014

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English	4.0
Mathematics	3.0
Social Studies	
Civics	0.5
U.S. History	1.0
Elective	1.5
Science	
Biological Science	1.0
Physical Science	1.0
Elective	1.0
Vocational Education*	1.0
Fine Arts**	1.0
Microsoft Applications	1.0
Physical Education	1.5
Health	0.75
Junior Seminar	(P/F)
Senior Seminar	(P/F)
Electives	3.75
TOTAL	22.0 credits

Class of 2015 (pending approval by the Vernon Board of Education)

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English	4.0
Mathematics	3.0
Social Studies	
Civics	0.5
U.S. History	1.0
Elective	1.5
Science	
Biological Science	1.0
Physical Science	1.0
Elective	1.0
Vocational Education*	1.0
Fine Arts**	1.0
Microsoft Applications	1.0
Physical Education	1.5
Health	0.75
Junior Seminar	(P/F)
Senior Seminar	(P/F)
Electives	4.75
TOTAL	23.0 credits

*Courses in Business & Computer Science, Technology Education, Agricultural Education, and Family and Consumer Science meet the Vocational Education requirement. Microsoft Office Applications does not fulfill the Vocational Education requirement.

** Courses in Art and Music meet the Fine Arts requirement. Creative Writing, Modern Theater, American Film, and Video Production also meet the Fine Arts requirement.

Performance Standards for Graduation

Students must complete all four portions of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) and demonstrate performance standards for:

- Mathematics
- Science
- Reading / Writing

GRADE PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

Students must successfully earn a required number of credits in order to advance to the next grade level. Students who have not earned the required number of credits will remain at their current grade level until they qualify for promotion. Students in grades 10 and 11 may apply to their Assistant Principal to be promoted at the half-year mark (if appropriate). The qualifications for each grade level will be defined as follows:

Classes of 2012, 2013, and 2014:

- Grade 10 – Student has completed at least one academic year of high school and has earned at least 4.5 credits.
- Grade 11 – Student has completed at least two academic years of high school and has earned at least 9 credits.
- Grade 12 – Student has completed at least three academic years of high school and has earned at least 14 credits.
- Graduate – Student has completed four academic years of high school, has met all district requirements, and has earned at least 22 credits.

Class of 2015 (pending approval by the Vernon Board of Education)

- Grade 10 – Student has completed at least one academic year of high school and has earned at least 5 credits.
- Grade 11 – Student has completed at least two academic years of high school and has earned at least 10 credits.
- Grade 12 – Student has completed at least three academic years of high school and has earned at least 15 credits.
- Graduate – Student has completed four academic years of high school, has met all district requirements, and has earned at least 23 credits.

Class of 2016 (pending approval by the Vernon Board of Education)

- Grade 10 – Student has completed at least one academic year of high school and has earned at least 5 credits.
- Grade 11 – Student has completed at least two academic years of high school and has earned at least 10 credits.
- Grade 12 – Student has completed at least three academic years of high school and has earned at least 16 credits.
- Graduate – Student has completed four academic years of high school, has met all district requirements, and has earned at least 24 credits.

Class of 2017 and beyond (pending approval by the Vernon Board of Education)

- Grade 10 – Student has completed at least one academic year of high school and has earned at least 5 credits.
- Grade 11 – Student has completed at least two academic years of high school and has earned at least 11 credits.
- Grade 12 – Student has completed at least three academic years of high school and has earned at least 17 credits.
- Graduate – Student has completed four academic years of high school, has met all district requirements, and has earned at least 25 credits.

DEMONSTRATION OF PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Students must complete all four portions of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) and demonstrate performance standards for Mathematics, Science, and Reading/Writing.

Performance Standard for Mathematics:

Definition: Students will graduate with the ability to:

- Solve multi-step problems;
- Explain the process used to solve a problem;
- Use a calculator to help solve a problem;
- Analyze the appropriateness of a solution to a problem.

A student may demonstrate the Performance Standard by:

- Scoring at or above the proficient level on the Mathematics portion of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test administered in grade 10 or grade 11; OR
- Scoring at or above the state average on the mathematics portion of the SAT Reasoning Test; OR
- Successfully completing Algebra II (College or Honors) at Rockville High School; OR
- satisfactorily completing a District Performance Task; OR
- successfully completing a Senior Mathematics Performance Standard course at Rockville High School.

Implementation of the District Performance Task:

- Students will have three opportunities in each of their junior and senior years and an opportunity during the summer following their junior year to demonstrate the Performance Standard by satisfactorily completing a district-developed performance task in mathematics.

Senior Mathematics Performance Standard Course:

- Students who have not satisfactorily demonstrated the Performance Standard by the start of their senior year will be required to enroll in a Senior Mathematics Performance Standard course. Successful completion of the course will satisfy the graduation requirement.

Performance Standard for Science

Definition: Students will graduate with the ability to:

- Analyze and define a problem;
- Design and develop a procedure to solve and conduct a scientific experiment;
- Organize and present data in writing, data tables, and/or graphically;
- Draw conclusions supported by data and communicated in writing.

A student may demonstrate the Performance Standard by:

- Scoring at or above the proficient level on the Science portion of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test administered in grade 10 or grade 11; OR
- Satisfactorily completing a District Performance Task which is a CAPT Core Lab; OR
- Successfully completing a Senior CAPT Core Lab seminar.

Implementation of the District Performance Task (CAPT Core Lab)

- Students will have three opportunities in each of their junior and senior years and an opportunity during the summer following their junior year to demonstrate the Performance Standard by satisfactorily completing a CAPT Core Lab.

Senior CAPT Core Lab Seminar:

- Students who have not satisfactorily demonstrated the Performance Standard by the start of their senior year will be required to attend a senior CAPT Core Lab seminar during the school year. Successful completion of the CAPT Core Lab seminar will satisfy the graduation requirement.

Performance Standard for Reading/Writing:

Definition: Students will graduate with the ability to:

- Read and demonstrate a critical stance as evidenced by the ability to describe, interpret, and move beyond the text;
- Produce writing that requires students to generate, develop, and substantiate ideas with clarity, fluency, and organization;
- Read and respond in literal, critical, and evaluative ways to literary or informational / persuasive texts.

A student may demonstrate the Performance Standard by:

- Scoring at or above the proficient level on the Reading Across the Disciplines or the Writing Across the Disciplines portion of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test administered in grade 10 or grade 11; OR
- Scoring at or above the state average on the writing portion of the SAT Reasoning Test; OR
- Satisfactorily completing a District Performance Task; OR
- Successfully completing a Senior Reading/Writing Performance Standard course.

Implementation of the District Performance Task

- Students will have three opportunities in each of their junior and senior years and an opportunity during the summer following their junior year to demonstrate the Performance Standard by satisfactorily completing a district-developed performance task in reading or writing

Senior Reading/Writing Performance Standard Course:

- Students who have not satisfactorily demonstrated the Performance Standard by the start of their senior year will be required to enroll in a Senior Reading/Writing Performance Standard course. Successful completion of the course will satisfy the graduation requirement.

EXEMPTIONS

Students will be exempt from the demonstration of the Performance Standards for the following reason:

- The student did not attend a Connecticut public high school during his or her sophomore year and transferred into the Vernon Public Schools in his or her junior year of high school after the administration of CAPT during that academic year.

MODIFICATIONS

Students who have been selected to participate in the CAPT Skills Checklist or in the CAPT Modified Assessment System (MAS) through the Planning and Placement Team process will fulfill the participation requirement of the Demonstration of Performance Standards. Those students who participate in the CAPT Skills Checklist will demonstrate the Performance Standard for Mathematics by scoring at or above the proficient level on the Mathematics portion. They will demonstrate the Performance Standard for Science by scoring at or above the proficient level on the Science portion. They will demonstrate the Performance Standard for Reading/Writing by scoring at or above the proficient level on the Reading and/or Communication portions. Those students who participate in the Mathematics CAPT MAS will demonstrate the Performance Standard for Mathematics by scoring at or above the proficient level. Those students who participate in the Reading CAPT MAS will demonstrate the Performance Standard for Reading/Writing by scoring at or above the proficient level OR by scoring at or above the proficient level on the Writing portion of the CAPT.

Students may receive modifications to the demonstration of the Performance Standards for the following reasons:

- A Planning and Placement Team has determined assessment modifications or an alternative assessment as delineated in the student's Individualized Education Plan.
- A 504 Team has determined assessment modifications or an alternative assessment as delineated in the student's 504 Plan.
- An ESL Team has determined assessment modifications or an alternative assessment as delineated in the student's Educational Plan.

NOTIFICATION REGARDING DEMONSTRATION OF PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

- Upon receipt of the scores for the Grade Ten Connecticut Academic Performance Test, students and parents will be notified as to the student's status regarding the Performance Standards for Graduation. Students and parents will also be notified of the available options for completion of this requirement.
- Upon receipt of the scores for the Grade Ten Connecticut Academic Performance Test, teachers and department chairpersons will be notified of those students who did not score at or above the proficient level and thus have yet to meet the graduation requirement.
- At the beginning of the senior year, students and parents will again be notified regarding the status of a student who has yet to meet any one of the Performance Standards for Graduation.

SENIOR PERFORMANCE STANDARDS COURSES

Students in grade 12 who have not previously demonstrated the district's Performance Standards for Graduation will be required to successfully complete a pass/fail course in one or more disciplines in order to meet the graduation requirements set forth by the Vernon Board of Education.

SENIOR PERFORMANCE STANDARD COURSE – READING (2208)

One Quarter Credit 0.25 Weight 1.02

Prerequisites: This one quarter course is required for students in grade 12 (and optional for students in grade 11 during second semester) who have not previously demonstrated the Reading / Writing Performance Standard for graduation from Rockville High School.

Description: The focus of this course is the successful completion of a written as well as oral or artistic response to four CAPT questions about a piece of literature which is presented in the form of a student portfolio. The topic of study will be comedy in various forms including oral traditions such as jokes and comic monologues; artistic traditions such as comic strip story boards; visual traditions such as situation and other television comedies and motion pictures; and written traditions such as anecdotes and short stories. This is a pass/fail course. Successful completion of this course will demonstrate the district Performance Standard for Reading / Writing and fulfill the graduation requirement for Rockville High School.

SENIOR PERFORMANCE STANDARD COURSE – WRITING (2209)

One Quarter Credit 0.25 Weight 1.02

Prerequisites: This one quarter course is required for students in grade 12 (and optional for students in grade 11 during second semester) who have not previously demonstrated the Reading / Writing Performance Standard for graduation from Rockville High School.

Description: This course reviews the basic skills needed to write a persuasive essay. Skills such as taking a clear stand, organizing thoughts, and constructing an informed opinion will be discussed. Students will understand the individual components of a persuasive essay through various activities such as creating advertisements and restaurant reviews. This is a pass/fail course. Successful completion of this course will demonstrate the district Performance Standard for Reading / Writing and fulfill the graduation requirement for Rockville High School.

SENIOR PERFORMANCE STANDARD COURSE – MATHEMATICS (5211)

One Semester

Credit 0.50

Weight 1.02

Prerequisites: This semester course is required for students in grade 12 who have not previously demonstrated the Mathematics Performance Standard for graduation from Rockville High School.

Description: Students in this course will work towards meeting the objectives within each of the six topics of the curriculum and complete each unit with a rubric-based project encompassing these objectives. Students will keep a portfolio of selected class work and all projects for submission at the completion of the course. This portfolio will serve as the basis for each student's grade. This is a pass/fail course. Successful completion of this course will demonstrate the district Performance Standard for Mathematics and fulfill the graduation requirement for Rockville High School.

SCHOOL COUNSELING

At the start of ninth grade, students are assigned to a counselor who will work individually with them throughout high school. Conferences between students and the counselor usually take place during study periods and occur as frequently as may be necessary.

The following are items that students may want to discuss with their counselor: difficulties with school subjects or other school-related problems; self-evaluation of abilities, interests, personal and academic strengths; selection of courses and studies; vocational and/or career planning; planning for school or college after graduation; part-time employment; full-time employment after graduation; and/or personal problems.

Parents are welcome to visit the School Counseling Office to discuss their student. Please call 860-870-6050 during the school day to schedule an appointment.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidentiality is a serious part of all professional relationships. To avoid any misunderstanding between a student and their School Counselor, it is best that the student clarify any issue that is expected to be held in confidence. Likewise, it is important for students to know that, by law or sound ethical practices, there are situations whereby the counselor is required to disclose information that pertains to a student's safety or the safety of others. This statement is offered in the spirit of protecting students' rights.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

The transcripts of students transferring into Rockville High School will be examined and credits awarded in terms of equivalent Carnegie units. Any student who transfers into Rockville High School in Grade 9, 10, or 11 will have their transcript grades figured into the two-and-one-half year and/or three-year rank at face value or they may request that the sending school recompute the transcript grades on their weighted system and forward a new official transcript to RHS. This transcript should show the school's interpretation of the student's weighted average.

CLASS RANK

Class rank is an important consideration in the admission policies of most colleges and is determined by the weighted numerical average of grades earned in all subjects. The class rank is computed for the two-and-one-half-year average and is also computed at the start of the senior year (three-year rank). The rank is used for colleges, scholarships and counseling. A three year, three marking period rank is developed for selection of awards, and the selection of valedictorian, salutatorian, and Rockville High School Scholars.

All students will be ranked in class by a weighted system. This system includes five levels of courses with each assigned a quality point multiplier based upon academic difficulty. A student's final grade is multiplied by the assigned point multiplier and then averaged to determine class rank.

Practical	1.00
General	1.02
College	1.04
Honors	1.06
Advanced Placement	1.08

Any student taking a pre-approved supplemental course at an accredited institution will have their grades transferred at face value and incorporated into the class rank. Examples of accredited institutions include Manchester Community College, the University of Hartford, and others.

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR HONORS*

* based on the three-year, three-marking period ranking

Valedictorian: The student ranked first in the senior class with the highest weighted numerical average. The recipients of this award must have attended Rockville High School for at least two years.

Salutatorian: The student ranked second in the senior class with the second highest numerical weighted average. The recipients of this award must have attended Rockville High School for at least two years.

RHS Scholars: Students who have obtained a 90+ weighted average for three years and three marking periods. The recipients of this award must have attended Rockville High School for at least two years.
Early graduates are eligible to be recognized as RHS Scholars after two years and three marking periods.

HONOR ROLL

The Honor Roll is based upon the grades in all subjects in each quarter. It is published four times per year. Failure in any subject automatically excludes the student from honor roll consideration for that quarter. Students must be carrying at least the minimum number of classes in order to be eligible for either honor roll level. To achieve General Honors, a student must earn an unweighted average of at least 85 and may not have any grade lower than a 75. To achieve High Honors, a student must earn an unweighted average of at least 90 and may not have any grade lower than an 80.

TRANSCRIPTS

Each student's academic record is contained on his or her transcript. The transcript contains the student's name; date of birth; gender; parent or guardian's name; address; date of graduation; a year-by-year listing of courses, levels, grades, and credits; class rank; and major test scores (CAPT). Beginning in September 2008, transcripts will no longer show SAT scores. It will be the responsibility of the student to forward official SAT scores to the colleges of their choice through the College Board.

MIDYEAR AND FINAL EXAMS

All students will be given midyear and final examinations (January and June) in all courses. Seniors may be exempt from a final exam if they have an average of 85 or better in that course and with the permission of the teacher of that course. (The following formula shows how the average is calculated to determine whether a senior qualifies for exemption from the final exam in a full year course: $[(Q1 \times 2) + (Q2 \times 2) + (Ex1 \times 1) + (Q3 \times 2) + (Q4 \times 2)]/9 = \text{grade to date}$. For semester classes, the formula is $[(Q1 \times 2) + (Q2 \times 2)]/4 = \text{grade to date}$.)

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Independent studies are available within each subject area at Rockville High School. Students must have successfully completed other department courses and desire to continue their study in a specific area where there is not advanced offering. All students wishing to enroll in an independent study course must obtain approval from the subject area teacher and complete the official application that may be obtained from a counselor. As part of this application, the student will write his or her own plan of activities as outlined in each department's guidelines. The deadline to apply for an independent study program is the second Friday of June for full-year or fall semester courses and the first Friday of January for spring semester courses.

SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST (SAT REASONING TEST)**

The SAT Reasoning Test (formerly called the SAT I) measures the verbal, mathematical, and writing abilities a student has developed over many years, both in and out of school. Along with a student's high school courses and grades, SAT scores help indicate how prepared the student is to do the kind of academic work most colleges require. These tests are useful because courses and grading standards vary so widely from school to school that making comparisons are difficult. Scores on standardized tests help admissions officers compare the presentation and ability of students from different schools.

SAT SUBJECT TESTS**

The SAT Subject Tests (formerly called the SAT II Achievement Tests) are required by some colleges for admissions or placement purposes. The Subject Tests are one-hour multiple-choice tests in specific subject areas. Unlike the SAT Reasoning Test, the Subject Tests measure knowledge of a subject and the ability to apply that knowledge. Students should try to take an Achievement Test as soon as possible after completing the last course in that subject.

** As a service to its students, Rockville High School is an official site for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT). The examinations and the process of administration are the exclusive property of the College Board and any and all surveys such as the Student Search Service are not subject to any Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations.

TESTING DATES FOR SAT REASONING AND SUBJECT TESTS

* Exact testing dates are available at www.CollegeBoard.com

October	Senior Year	March or April	Junior Year
November	Senior Year	May	Junior Year
December	Senior Year	June	Junior Year
January	Senior Year		

Students should be aware of the test dates and see their counselor well in advance for information about registering for the test.

PRELIMINARY SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST** NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFYING TEST (PSAT/NMSQT)

October of Sophomore and Junior Years

1. By taking the test, students learn how they compare with a nationwide group of students on the verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities measured by the test. PSAT/NMSQT scores are an impartial evaluation of a student's ability to do college work and may be helpful to students when planning for education with a school counselor and their parents.
2. PSAT/NMSQT scores can be used to estimate performance on the Scholastic Aptitude Test, which is required for admission to many colleges. The PSAT/NMSQT is a shortened version of the SAT Reasoning Test and its score scale of 20 to 80 is equivalent to the SAT Reasoning Test scale of 200 to 800. Also, practice, on questions like those on the SAT Reasoning Test may produce greater confidence in taking the SAT Reasoning Test.
3. The PSAT/NMSQT is the route of entry into the National Merit Scholarship Program and the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Students.
4. Students may also take part in the Student Search Service of the College Board. Students who participate in the service may also receive information from colleges or other post-secondary institutions about education and financial aid opportunities.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

The Advanced Placement Program® is a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. The Program provides motivated high school students with the opportunity to take college-level courses in a high school setting. Students who participate in the Program not only gain college-level skills, but in many cases they also earn college credit while they are still in high school. AP courses are taught by dedicated and enthusiastic teachers who follow course guidelines developed and published by the College Board. Every AP student will be required to pay for and take the AP exam prepared by the College Board and administered in May. Students who are eligible for free or reduced-cost lunch qualify for a fee waiver on all AP exams they take that year. The exams are scored by the College Board and graded on a five-point scale (5=Extremely well qualified, 4=Well qualified, 3=Qualified, 2=Possibly qualified, 1=No recommendation). Colleges use these grades as evidence of the students' abilities and achievements when they make their decisions regarding whether or not to grant credit and/or advanced placement. An AP score report is sent in early July to each student's home address, school, and, if the student has requested, to his or her college. Students should check with their college's admissions office for clarification of policies on Advanced Placement. It is important to note that each college determines college credit and/or advanced placement.

Rockville High School offers 8 Advanced Placement courses.

- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Chemistry
- English Language & Composition
- English Literature & Composition
- Studio Art
- United States History

Additionally, the Advanced Placement exam is optional for students enrolled in Honors Statistics, French V (ECE), Spanish V (ECE), or Music Theory. Please see the individual course descriptions for further information. The AP Program offers additional courses in a variety of subject areas which students have the opportunity to independently prepare for and take the exam.

SUMMER SCHOOL

The summer school program is operated with the approval of the Vernon Board of Education. It allows students to repeat up to two credits in courses failed during the school year if they received a grade of 60 or higher. The grades for the course(s) failed and those taken in summer school are recorded on the student's transcript and are computed in the student's grade point average and rank in class. Students who plan to attend a summer program other than the one at RHS must obtain permission from an RHS administrator before registering. The fee for summer school will be announced in June. Seniors who do not earn a passing grade in a course required for graduation may choose to attend summer school or complete an approved online course. This option may only be completed after the Commencement ceremony for their class.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

Students who withdraw from school for any reason must notify their School Counselor of their intention to withdraw. If the student is 16 or 17 years of age, parents must appear in person to give approval for the withdrawal. A form on which students must check out all books and materials belonging to the school is required. All financial obligations to the school must be fulfilled at the time of a student's official withdrawal.

POLICY ON CREDITS EARNED AT TWO-OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES

Seniors enrolled full-time at Rockville High School who wish to complete a course at a two-year or a four-year college with the intent of transferring that credit back to Rockville High School must receive authorization from the Director of School Counseling and from the RHS Principal prior to enrolling in the course.

CROSS CREDIT OPTIONS

The following courses have been approved as meeting an academic requirement for graduation:

<u>Elective</u>	<u>Credit Earned</u>	<u>Requirement Fulfilled</u>
Principles of Engineering I & II	0.5 each	Physical Science
Creative Writing I & II	0.5 each	Fine Arts
A Perspective of American Film I & II	0.5 each	Fine Arts
Modern Theater I & II	0.5 each	Fine Arts
Video Production I & II	0.5 each	Fine Arts or Vocational Education
Business course(s)	0.5 or 1	Vocational Education
Computer Science course(s)	0.5 or 1	Vocational Education
Technology Education course(s)	0.5 or 1	Vocational Education
Agricultural Education course(s)	0.5 or 1	Vocational Education
Family & Consumer Sciences course(s)	0.5 or 1	Vocational Education
Electronics I & II	0.5 each	Physical Science

Microsoft Office Applications does not fulfill the Vocational Education requirement.

EARLY GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. All students must take a full class load of at least 6.5 credits. A student who successfully completes all requirements for graduation in fewer than eight (8) semesters may apply for early graduation approval. All of the following requirements and criteria must be met in order for a student to be considered for early graduation:
 - A. By the end of the sophomore year or after four (4) semesters, a letter of application for early graduation must be submitted to the principal by a student who wishes to graduate after six (6) semesters.
 - B. By the end of the junior year or after six (6) semesters, a letter of application for early graduation must be submitted to the principal by a student who wishes to graduate after seven (7) semesters.

In both (A) and (B), the letter of application must explain, in detail, why the student wishes to graduate early. Included in the application must be a detailed statement of the student's future vocational or academic plans.

2. Before submitting an application to the principal, students must discuss with their School Counselor the practicality of their early graduation plans.
 - A. Letters of application submitted to the principal must contain the following:
 1. For students under 18 years of age, parental or guardian signatures indicating approval of the early graduation plan.
 2. The School Counselor's signature indicating the plan is practical and in the best interest of the student. School Counselors will consider the following information when making this determination:
 - a. Can the student meet the graduation requirements within the allotted time frame (22 credits including required subjects)?
 - b. Maturity level.
 - c. Potential for meeting academic success in the remainder of his or her high school program.
 - d. Future vocational and educational plans.
 - B. The principal will review the application, discuss its content with the student and counselor, if deemed necessary, and sign the letter of application indicating the date of approval or of disapproval.
 - C. The principal will forward a copy of the application to the Superintendent of Schools for review.
 - D. The student will receive a copy of the signed application as proof of its acceptance or rejection.
 - E. For students who request an early graduation for June of the third year of attending RHS (three year plan)
 1. In the third year of attending RHS, these students will be enrolled in English 11 and English 12 simultaneously.

- F. For students who request an early graduation in January (after midyear exams) of the fourth year of attending RHS (three-and-a-half year plan)
 - 1. These students must take the English placement test at Manchester Community College and be eligible, based on these results of this placement test, to enroll in an English-for-credit course at MCC. The alternative course for English 12 at RHS is MCC's ENG 101 Composition course. This course must be successfully completed before graduation at RHS in January.

It is important to note that:

- 1. Early graduates will receive their diploma when all requirements have been met.
- 2. Early graduates wishing to participate at graduation exercises must attend rehearsals and fulfill all obligations attendant to graduation.
- 3. Seven-semester graduates may request to be involved in senior activities during the eighth semester.

Early graduates are eligible for school awards, honors, and scholarships on the same basis as other graduates. It is the responsibility of the early graduate to check regularly with the School Counseling Office if he or she plans to be involved in senior activities, awards, Commencement exercises, etc.

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF COURSES BY GRADE*

These charts are recommendations only. Students can select any courses consistent with the minimum requirements for graduation. The Vernon Public School System does not discriminate in its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, or handicap.

GRADE 9

<p>HONORS English 9 (Honors) Geometry (Honors) <u>or</u> Algebra 2 (Honors) World History I & II (Honors) World Language (Honors) Earth Science (Honors) Physical Education / Health 9 Microsoft Office Applications</p>	<p>COLLEGE PREPARATORY English 9 (College) Algebra 1 (College) <u>or</u> Geometry (College) <u>or</u> Algebra 2 (College) World History I & II (College) World Language (College) Earth Science (College) Physical Education / Health 9 Microsoft Office Applications</p>
<p>GENERAL English 9 (General) Pre-Algebra <u>or</u> Algebra 1A Earth Science (General) World History I & II (General) Physical Education / Health 9 Microsoft Office Applications World Language <u>or</u> Elective(s)</p>	

GRADE 10

<p>HONORS English 10 (Honors) Algebra 2 (Honors) <u>or</u> Geometry (Honors) World History III & Civics (Honors) World Language (Honors) Biology (Honors) Physical Education / Health 10 Elective(s)</p>	<p>COLLEGE PREPARATORY English 10 (College) Geometry (College) <u>or</u> Algebra 2 (College) World History III & Civics (College) World Language (College) Biology (College) Physical Education / Health 10 Elective(s)</p>
<p>GENERAL English 10 (General) Algebra 1A <u>or</u> Algebra 1B Biology (General) World History III & Civics (General) Phys. Education / Health 10 World Language <u>or</u> Elective Elective(s)</p>	

GRADE 11

HONORS English 11 (Honors) <u>or</u> A.P. Language & Composition Precalculus 1 & 2 (Honors) United States History (Honors) <u>or</u> A.P. U.S. History World Language (Honors) Physics <u>or</u> Chemistry (Honors) Physical Education Junior Seminar Elective(s)	COLLEGE PREPARATORY English 11 (College) Algebra 2 (College) <u>or</u> Precalculus 1 & 2 (College) United States History (College) World Language (College) Physics <u>or</u> Chemistry (College) Physical Education Junior Seminar Elective(s)
GENERAL English 11 (General) Geometry (General) <u>or</u> Algebra 1B Chemistry (General) <u>or</u> Physical Science (General) United States History (General) Physical Education Junior Seminar Elective(s)	

GRADE 12

HONORS English 12 (Honors) <u>or</u> A.P. Literature & Comp. Calculus (Honors) <u>or</u> A.P. Calculus Social Studies Elective(s) World Language (Honors or A.P.) Physics <u>or</u> Chemistry (Honors or A.P.) <u>or</u> A.P. Biology Senior Seminar Elective(s)	COLLEGE PREPARATORY English 12 (College) Precalculus 1 & 2 (College), Calculus, <u>or</u> Statistics Social Studies Elective(s) World Language (College) Physics <u>or</u> Chemistry (College) Senior Seminar Elective(s)
GENERAL English 12 (General) Consumer Math <u>or</u> Algebra 1B <u>or</u> Advanced Math 1 & 2 Chemistry (General) <u>or</u> Physical Science (General) <u>or</u> Principles of Science Contemporary Problems (General) Senior Seminar Elective(s)	

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM

Freshmen and Sophomores: Rockville High School offers eight programs in which students obtain RHS & college credits simultaneously by taking designated courses. These programs are Agricultural Education, Allied Health, Business and Office Technology, Early Childhood Education, Communications, Criminal Justice, Fire Technology, and Technology Education.

Students are encouraged to apply for these programs early in the second semester of their sophomore year. Counselors will explain the programs to all sophomores and clarify recommended courses during Grade 10 scheduling meetings.

If you are a freshman and are interested in one of these programs, be sure that your course selection for next year will fulfill entry requirements. If you are a sophomore, carefully read the descriptions of those programs which interest you. If you are interested in a particular program, contact your School Counselor to find out more about the College Career Pathways programs.

Note: If a student plans to use one of these programs as a stepping stone to a four-year college program, then he or she should follow a college preparatory program of studies.

Manchester Community College Articulated Courses

MCC COURSE		RHS COURSE	
ACC 115	Financial Accounting	(1305)	Accounting I - College
BIO 115	Human Biology (Science)	(7337)	Allied Health II
CJS 101	Intro to Criminal Justice (S.S.)	(8312)	Law and Order
COM 166/ ART 185	Video/Filmmaking	(6307 & 6308)	Video Production I & II
COM 173	Public Speaking	(2305)	Effective Communication
ECE 101	Intro to Early Childhood Education	(4301)	Childhood Education
HLT 103	Investigations in Health Careers	(7336)	Allied Health I
MAT 138	Intermediate Algebra: A Modeling Approach	(5304)	Algebra 2 - College

Three Rivers Community College Articulated Course

THREE RIVERS COURSE		RHS COURSE	
FTA *K290	FTA Cooperative Work	(6310)	Fire Technology

Asnuntuck Community College Articulated Course

ACC COURSE		RHS COURSE	
MFG 137	Circuit Theory 1	(6208)	Electronics 1

Students must receive a C average or above in order to receive MCC credits. Students must receive a B or above to receive credit for Business Office Technology courses, Financial Accounting (ACC*115), and Intermediate Algebra: A Modeling Approach (MAT*138). Credit for MAT138 also requires that the student achieve a score of 40 or higher on the College Level Mathematics portion of the Accuplacer test.

CAREER CLUSTERS

Early Childhood Career Cluster

The RHS Early Childhood Career Cluster provides students the option of focusing elective courses toward a career path in Early Childhood Education. Upon successful completion of the program, students will have the tools needed either to enter into the workforce in an entry-level position in their field or continue their studies in a post-secondary institution.

Requirements:

The following core courses are required by *all* students in the cluster:

- Child Development (1 credit)
- Childhood Education (1 credit)

A *minimum of three* of the following elective courses are also required:

- Education Practicum (.5 credit)
- Psychology (.5 credit)
- Sociology (1 credit)
- Contemporary Problems (.5 credit)
- Human Relationships (.5 credit)
- Effective Communications (1 credit)

Job shadowing requirement:

- A total of 20 hours of job shadowing experience in a minimum of two different early childhood environments.

Portfolio requirement:

- Student will maintain an electronic portfolio, overseen by staff in the Career Center.

Grade requirement:

- Within cluster related courses, a cumulative grade of 80, with no more than one grade in the 70's is required.

Multimedia Communications Career Cluster

The RHS Multimedia Communications Career Cluster provides students the option of focusing elective courses toward a career path in Multimedia Communications. Upon successful completion of the program, students will have the tools needed either to enter into the workforce in an entry-level position in their field or continue their studies in a post-secondary institution.

Requirements:

The following core courses are required by *all* students in the cluster:

- Effective Communications (1 credit)

A *minimum of three* of the following elective courses are also required:

- Photo I and II (1 credit)
- Digital Art I and II (1 credit)
- Graphic Arts I and II (1 credit)
- Journalism I and II (1 credit)
- Business Computer Technology (.5 credit)

Job shadowing requirement:

- A total of 20 hours of job shadowing experience in a minimum of two different multimedia communications environments.

Portfolio requirement:

- Student will maintain an electronic portfolio, overseen by staff in the Career Center.

Grade requirement:

- Within cluster related courses, a cumulative grade of 80, with no more than one grade in the 70's is required.

EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

The University of Connecticut's Early College Experience (ECE) provides academically motivated students with the opportunity to take university courses while in high school. These challenging courses allow students to preview college work, build confidence in their readiness for college, and earn college credits that provide both an academic and a financial head-start on a college degree.

UConn ECE instructors are high school teachers certified as adjunct professors by the University. UConn ECE faculty foster independent learning, creativity and critical thinking - all important for success in college. Rockville High School offers UConn ECE courses in English, Floral Design, French, Spanish, Environmental Science, Physics, and Modern European History. To support rigorous learning, University of Connecticut academic resources, including library and online classroom access, are available to all UConn ECE students.

UConn ECE students must successfully complete the course with a grade of C or above in order to receive University credit. UConn credits are transferable to many colleges and universities. Students are charged a \$25 per credit processing fee. For additional information about the UConn ECE program, visit www.ece.uconn.edu.

University of Connecticut ECE Courses

UConn COURSE		RHS COURSE	
ENGL 1010	Seminar in Academic Writing	(2502)	Academic Writing
ENGL 1011	Seminar in Writing through Literature	(2503)	Writing Through Literature
FREN 3267	French Language & Culture	(3504)	French V ECE
FREN 3268W	Writing in French		
HORT 2520	Floral Art*	(0250E)	Floral Design*
SPAN 3178	Int. Spanish Composition	(3505)	Spanish V ECE
SPAN 3179	Spanish Conversation: Cultural Topics		
NRE 1000	Environmental Science	(7339E)	Environmental Science ECE
PHYS 1201Q	General Physics I	(7441E)	Physics ECE
HIST 1400	Modern Western Traditions	(8502)	Modern European History ECE

*pending approval by the Vernon Board of Education and the University of Connecticut Early College Experience program