

COURSES OF STUDY

Grades 7-12

Courses of study for grades 7 through 12 shall include the following:

(cf. [6146.1](#) - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. [6146.5](#) - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)

1. English: knowledge and appreciation of literature, language and composition, and the skills of reading, listening and speaking (Education Code [51220](#))

(cf. [6142.91](#) - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)

2. Social sciences: age-appropriate instruction drawing upon the disciplines of anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology and sociology, with instruction in: (Education Code [51220](#))

- a. The history, resources, development and government and the United States, including instruction in:

- (1) The early history of California and a study of the role and contributions of both men and women, Native Americans, African Americans, Mexican Americans, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, European Americans, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans, persons with disabilities, and members of other ethnic and cultural groups to the economic, political, and social development of California and the United States, with particular emphasis on portraying the role of these groups in contemporary society (Education Code 51204.5)

- (2) World War II, including the role of Americans and Filipino Americans who served in the United States Army during that time.

- (3) The Vietnam War, including the "Secret War" in Laos and role of Southeast Asians in that war

- (4) The Bracero program, under which temporary contract laborers were imported pursuant to a 1942 agreement between the United States and Mexico

- b. The American legal system, the operation of the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems, and the rights and duties of citizens under the criminal and civil law and the state and federal constitutions

This course may include participation in a teen court or peer court program.(EC 51220.2)
(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

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- c. The development of the American economic system, including the role of the entrepreneur and labor
- d. The relations of persons to their human and natural environments, including the wise use of natural resources (Education Code [51221](#))

(cf. 6142.5 - Environmental Education)

- e. Eastern and western cultures and civilizations
- f. Human rights issues, with particular attention to the study of the inhumanity of genocide, (which may include, but is not limited to, the Armenian, Cambodian, Darfur, and Rwandan genocides), slavery and the Holocaust
- g. Contemporary issues

(cf. [6141.2](#) - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)

(cf. 6142.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)

- 3. Foreign language(s): understanding, speaking, reading and writing, beginning not later than grade 7 (Education Code [51220](#))

(cf. 6142.2 - World/Foreign Language Instruction)

- 4. Physical education: with emphasis on physical activities conducive to health and vigor of body and mind, as required by Education Code [51222](#) (Education Code [51220](#))

(cf. [6142.7](#) - Physical Education and activity)

- 5. Science: physical and biological aspects; emphasis on basic concepts, theories, and processes of scientific investigation and on the place of humans in ecological systems; appropriate applications of the interrelation and interdependence of the sciences (Education Code [51220](#))

(cf. [6142.93](#) - Science Instruction)

- 6. Mathematics: mathematical understandings, operational skills and problem-solving procedures; algebra (Education Code [51220](#), [51224.5](#))

(cf. [6142.92](#) - Mathematics Instruction)

- 7. Visual and performing arts: dance, music, theatre and visual arts, with emphasis upon development of aesthetic appreciation and creative expression (Education Code [51220](#))

(cf. [6142.6](#) - Visual and Performing Arts Education)

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8. Applied arts: consumer and homemaking education, industrial arts, general business education or general agriculture (Education Code [51220](#))
9. Career technical/vocational-technical education: in the occupations and in the numbers appropriate to the personnel needs of the state and community served and relevant to the career desires and needs of students (Education Code [51220](#))
(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)
10. Comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention (Education Code 51225.36, 51934)
(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)
11. Personal and public safety, accident prevention and health, including instruction in: (Education Code [51202](#), [51203](#))
 - a. Emergency first aid, hemorrhage control, treatment for poisoning, resuscitation techniques, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation CPR when appropriate equipment is available beginning in the 2018-19 school year, instruction shall be provided in compression-only CPR. Such instruction shall be based on national evidence-based guidelines and shall include hands-on practice in compression-only CPR. (Education Code 51225.6)
 - b. Fire prevention
 - c. The protection and conservation of resources, including the necessity for the protection of our environment
 - d. Venereal disease
 - e. The effects of alcohol, narcotics, drugs and tobacco upon the human body and upon prenatal development
(cf. [5131.6](#) - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
 - f. Prenatal care
 - g. Violence as a public health issue
12. Violence awareness and prevention
13. Ethnic studies

In addition, the course of study for grade 7 and/or 8 may include parenting skills and education that address at least all of the following: (Education Code [51220.5](#))

1. Child growth and development
2. Parental responsibilities
3. Household budgeting
4. Child abuse and neglect issues
5. Personal hygiene

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6. Maintenance of healthy relationships
7. Teen parenting issues
8. Self-esteem

(cf. [5146](#) - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

High schools shall offer automobile driver education that includes instruction in:

1. Vehicle Code provisions and other relevant state laws (Education Code [51220](#))
2. Proper acceptance of personal responsibility in traffic (Education Code [51220](#))
3. Appreciation of the causes, seriousness and consequences of traffic accidents (Education Code [51220](#))
4. Knowledge and attitudes necessary for the safe operation of motor vehicles (Education Code [51220](#))
5. The safe operation of motorcycles (Education Code [51220](#))
6. The dangers involved in consuming alcohol or drugs in connection with the operation of a motor vehicle (Education Code [51220.1](#))
7. The rights and duties of a motorist pertaining to pedestrians and the rights and duties of pedestrians pertaining to traffic laws and traffic safety (Education Code [51220.4](#))

Certification of College Preparatory Courses

The Superintendent or designee shall identify courses in history-social science, English, mathematics, laboratory science, languages other than English, visual and performing arts, career technical education, and college preparatory electives that may qualify for designation as "a-g" college preparatory courses. He/she shall submit course information to the University of California (UC) including, but not necessarily limited to, the course title, subject area, grade level(s), unit value, a brief course description, prerequisites and co-requisites, texts and supplemental instructional materials used in the course, whether the school is seeking designation of the course as an honors course, and whether the course is classified as a career technical education or regional occupational program course. He/she also shall electronically submit updates to UC whenever course content changes or a course will not be offered in a particular year.

Notification to Students in Grades 9-12

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall provide written notice to parents/guardians of students in grades 9-12 that, to the extent possible, shall not exceed one page in length and that includes all of the following: (Education Code 51229)

1. A brief explanation of the course requirements for admission to UC and the California State University (CSU)

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2. A list of the current UC and CSU web sites that help students and their families learn about college admission requirements and that list high school courses that have been certified by UC as satisfying the requirements for admission to UC and CSU
3. A brief description of what career technical education is, as defined by the California Department of Education (CDE)
4. The Internet address for the portion of the CDE web site where students can learn more about career technical education
5. Information about how students may meet with school counselors to help them choose courses that will meet college admission requirements and/or enroll in career technical education courses

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Issued: February 14, 2006

Issued: February 25, 2014