

## SCHEDULING TERMS

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

The Advanced Placement Program gives students the opportunity to pursue college-level studies while still in high school. Students may receive advanced placement and/or credit upon entering college for their score on a national AP test given in May. AP courses are weighted in computing class rank. North Allegheny offers AP courses in:

Biology	History - United States & European
Calculus AB & BC	Latin
Chemistry	Music
Computer Science	Physics B & C
English, Grades 11 & 12	Spanish
French	Statistics
German	Studio Art

Refer to individual course descriptions for additional information.

### CREDIT

Credit is given as official acknowledgement that a student has successfully completed a designated number of hours of classroom instruction.

- 1.0 One credit is earned for successful completion of classes meeting 5 times each week for 36 weeks, or 120 hours (2 semesters).
- .5 One half credit is earned for successful completion of classes meeting 5 times each week for 18 weeks, or 60 hours (1 semester).
- .5 One half credit is also earned for attending classes 2 or 3 times each week for 36 weeks (ex. physical education or science lab courses).
- 1.5 One and one half credit is earned for successful completion of classes meeting 5 times each week for 36 weeks and doing laboratory work 2 or 3 times each week for 2 semesters.

In order to graduate from North Allegheny Senior High School, a student must earn a minimum of 21.5 credits in specific areas.

### CULMINATING PROJECT

Chapter Four of the Pennsylvania State Regulations specifies that students must complete a culminating project as a requirement for graduation. In the project, the student will demonstrate their abilities to apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information. The culminating project requirement is integrated into the literature segment of the Grade 11 English requirement. A student receiving a passing grade in Grade 11 English will be deemed as having completed/satisfied the culminating project requirement.

### ELECTIVE COURSES

Elective courses are taken to enhance a particular subject area, for personal interest, or for career exploration and preparation. Elective courses are considered important for a well-rounded education. Each subject area offers numerous elective courses.

### FULL-TIME COURSES

Full-time courses meet 5 times each week.

### PART-TIME COURSES

Part-time courses meet 2 or 3 times per week.

### HONORS COURSES

Honors level courses have extended content and additional workload. This sets them apart from regular high school courses in the same subject. These courses have established prerequisites for admission and are weighted for the purpose of computing class rank.

### REQUIRED COURSES

A required course must be taken by all students. Examples of required courses are English, World Cultures, and Health and Physical Education. These courses are necessary to meet graduation requirements. Students should refer to the Graduation Requirements section to identify which specific courses are required each year.

### SEMESTER COURSES

A semester is one-half of a school year or 18 weeks of classes. The first semester begins in August and ends late in January. The second semester begins late in January and ends in June. Many semester courses are available. Students should consult the course descriptions. Semester courses carry .5 credits.

### SEQUENTIAL COURSES

Courses taught in sequence build on skills and theories learned in earlier courses. It is unlikely that a student receiving a "D" in one course in a sequence will have a satisfactory experience in the next course in the sequence. Examples of sequential courses are found in Mathematics, World Languages, and Business.

### SCHEDULE CHANGES

All students have an opportunity in the spring of each year to select courses appropriate to their needs. Students are also permitted to adjust their course selections prior to August 1st. FOLLOWING THIS DATE ALL COURSE SELECTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FINAL, AND SCHEDULE CHANGE REQUESTS WILL ONLY BE CONSIDERED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. Mechanical error

*Example:* Course left off schedule

2. Placement in inappropriate level of course  
*Example:* Requested and scheduled for Composition 3 but unable to handle the course; needs to be re-scheduled into Writing 3.
3. Schedule a course to meet graduation requirement  
*Example:* Failed required course and must drop elective or study hall to schedule a make-up course.
4. Fill study hall  
*Example:* Replace study hall with an elective course without adjusting any other parts of schedule.
5. Counselor recommendation  
*Example:* Counselor concurs with student and parent request to lighten an overloaded schedule by dropping a course and adding a study hall or adjusting the phase of a course or courses.

### WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSE(S)

A STUDENT WILL RECEIVE A FAILING GRADE FOR COURSES DROPPED AFTER 20 DAYS FOR A SEMESTER COURSE OR 40 DAYS FOR A FULL YEAR COURSE. The "E" grade will be included in the QPA calculation.

### NCAA COURSE OF STUDY FOR ATHLETES

Parents and students should understand that if a student envisions playing intercollegiate athletics at either the Division I or II level, the student must begin as a freshman to pursue an NCAA accepted course of study.

#### Division I 2008

If you enroll in a Division I college in 2008 or later and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship, you must meet all NCAA requirements for 2005-2007 and have completed two additional core courses (new total of 16) as shown below:

- **16 Required Core Courses**
- Four years of English;
- **Three** years of mathematics (algebra 1 or higher level);
- Two years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school);
- One extra year of English, mathematics, or natural/physical science;
- Two years of social science; and
- **Four** years of extra courses (from any category above, or world language, nondoctrinal religion, or philosophy)

#### Division II 2005 and Later

If you enroll in a Division II college in 2005 or later and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship, you must meet the following academic standards:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete the 14 core courses listed below;
- Present a 2.000 grade-point average in your core courses;
- Achieve a combined SAT score of 820 or a sum score of 68 on the ACT.

#### 14 Required Core Courses

- Three years of English;
- Two years of mathematics (algebra 1 or higher level);
- Two years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school);
- Two extra years of English, mathematics, or natural/physical science;
- Two years of social science; and
- Three years of additional courses (from any category above, or world language, nondoctrinal religion, or philosophy).

*NOTE: Computer science courses can be used only if your high school grants graduation credit in mathematics or natural/physical science and the courses appear on your high school's core-course list as a math or science course.*

#### Division III

Contact your Division III college regarding its policies on financial aid, practice, and competition.