

# **TYPICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE REQUIREMENTS for COLLEGE ADMISSION**

Colleges and universities typically require incoming students to have completed a certain number of credits (years) during high school in the following subject areas:

- **4 credits/years in English with heavy emphasis on reading and writing in courses, such as:**

Writing composition, English and/or American literature, general literature, poetry, creative writing, etc.

- **4 credits/years in Social Sciences in courses, such as:**

History, geography, and current events. Most schools require incoming students to have completed at least one credit in U.S. government or U.S. history.

- **3-4 credits/years in Natural Sciences in courses, such as:**

Earth science, biology, astronomy, meteorology, chemistry, etc. with at least one course that had a lab component.

- **3-4 credits/years in Mathematics with courses such as:**

Algebra 1, geometry, and algebra 2 being the typical courses required. In some cases, trigonometry or other mathematics courses are necessary if the student is applying to get into a certain program, such as engineering.

- **2-4 credits/years in a foreign language with at least 2 years of the same language.**

Some schools specify the languages they will accept, such as Spanish or French. Some schools will accept other languages, including sign language.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** It's best to check with the colleges/universities your child might want to attend to determine the specific requirements they have with regard to a student taking foreign language courses in high school. For homeschooled high school students applying for admission to a college or university, along with the students' transcripts listing which courses were completed, the school may ask for details relative to how the student engaged in conversation (speaking and listening) with someone who speaks the language fluently.