

Summary of Changes to the Current Emery USD Course Requirements for Graduation
Adopted by the Board of Trustees, October 21, 2009

Previous Policy	New Policy
4 courses in English	4 years of college preparatory English. .
3 courses in social studies, including United States history and geography; world history, culture and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics; and a one-semester course in economics	(same)
4 courses in mathematics. Beginning in the 2003-04 school year, at least one mathematics course, or a combination of the two mathematics courses required for completion in grades 9-12, shall meet or exceed state academic content standards for Algebra I. Completion of algebra coursework in grades 7-8 shall not exempt a student from the requirements to complete two mathematics courses in grades 9-12.	3 years of college-preparatory mathematics that include topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two and three-dimensional geometry (Specific courses to be completed at a minimum include: Algebra I, Geometry, and Advanced Algebra/Trig.)
3 courses in science, including biological and physical sciences	2 years of laboratory science in two of the three foundational subjects of biology, chemistry, and physics.
No foreign language requirements	2 years of the same language other than English. American Sign Language accepted by the UC and CSU system
One course in visual or performing arts, foreign language or American Sign Language	1 year: A single yearlong approved arts course from a single VPA discipline: dance, drama/theater, music or visual art.
No elective requirements; but 240 credits total	1 year. Chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts (non-introductory level courses), history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science and language other than English (a third year in a same language other than English or two years of another language) (The "g" requirement)
2 courses in Physical Education unless student has been exempted	No change
240 credits total including the required courses	230 credits including the required courses

It should be noted that passing the above proposed sequence of courses does not necessarily make a student eligible to apply to a UC or CSU campus. The UC system does not recognize a grade of anything lower than a C- for the "a-g" sequence of courses. While a "D" is considered passing for the purposes of this policy and high school graduation, if a student receives a "D" in a UC "a-g" course, it must be repeated in order for it to be counted toward eligibility for admission.

In addition to the changes in course requirements, the following changes have been made to the current policy:

1. All students must successfully complete a District internship program prior to graduation (Board goal #3)
2. All students must successfully complete a leadership development program prior to graduation (Board goal #5)
3. All students shall complete a service-learning project that focuses on advocacy for justice and principles that respect the dignity of all persons (Board goal #6) (This requirement replaces the current policy requiring 60 hours of community service).
4. Stated explicitly is the district's practice of allowing students who have completed all of the course requirements for graduation but not passing the CAHSEE, will receive a "Certificate of Completion" and participate in the graduation ceremony.

The above requirements are effective beginning with the Class of 2014 (8th grade class in 2009-10)

Prepared by:
Dr. John Sugiyama
Superintendent of Schools
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john.sugiyama@emeryusd.org
(510) 601-4904