

## THE FOUR-YEAR PLAN AND CAREER CLUSTERS/PATHWAYS

The Four-Year Plan takes into consideration your academic abilities, career goals, interests, and plans for additional education beyond high school. The purpose of the plan is to familiarize you with graduation requirements and to get you thinking about life after high school... What you want to do with your future, where you want to go, and what you need to do in high school to make it happen. Each spring, you'll register for classes for the next year. Your teachers will advise you about a recommended course selection and level of difficulty, based on your prior academic performance. As a result, your initial plan might change with future registrations. While teachers, counselors, advisors, and administrators will make every effort to give you the best advice, ultimately, you are responsible for taking the correct courses for graduation. Make sure your parents know your plans and keep them updated on your progress toward meeting requirements for graduation. Talk to your counselor or advisor if you have any questions. The following list of required courses and course sequences is designed to help you as you develop your Four-Year Plan. Please keep in mind that these sequences may be modified to accommodate special circumstances. However, the majority of students will adhere to the course sequences listed below. Unless noted, you would take a full year (1 credit) of the designated course.

### Career Clusters/Pathways

Georgia students choose a Career Cluster/Pathway. Under this model, you— with the help of parents, teachers and guidance counselors— will choose a Pathway in one of 17 Career Clusters, or in the areas of Advanced Academics, World Language, or Fine Arts. You can select your Pathway based on what you want to do after graduation and take a core set of classes and electives based on your chosen field. You have the freedom to switch Pathways or Clusters if you discover a particular area is not your passion. You can choose Pathways that lead to two-year, four-year, or technical colleges, or directly into careers. *See page 20 for an overview, and pages 40–41 for details.*

*The Four-Year Plan Worksheet (for a regular-schedule school or block-schedule school) is on the following pages. Specific course descriptions can be found on pages 26–39. Gifted and Honors sections are designated by local schools.*



### Language Arts – 4 Units

- 9th Grade Literature and Composition ●
- 10th Grade Literature and Composition
- 11th Grade American Literature and Composition ●  
or AP English Language and Composition with American Literature focus ●
- 12th Grade British Literature and Composition  
or AP English Language and Composition or AP English Literature and Composition



### Mathematics – 4 Units

Students will be placed in mathematics courses based on their achievement in the prerequisite course or local school decision. (*See page 24 for recommended sequences.*) Mathematics is required every year. Four units, including Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II, or their equivalent, are required for graduation. An End of Course assessment is required for Algebra I ● and for Geometry ● or the accelerated equivalent.



### Science – 4 Units

- Biology ●
- Chemistry
- Physics or AP Physics I
- Approved Science Elective



### Social Studies – 3 Units

- World History or AP World History
- U.S. History ● or AP U.S. History ●
- Economics ● or AP Macroeconomics ● or AP Microeconomics ● (½ Unit)
- Political Systems or AP American Government (½ Unit)



### Health and Physical Education – 1 Unit

Personal Fitness (½ Unit) and Health (½ Unit) or JROTC (3 Units)



### Modern or Classical Language\*, Fine Arts, Career and Technical Education\*\* – 3 Units

Any combination.

\*Note: At least 2 units of the same Modern or Classical Language are required for admission to University System of Georgia schools. Be aware of requirements for your possible colleges.

### Additional Required Electives – 4 Units

Any combination.

● **State-mandated End of Course assessment required.**  
Permission required for AP classes.