

Mr. Rashon Mickens, Principal, Abraham Clark High School

Graduation Requirements

In order to earn a diploma from Abraham Clark High School, a student must:

- Pass and earn credit in the following courses:

	Class of 2012*	Class of 2013*	Class of 2014*	Class of 2015*
English	4 Years	4 Years	4 Years	4 Years
World History	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year
U.S. History	2 Years	2 Years	2 Years	2 Years
Science	3 Years	3 Years	3 Years	3 Years
Mathematics	4 Years	4 Years	4 Years	4 Years
P.E./Health	1 Year (for each year in attendance)	1 Year (for each year in attendance)	1 Year (for each year in attendance)	1 Year (for each year in attendance)
Visual and Performing Arts	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year
Career Education	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year
World Language	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year
Electives**	3 Years	3 Years	3 Years	3 Years
Financial Literacy			1/2 Year	1/2 Year

*Graduation requirements subject to change as dictated by state requirements.

**Elective courses listed in this document will run only if there is sufficient student interest

Forty (40) hours of community service is an additional Abraham Clark High School graduation requirement. It is also strongly recommended that students follow a sequence in their area of interests for their elective courses.

- **Elective:** A course which may be taken for interest, but is not required for graduation
- **Required:** A course which must be taken for graduation
- **Prerequisite:** A course that a student must have already successfully completed before going on to the next course
- **Credit:** A numerical value assigned to a course depending upon how many times per week the course meets and how long throughout the year

NOTE: Students may take only one (1) core course in a given content area subject per academic year. That is, one (1) English, math, science and history. This does not apply to electives.

In order to receive a high school diploma, a student must pass all sections of the New Jersey High School Proficiency Test (HSPA) administered by the State Department of Education. Failure to pass this examination prior to the completion of a student's senior year will result in the denial of a high school diploma.

Diplomas will not be issued until failed required courses are successfully completed. In addition, any student who has not met all of the graduation requirements will not be permitted to participate in Commencement Exercises.

Grade Level Policy

Students in Grades 9 through 12 must meet state and local requirements for graduation. In addition, students must successfully earn 30 credits, of the total graduation credits at the end of each year of high school:

Grade	Credits
9	30
10	60
11	90
12	123

NOTE: Students failing to meet the minimum credit requirement at each level will remain at the previous year's grade status. It is therefore advised that he/she attend a district approved summer school program in order to pass the failing course(s).

Scheduling Information

Requirements:

Students must have a schedule of eight (8) periods, which includes a scheduled lunch.

Changes:

Valid course changes are permitted up to September 28th provided there is available space in the requested classes. *Please note that all schedule changes must be completed by the School Counseling Department. Add/Drop will take place through September 30th. Schedule changes will not be permitted after this date.*

Grading:

A = (90-100) = Superior
B = (80-89) = Very Good
C = (70-79) = Fair
D = (65-69) = Poor
F = Below 65 = Failing

Annual High School grade averages shall be calculated as follows:

1st Marking Period = 20%
2nd Marking Period = 20%
Mid Term Exam = 10%
3rd Marking Period = 20%
4th Marking Period = 20%
Final Exam = 10%

College

Four Year College/University:

Students planning to apply to four-year colleges/universities must develop the strongest academic record and profile. Admission to college is based on the overall picture of the applicant, which is obtained from the following:

- The scholastic record, including rigor of courses, final grades earned, grade point average, class rank, number of academic units accrued
- Results on college admissions exams, such as the ACT, SAT I and SAT II Subject Area Tests
- Recommendations written on behalf of the student
- The quality, not quantity, of participation in extra-curricular activities, school and community service
- Personal interviews
- Content and presentation of the written college application

As part of the high school record, colleges look for courses that are **college preparatory in content** and level of work required. Such courses are considered **Academic Units**. A minimum requirement of 16 units is generally required for college entrance. While each college prescribes the number and character of the Academic Units, the following are the usual expectations for entrance to four-year colleges/universities:

English: 4 units
Social Studies: 3 units
World Language: 2 units (same language)
College Prep Math: 3 units
Science: 3 units (minimum of 3 Lab Sciences)

Two Year College:

Some students find that their plans and needs are better fulfilled at a two-year college. Two-year colleges fall into two categories:

- Community colleges, which do not provide housing
- Junior colleges, which usually provide dormitory facilities

Study at the two-year college can lead to a certificate or an Associate's Degree in a specific career field. It can also be a stepping-stone to a four-year college or university. Careful selection of and success in chosen courses, allow students to transfer into four-year institutions as Juniors. A Bachelors Degree can be earned after a total of four years of study. Many two-year colleges have articulation agreements with four year-colleges, allowing students to transfer easily after specific requirements have been met.

Generally, two-year colleges do not require 16 academic units, nor do they require admissions exams. Particular programs of study may require specific high school courses of entrance exams.

Suggested Programs of Study for College Planning

The following is a chart of suggested patterns of college-preparatory study. It can be used to develop the high school course of study. The content areas outlined are those in which colleges are looking for specific preparation.

Number of Years Recommended

	Two-Year College	Four-Year College	Selective College	Trade School
English	4	4	4	4
Social Studies	3	3	3	3
College Prep Math (Alg.I,Geo.,Alg.II,etc)	3-4	3-4	3-5	3
Science *Must include Lab	3	3	3-4	3-4
World Language **Must be same lang.	1-2	2-4	2-4	1

College-Bound & Career Patterns of Study

Grade 9

English I
World History
Algebra I
Earth/Physical Science/Lab Gr. 9
Physical Education & Health 9
Visual & Performing Arts Elective I
World Language I

Grade 11

English III
US History II
Algebra II
Chemistry/Lab
Physical Education & Health 11
Career & Technical Education Elective
World Language III

Grade 10

English II
US History I
Geometry
Biology/Lab Gr. 10
Physical Education & Health 10
Career Explorations ½ year
Personal Finance ½ year
Visual & Performing Arts Elective II
World Language II

Grade 12

English IV
Math
Social Studies Elective
Science Elective
Career & Technical Education Elective
Physical Education & Health Elective
World Language IV