



**DALLAS – MESQUITE – PLANO (FALL 2014)
LEGACY PREPARATORY CHARTER ACADEMY**

COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE



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General Information

This course description guide lists the courses for freshmen offered at the Legacy Preparatory Charter Schools for the 2014-2015 school year. The high school graduation requirements will change for 9th graders in the 2014-2015 school year and for all students thereafter. All school districts must ensure that each student, on entering ninth grade, indicates in writing an endorsement that the student intends to earn.

Students need to carefully consider the information in this course guide so they can make informed decisions about their course of study while attending the Legacy Preparatory Charter Schools. Some courses have prerequisite requirements. Students must complete the prerequisites before enrolling in these classes.

Course Credits

One unit of credit is granted to students who receive a passing grade in a course that meets for two of the three trimesters during the academic year. One-half unit of credit is granted to students who receive a passing grade in a one-semester course. Credits awarded to students in middle school for high school courses will be reflected on the students' transcripts.

Students are classified in the fall of the new school year if they meet the minimum requirements for the next grade level:

<i>GRADE</i>	<i>CREDITS</i>
10 TH	5
11 TH	11
12 TH	17

Program Planning

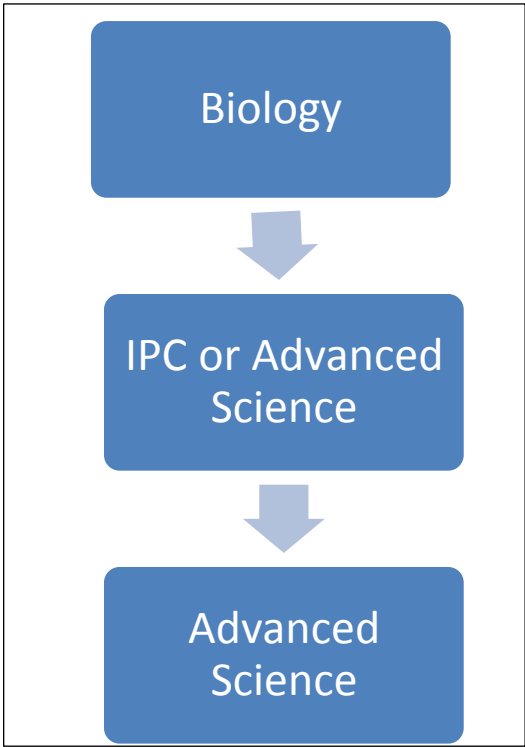
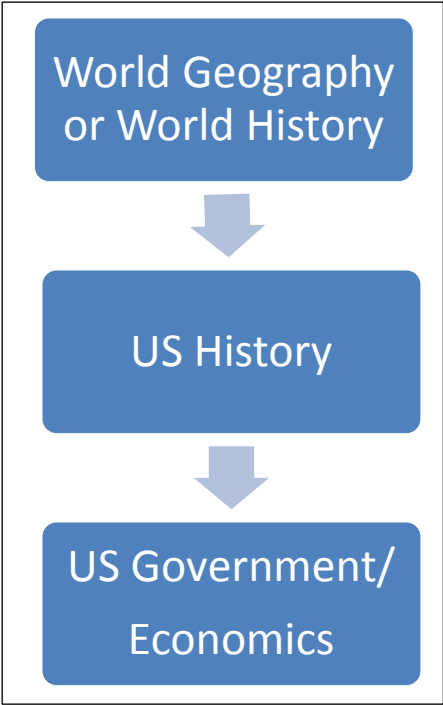
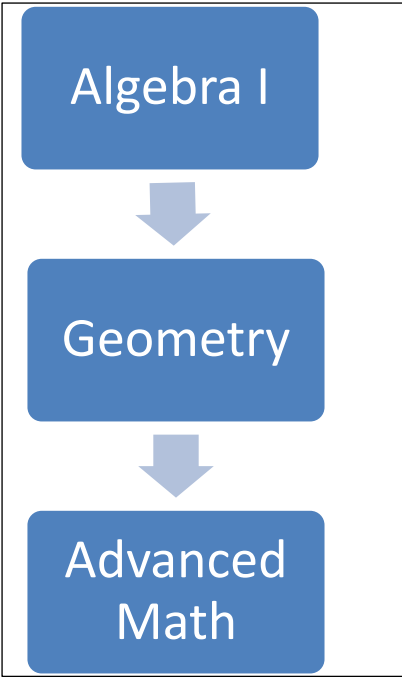
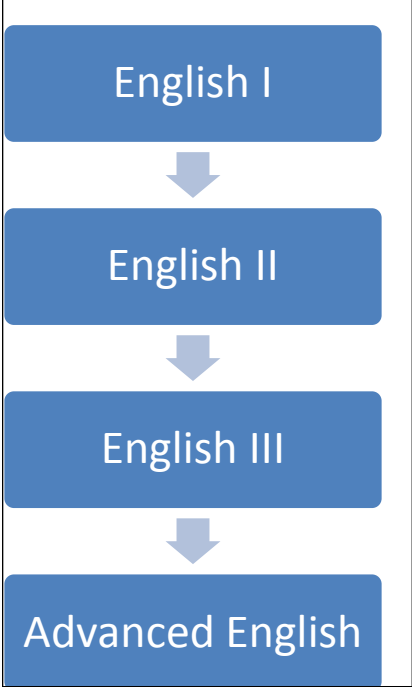
All students, in consultation with their families, need to develop a four-year high school plan (Personal Graduation Plan – PGP) in order to prepare for college, vocational or technical studies, or the job market. (House Bill 5)

GRADUATION PROGRAMS

	DISCIPLINE	CREDITS	
FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM	ENGLISH	FOUR CREDITS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ English I ➤ English II ➤ English III ➤ Advanced English 	4
	MATHEMATICS	THREE CREDITS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Algebra I ➤ Geometry ➤ Advanced Math 	3
	SCIENCE	THREE CREDITS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biology ➤ IPC or an advanced science ➤ Any advanced science 	3
	SOCIAL STUDIES	THREE CREDITS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ World History or World Geography ➤ US History ➤ US Government (.5) ➤ Economics (.5) 	3
	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	ONE CREDIT	1
	LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH	TWO CREDITS IN THE SAME LANGUAGE (Exception: Computer Science)	2
	FINE ARTS	ONE CREDIT	1
	ELECTIVES	FIVE CREDITS	5
	TOTAL		22

FOUNDATION ADVANCED COURSES	
FOURTH ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS	
English IV Independent Study in English Literary Genres Creative Writing Research & Technical Writing Humanities Public Speaking III Oral Interpretation III Debate III Independent Study in Speech	Independent Study in Journalism Advanced Broadcast Journalism III Advanced Journalism: Newspaper III Advanced Journalism: Yearbook III AP English Literature and Composition Business English (CTE) Communication Application (must be combined with another half credit from this list)
FOUNDATION ADVANCED COURSES	
THIRD MATH COURSE	
Mathematical Models with Applications Mathematical Application in AFNR (CTE) Digital Electronics (CTE/PLTW) Robotics Programming and Design (Tech App) Algebra II Precalculus AQR Independent Study in Math Discrete Mathematics for Problem Solving AP Statistics AP Calculus AB Algebraic Reasoning (2015-2016)	AP Calculus BC AP Computer Science Engineering Mathematics (CTE) Statistics & Risk Management Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science Statistics (2015-2016)
FOUNDATION ADVANCED COURSES	
SECOND SCIENCE CREDIT	
Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC) Chemistry AP Chemistry IB Chemistry	Physics Principles of Technology (CTE) AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based
FOUNDATION ADVANCED COURSES	
THIRD SCIENCE CREDIT	
Chemistry Physics Aquatic Science Astronomy Earth and Space Science Environmental Systems AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics 1: Algebra-based AP Physics 2: Algebra-based AP Physics C AP Environmental Science	Advanced Animal Science (CTE) Advanced Plant and Soil Science (CTE) Anatomy and Physiology (CTE) Medical Microbiology (CTE) Pathophysiology (CTE) Food Science (CTE) Forensic Science (CTE) Advanced Biotechnology (CTE) Principles of Technology (CTE) Scientific Research & Design (CTE) Engineering Design & Problem Solving (CTE) Principles of Engineering (CTE/PLTW)

SEQUENCE OF COURSES FOR CLASS OF 2018



FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM WITH ENDORSEMENTS

DISCIPLINE	CREDITS	
ENGLISH	FOUR CREDITS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ English I ➤ English II ➤ English III ➤ Advanced English 	4
MATHEMATICS	FOUR CREDITS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Algebra I ➤ Geometry ➤ Advanced Math ➤ Advanced Math 	4
SCIENCE	FOUR CREDITS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biology ➤ IPC or an advanced science ➤ Any advanced science ➤ Any advanced science 	4
SOCIAL STUDIES	THREE CREDITS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ World History or World Geography ➤ US History ➤ US Government (.5) ➤ Economics (.5) 	3
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	ONE CREDIT	1
LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH	TWO CREDITS IN THE SAME LANGUAGE (Exception: Computer Science)	2
FINE ARTS	ONE CREDIT	1
ELECTIVES	SEVEN CREDITS	7
TOTAL		26

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

- A total of **four credits in math**, including credit in Algebra II
- A total of **four credits in science**
- Completion of curriculum requirements for at least **one endorsement**

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Outstanding Performance
- In a dual credit course
- In bilingualism and biliteracy
- On an AP exam
- On the PSAT, ACT-Plan, SAT, ACT
- For earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license

ENDORSEMENT ADVANCED COURSES

FOURTH MATH CREDIT TO EARN AN ENDORSEMENT

Algebra II Precalculus Advanced Quantitative Reasoning Independent Study in Math Discrete Mathematics for Problem Solving AP Statistics AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Computer Science Math Models (2014-2015 only) Algebraic Reasoning (2015-2016)	Engineering Mathematics (CTE) Statistics & Risk Management (CTE) Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science College Prep Math [pursuant to TEC.28.014] Statistics (2015-2016)
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ENDORSEMENT ADVANCED COURSES

FOURTH SCIENCE CREDIT TO EARN AN ENDORSEMENT

Chemistry Physics Aquatic Science Astronomy Earth and Space Science Environmental Systems AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics 1: Algebra-based AP Physics 2: Algebra-based AP Physics C AP Environmental Science	Advanced Animal Science (CTE) Advanced Plant and Soil Science (CTE) Anatomy and Physiology (CTE) Medical Microbiology (CTE) Pathophysiology (CTE) Food Science (CTE) Forensic Science (CTE) Advanced Biotechnology (CTE) Principles of Technology (CTE) Scientific Research & Design (CTE) Engineering Design & Problem Solving (CTE) Principles of Engineering (CTE/PLTW)
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ENDORSEMENT OPTIONS



STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) requires the completion of a coherent sequence of four credits in

- Career & Technical Education, including at least two credits in the same career cluster and at least one additional/advanced CTE credits. The final credit in the sequence must be in STEM or
- Computer Science
- Mathematics
- Science



Public Services require the completion of a coherent sequence of four credits in Career & Technical Education, including at least two credits in the same career cluster and at least one additional/advanced CTE credit. The final credit in the sequence must be in

- Education and Training; or
- Government & Public Administration; or
- Human Services; or
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security; or NJROTC; or Health Science
- A Combination of four credits from two or more of the categories listed above.



Business & Industry requires the completion of a coherent sequence of four credits in

- Career & Technical Education, including at least one additional/advanced CTE credit. The final credit in the sequence must be in Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources; Architecture & Construction; Hospitality & Tourism; Information Technology; Manufacturing, Marketing or Transportation; Distribution & Logistics; or
- English electives, including three levels in Advanced Broadcast Journalism, Newspaper; or Public Speaking or
- Four credits in at least two of the CTE categories as listed above.



Arts & Humanities endorsement requires the completion of a coherent sequence of four credits in

- Economics with Emphasis on Free Enterprise or Four levels of credit earned in the same Language other than English, including American Sign Language; or
- Four credits in Fine Arts, or
- Four additional/advanced English Language Arts beyond those required for the Foundation; or
- Four credits beyond those required for completion of the Foundation in at least two of the Foundation subject areas of English, Math, Science and Social



Multidisciplinary Studies provide the opportunity for students to take courses in multiple endorsement areas. Students pursuing a multidisciplinary studies endorsement must complete four additional/advanced credits

- That prepare the student to successfully enter the workforce of postsecondary education without the need for remediation, or
- Four credits in each of the foundation subjects of English, Math, Science, and Social Studies; or
- Four AP, Dual Credit or International Baccalaureate courses from at least two of the Foundation

STATE OF TEXAS ASSESSMENTS OF ACADEMIC READINESS



In spring 2012, the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) replaced the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS). The STAAR program includes annual assessments for grades 3–8 in reading and mathematics; assessments in writing at grades 4 and 7; in science at grades 5 and 8; and in social studies at grade 8; and end-of-course assessments for **English I, English II, Algebra I, biology and U.S history. Additionally, STAAR EOC assessments for English III and Algebra II will be administered on a voluntary basis beginning in spring 2016.**

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Principles of Health Science (A&B)

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Credit: 1

This course provides an overview of the therapeutic, diagnostic, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development systems of the health care industry.

Medical Terminology

Prerequisite: Principles of Health Science

Grade: 9

Credit: .5

This course is designed to introduce students to the structure of medical terms, including prefixes, suffixes, word roots, combining forms, and singular and plural forms, plus medical abbreviations and acronyms. The course allows students to achieve comprehension of medical vocabulary appropriate to medical procedures, human anatomy.

Principles of Information Technology (A&B)

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

Students develop computer literacy skills to adapt to emerging technologies used in the global marketplace. Students implement personal and interpersonal skills to prepare for a rapidly evolving workplace environment. Students enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and reasoning skills and apply them to the information technology environment.

Web Technologies (A&B)

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: Principles of Information Technology (A&B)

Credit: .5 or 1

Through the study of web technologies and design, students learn to make informed decisions and apply the decisions to the field of information technology. Students implement personal and interpersonal skills to prepare for a rapidly evolving workplace environment. The knowledge and skills acquired and practiced will enable students to successfully perform and interact in a technology-driven society. Students enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and critical thinking and apply them to the information technology environment.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English I (A&B)

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 8 or 9

Credit: 1

In English I, students will engage in activities that build on their prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, and oral language skills. Students should read and write on a daily basis.

English II (A&B)

Prerequisite: English I

Grade: 9 or 10

Credit: 1

In English II, students will engage in activities that build on their prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, and oral language skills. Students should read and write on a daily basis. Special emphasis will be given to written compositions and literature that will prepare students for the EOC.

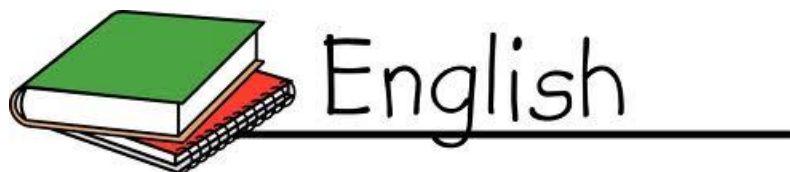
Professional Communication (Speech)

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Credit: 1

Students enrolled in Communication Applications will be expected to identify, analyze, develop, and evaluate communication skills needed for professional and social success in interpersonal situations, group interactions, and personal and professional presentations.



FINE ARTS

Art I (A&B)

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Credit: 1

Students rely on their perceptions of the environment, developed through increasing visual awareness and sensitivity to surroundings, memory, imagination, and life experiences, as a source for creating artworks. They express their thoughts and ideas creatively, while challenging their imagination, fostering reflective thinking, and developing disciplined effort and problem-solving skills.



MATHEMATICS

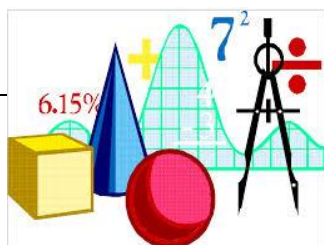
ALGEBRA I (A&B)

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 8 or 9

Credit: 1

Students will continue to build on the basic understandings of number, operation, and quantitative reasoning; patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking foundation as they expand their understanding through exploring relationships between equations and functions; using a variety of representations as well as technology to model mathematical situations to solve meaningful problems. *Algebra is the gateway to higher education. Students who do well in algebra are better prepared for college entrance exams and college in general.*



GEOMETRY (A&B)

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Grade: 9

Credit: 1

Students continue to build on this foundation as they expand their understanding through other mathematical experiences in geometric thinking, spatial reasoning, geometric figures and their properties. Students also use multiple representations, technology, applications and modeling, and numerical fluency in problem solving contexts.

MATHEMATICS MODELS WITH APPLICATIONS (A&B)

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Credit: 1

Students use mathematical methods to model and solve real-life applied problems involving money, data, chance, patterns, music, design, and science. Students use mathematical models from algebra, geometry, probability, and statistics and connections among these to solve problems from a wide variety of advanced applications in both mathematical and nonmathematical situations.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Foundations of Personal Fitness

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 0.5

The basic purpose of this course is to motivate students to strive for lifetime personal fitness with an emphasis on the health-related components of physical fitness. The concept of wellness, or striving to reach optimal levels of health, is the corner stone of this course and is exemplified by one of the course objectives-students designing their own personal fitness program.



Aerobic Activities

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 0.5

Students in aerobic activities are exposed to a variety of activities that promote health-related fitness. A major expectation of this course is for the student to design a personal fitness program that uses aerobic activities as a foundation.

SCIENCE

INTEGRATED PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY (A&B)

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

This course integrates the disciplines of physics and chemistry in the following topics: force, motion, energy, and matter.

BIOLOGY (A&B)

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

Students study a variety of topics that include: structures and functions of cells and viruses; growth and development of organisms; cells, tissues, and organs; nucleic acids and genetics; biological evolution; taxonomy; metabolism and energy transfers in living organisms; living systems; homeostasis; and ecosystems and the environment.



SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD GEOGRAPHY (A&B)

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Credit: 1

In World Geography, students examine people, places, and environments at local, regional, national, and international scales from the spatial and ecological perspectives of geography. Students describe the influence of geography on events of the past and present with emphasis on contemporary issues.

SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIAL STUDIES

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Credit: 0.5

In Special Topics in Social Studies, an elective course, students are provided the opportunity to develop a greater understanding of the historic, political, economic, geographic, multicultural, and social forces that have shaped their lives and the world in which they live.



WORLD LANGUAGES

Spanish I (A&B)

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 8 or 9

Credit: 1

This course is an introduction to the language and culture of the Hispanic world. Students develop these communication skills by using knowledge of the language, including grammar, and culture, communication and learning strategies, technology, and content from other subject areas.

Spanish II (A&B)

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Grade: 9 or 10

Credit: 1

This course is a continuation of Spanish I. In Spanish 2 students will receive more practice in listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. New vocabulary and grammar are presented. The students will improve writing skills through simple compositions. They will continue to explore the culture of the Hispanic world.

