



CURRICULUM

Academy High's core curriculum offers a rigorous selection of classes from mathematics, science, history, literature, the arts, world languages, and technology consistent with other college-preparatory secondary schools.

ACADEMIC CORE SEQUENCE*

	MATH	SCIENCE	SOCIAL SCIENCE	ENGLISH & WRITING	WORLD LANGUAGES	P.E.	REQUIRED MODULES
9TH GRADE	MATH 1 (GEOMETRY)	BIOLOGY	FRESHMAN HUMANITIES & WRITING		SPANISH OR MANDARIN I	P.E.	HEALTH & WELLNESS FRESHMAN FOUNDATIONS
10TH GRADE	MATH 2 (ALGEBRA)	CHEMISTRY	U.S. HISTORY	ENGLISH II WRITING II	SPANISH OR MANDARIN II	P.E.	HEALTH & WELLNESS
11TH GRADE	MATH 3 (TRIG)	PHYSICS	GLOBAL STUDIES	ENGLISH III WRITING III	SPANISH OR MANDARIN III	P.E.	HEALTH & WELLNESS INTERNSHIP READINESS SAT/ACT PREP
12TH GRADE	ADVANCED TOPICS & CALCULUS	ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES		ENGLISH IV WRITING IV	SPANISH OR MANDARIN IV	P.E.	HEALTH & WELLNESS INTERNSHIP READINESS

*Students can take other credit-approved options for World Languages; 11th and 12th Grade Science Electives include Adv. Bio., Adv. Chem., Adv. Physics, and Anatomy & Physiology; Students can enroll in and receive credit for approved outside courses online and/or at Parkland or UIUC.

ENRICHMENT MODULES (ELECTIVES)

Along with our core curriculum, Academy High offers a wide choice of "module" electives for credit, that allow students to explore new interests or deepen their study of a particular subject. Modules are taught by Academy High faculty along with a host of outside instructors from the surrounding community who are recruited for their specific talents and expertise. Each year, new modules are offered based on local talent and student interest. The following is a list of modules offered over the past four years.

Photography I	Logic and Reasoning	Team Fun Sports	Sports Analytics
Studio Art	Drawing Techniques	Humanities Studio	Epistemology
Theater Games & Improv	Non-Western Music	Inventions	Think Like a Scientist
Academy High Rock Band	The Art of Debate	Young Entrepreneurs	Virtual Reality
Anatomy & Physiology	Public Speaking	Career Explorations	Anthropology
The Missing Universe	Ukulele & Guitar Ensemble	Stop-Motion Animation	Memoir
Machine Learning	Science in the News	Music Recording and Production	Science Ethics
Drones	National Parks	Computer Programming	Augmented Reality
Math League	Film Studies	Expressive Art	Circuit Training
Personal Finance	Lifesaving Course	Environmental Ethics	Boxing
Humanities Studio	Women in Science	Food Ethics	Drama
Yoga	Introduction to GIS	Applied Renewable Energy	Genetics
Origami	Game Design	Film Studies	



ACADEMICS

ACADEMY HIGH PREPARES STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND FOR LIFE

Academy High offers a four-year college counseling program that revolves around self-discovery and thoughtful decision-making. Beginning in the freshman year, our renowned college counselor helps to guide families through a meaningful and comprehensive process that includes career exploration, college list formation, financial aid counseling, and standardized test preparation. Senior year, time is allocated for preparing college essays and completing applications. Our relationships with higher education professionals help students and families better understand and navigate the admissions process.

COURSES ARE RIGOROUS AND ENGAGING

At schools serving students with an extremely broad range of academic trajectories, goals, and needs, courses specifically designed to prepare students for college often carry the Advanced Placement (AP) designation to signal academic rigor. Because all Academy High classes are college preparatory, each is designed to prepare students for admission to selective colleges and universities.

Admissions experts* share that colleges evaluate applicants within the context of their high school program. In other words, students attending schools that do not offer AP are not penalized during the college admission process. Academy High courses focus on standards and skills versus content only, and our students enjoy more opportunities to take deeper dives into the curriculum, fostering a more comprehensive understanding of the material. In fact, when our students elect to sit for AP exams, they consistently score well. In addition to spending the semester in a more engaging environment, students are able to demonstrate to college admissions counselors that they take initiative in their educational journey.

*Please see Academy High's Admissions page for a link to the complete article.

CAREER EXPLORATION & INTERNSHIPS

Each week, the school hosts "Lunch and Learn" conversations with professionals working across various career fields to learn more about the work that they do and how they came to be in their current roles. The objective of the program is to provide students a lens through which to understand people's unique career paths so students come to see themselves as on a journey from the classroom to a career.

During their junior and senior years, Academy High students are provided the opportunity to apply their education to the greater world around them as interns at local organizations. Students work with Academy High faculty to be matched with an internship opportunity that speaks to the student's possible career interests.