

# Courses to Satisfy Graduation Requirements for the Standard, Advanced Studies, and Modified Standard Diplomas in Virginia Public Schools

This document was revised on May 15, 2012.

*(Effective for students who entered ninth grade for the first time in 2003-2004 through 2009-2010)*

## Background Information

Section 8 VAC 20-131-50 of *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) (the Standards of Accreditation) sets forth the requirements for the Standard, Advanced Studies, and Modified Standard Diplomas. Those requirements specify which level of courses and/or subject area disciplines students must complete to earn either a standard or verified unit of credit in the areas of mathematics, laboratory science, and history and social science, as well as the credit requirements in other content disciplines. The regulations also specify that the Board of Education can approve additional courses (other than those specifically named in the standards) to satisfy the requirements in those areas.

## Courses Approved for the Standard and Advanced Studies Diplomas

In February 1998, the Virginia Board of Education approved certain courses that would satisfy the mathematics, science, and history and social science course requirements for the Standard and Advanced Studies Diplomas. Subsequent to that time, some additional courses have been added to the original list. The following tables contain a list of the courses that have been approved by the board to satisfy graduation requirements for the Standard and Advanced Studies Diplomas as of June 28, 2007.

### Courses in Mathematics

Course Title	Virginia Course Codes	SCED Codes	SOL Test(s) Required
<i>Courses at or above the level of Algebra</i>			
Algebra I, 2-yr. Sequence, Part I (or A) <sup>1</sup>	3131	02053	None
Algebra I, 2-yr. Sequence, Part II (or B)	3132	02054	Algebra I
Algebra I	3130	02052	Algebra I
Geometry, 2-yr. Sequence, Part I (or A) <sup>1</sup>	3144	02079 (1 of 2)	None
Geometry, 2-yr. Sequence, Part II (or B)	3145	02079 (2 of 2)	Geometry
Geometry	3143	02072	Geometry

Algebra I/Geometry, 3-yr. Sequence, Course I	3146	02074 (1 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Algebra I/Geometry, 3-yr. Sequence, Course II	3147	02074 (2 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Algebra I/Geometry, 3-yr. Sequence, Course III	3148	02074 (3 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra II, 3-yr. Sequence, Course I	3151	02061 (1 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra II, 3-yr. Sequence, Course II	3152	02061 (2 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra II, 3-yr. Sequence, Course III	3153	02061 (3 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
<i>Courses above the level of Algebra and Geometry</i>			
Algebra, Functions, and Data Analysis	3134	99001	None
Algebra II	3135	02056	Algebra II
Computer Mathematics	3184	02156	None
<i>Courses above the level of Algebra II</i>			
Mathematics Capstone <sup>3</sup>	3136	99002	None
Algebra II and Trigonometry	3137	02106	Algebra II
Trigonometry (one-semester)	3150	02103	None
Advanced Placement Computer Science A	3185	10157	None
Advanced Placement Computer Science AB	No Virginia Code	10158	None
Probability and Statistics <sup>4</sup>	3190	02201	None
Advanced Placement Statistics	3192	02203	None
Discrete Mathematics <sup>4</sup>	3154	02102	None
Advanced Mathematics	3160	02057	None
Mathematical Analysis/Pre-Calculus	3162	02104	None
Elementary Mathematics Functions	3163	02109	None
Advanced Placement Calculus AB	3177	02124	None

Advanced Placement Calculus BC	No Virginia Code	02125	None
Analytic Geometry	3176	02073	None
Multivariate Calculus	3178	02122	None

<sup>1</sup>To earn credit towards meeting the graduation requirements in mathematics using this course, students must also complete Part II of the two-year sequence. Part I and Part II may be used to satisfy two units of mathematics credit.

Algebra I may not be used in conjunction with Algebra I, Part II, and Geometry may not be used in conjunction with Geometry, Part II, to satisfy the mathematics requirement.

In the advanced studies diploma program, only one unit of credit for a Part I course may be used to satisfy the four required mathematics credits for graduation. A second unit may be granted as a local school division credit.

<sup>2</sup>Students will take the Algebra I, Geometry, and/or Algebra II SOL test(s) when they have completed the appropriate SOL content, as determined by the local school division.

<sup>3</sup>Prerequisites for the 12<sup>th</sup> grade (senior level) course include earning at least two verified credits in mathematics, and satisfactory completion of either Algebra, Functions, and Data Analysis or Algebra II. Students seeking the Advanced Studies Diploma, whose course sequences include the Mathematics Capstone course, must also take Algebra II.

<sup>4</sup>May be a one-semester or two-semester course.

### Courses in Science

Course Title	Virginia Course Codes	SCED Codes	SOL Test(s) Required
<i>Courses that meet or exceed Earth Science SOL</i>			
Earth Science I	4210	03001	Earth Science
Earth Science II – Advanced Survey of Earth Science Topics <sup>1</sup>	4220	03049	Earth Science
Advanced Placement in Environmental Science <sup>1</sup>	4270	03207	Earth Science
Earth Science II – Geology <sup>2</sup>	4240	03002	None

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Virginia Course Codes</b>	<b>SCED Codes</b>	<b>SOL Test(s) Required</b>
Earth Science II – Oceanography <sup>2</sup>	4250	03005	None
Earth Science II – Astronomy <sup>2</sup>	4260	03004	None
<b><i>Courses that meet or exceed Biology SOL</i></b>			
Biology I	4310	03051	Biology
Biology II – Advanced Survey of Biology Topics <sup>1</sup>	4320	03052	Biology
Advanced Placement Biology <sup>1</sup>	4320	03056	Biology
Biology II – Anatomy/Physiology <sup>2</sup>	4330	03053	None
Biology II – Ecology <sup>2</sup>	4340	03063	None
Biology II – Genetics <sup>2</sup>	4350	03059	None
<b><i>Courses that meet or exceed Chemistry SOL</i></b>			
Chemistry I, 2-year Sequence, part I (or A) <sup>3</sup>	4400	03101 (1 of 2)	None
Chemistry I, 2-year Sequence, part II (or B)	4401	03101 (2 of 2)	Chemistry I
Chemistry I	4410	03101	Chemistry
Advanced Placement Chemistry <sup>1</sup>	4470	03106	Chemistry
Chemistry II <sup>2</sup>	4420	03102	None

Course Title	Virginia Course Codes	SCED Codes	SOL Test(s) Required
<i>Courses at or above the level of Physics</i>			
Physics I <sup>4</sup>	4510	03151	None
Advanced Placement Physics B	4570	03155	None
Advanced Placement Physics C	4571	03156	None
Physics II	4520	03152	None
Integrated Sciences – Earth Sciences/Biology/Chemistry			
Integrated Science, 3-yr Sequence, Course 1	4211	03201 (1 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #5</a>
Integrated Science, 3-yr Sequence, Course 2	4311	03201 (2 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #5</a>
Integrated Science, 3-yr Sequence, Course 3	4411	03201 (3 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #5</a>

<sup>1</sup>Students who have not taken the first-level course in this discipline will take the SOL test listed.

<sup>2</sup>The prerequisite content for this course is the first-level SOL core course in this discipline.

<sup>3</sup>To earn credit towards meeting the graduation requirements in science using this course, students must also complete Part II of the two-year sequence. Part I and Part II may be used to satisfy two units of science credit. Board of Education approved as of May 26, 2000.

<sup>4</sup>The sequence of Principles of Technology I (9811) and Principles of Technology II (9812) will satisfy one (1) standard unit of credit in laboratory science for physics and one (1) elective credit. Students who enroll in Principles of Technology courses for a physics credit must have completed Algebra I and two (2) other laboratory science courses as specified by the Standards of Accreditation prior to enrolling in Principles of Technology. There is no SOL test associated with Principles of Technology I and II.

<sup>5</sup> Students will take the Earth Science, Biology, and Chemistry test(s) when they have completed the appropriate SOL content, as determined by the local school division.

## Courses in History and Social Science

Course Title	Current Course Codes	SCED Codes	SOL Test(s) Required
World Geography	2210	04001	World Geography
World History and Geography to 1500 AD (CE)	2215	04052 (1 of 2)	World History I
World History and Geography: 1500 AD (CE) to the Present	2216	04052 (2 of 2)	World History II
Virginia and United States History	2360	04101	Virginia and United States History
Virginia and United States Government	2440	04151	None
<i>Additional courses that may satisfy the history and social science graduation requirements must include the relevant content prescribed in the History and Social Science Standards of Learning (SOL)</i>			
American Civilization (Must include the SOL for Virginia and United States History)	2376	04149	Virginia and United States History
<p><b>Retired Course Codes</b>  <i>With the standardization of the course titles above, the following history and social science course codes are no longer in use, but there may be students who have taken these courses in the past to earn history and social science standard and verified credits.</i></p>			
<del>World History Part I and World Geography (one semester each course)</del>	<del>2222</del>		<del>World History I or World Geography</del>
<del>World History Part II and World Geography (one semester each course)</del>	<del>2223</del>		<del>World History I or World Geography</del>
<del>World History</del>	<del>2340</del>		<del><a href="#">Footnote #1</a></del>
<del>World Studies (Typically a two-year program. Must include the SOL from either World History and Geography Part I or World History and Geography Part II and World Geography)</del>	<del>2351</del>		<del>The appropriate World History test and World Geography</del>
<del>World Civilization (Typically a two-year program. Must</del>	<del>2375</del>		<del><a href="#">Footnote #1</a></del>

include the SOL from either World History and Geography Part I or World History and Geography Part II and World Geography)			
<p>8 VAC 20-131-50 K - Students who complete advanced placement, college-level, or courses required for an International Baccalaureate Diploma shall be deemed to have completed the requirements for graduation under these standards provided they have earned the standard units of credit and earned verified units of credit in accordance with the requirements of subsections B and C of this section.</p> <p>The use of courses that meet the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-50 K but are not listed below is a school division decision.</p>			
Advanced Placement U.S. History	2319	04104	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
International Baccalaureate US History (Higher Level)	IB2360	04054(1 of 2)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Advanced Placement World History	2380	04057	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Advanced Placement European History	2399	04056	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
International Baccalaureate History of Europe	IB2219	04054(2 of 2)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Advanced Placement Human Geography	2212	04004	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
International Baccalaureate Geography	IB2210	04003	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Advanced Placement Government and Politics: United States	2445	04157	None
Advanced Placement Government and Politics: Comparative	2450	04158	None

<sup>1</sup>This course must cover the prescribed SOL from two of the following courses: World History and Geography Part I, World History and Geography Part II, or World Geography in order for students to receive a verified credit beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2000-2001. Students will take the corresponding end-of-course test when they have completed the SOL content, as determined by the school division.

<sup>2</sup> If students have not taken a lower level course and/or the associated test earlier, the approved end-of -course test or an approved substitute assessment test will be required at the completion of the Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course.

## Courses Approved for the Modified Standard Diploma

The revised *Regulations Establishing Accrediting Standards for Public Schools in Virginia* effective September 28, 2000, provide the option of a Modified Standard Diploma for "...certain students at the secondary level who have a disability and are unlikely to meet the credit requirements for a Standard Diploma. Eligibility and participation in the Modified Standard Diploma program shall be determined by the student's Individual Education Program (IEP) team and the student, where appropriate, at any point after the student's eighth grade year." (8 VAC 20-131-50.D.1) At its November 30, 2000, meeting, the Board of Education approved a list of mathematics, science, and history and social science courses to satisfy the standard units of credit that are required for the Modified Standard Diploma.

The approved list and the provisions identified for certain courses on the following list apply only to the Modified Standard Diploma. This list of courses provides students with options for satisfying the content requirements specified for the Modified Standard Diploma. To encourage and facilitate students' transition from a Modified Standard Diploma program to a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma program, the list includes some of the courses approved by the Board of Education in February 1998 for the Standard and Advanced Studies Diplomas.

While students are not required to pass Standards of Learning end-of-course tests to earn a Modified Standard Diploma, they must take the tests that are required for any courses in which they are enrolled. Instruction provided in these courses, as well as the Standards of Learning tests associated with them, would be subject to any accommodations required in a student's Individual Education Program (IEP).

The following tables contain the courses that have been approved by the Board of Education for a Modified Standard Diploma, as of February 23, 2012.

### Mathematics

Mathematics Course Title	Virginia Course Codes	SCED Codes	SOL Test
<i>Courses that will satisfy the mathematics requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma shall include content from among applications of algebra, geometry, personal finance, and statistics. Any of the following courses can be used to satisfy the mathematics content requirement.</i>			
Personal Living and Finance <sup>1</sup>	3120	02003	None
<i>Courses at or above the level of Algebra</i>			
Algebra I, 2-yr. Sequence, Part I <sup>2</sup>	3131	02053	None

Algebra I, 2-yr. Sequence Part II	3132	02054	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Algebra I	3130	02052	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Geometry, 2-yr. Sequence, Part I <sup>2</sup>	3144	02079(1 of 2)	None
Geometry, 2-yr. Sequence, Part II	3145	02079(2 of 2)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Geometry	3143	02072	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Algebra/Geometry, 3-yr. Sequence, Course I	3146	02074 (1 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #4</a>
Algebra/Geometry, 3-yr. Sequence, Course II	3147	02074(2 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #4</a>
Algebra/Geometry, 3-yr. Sequence, Course III	3148	02074 (3 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #4</a>
Algebra/Geometry/Algebra II, 3-yr. Sequence, Course I	3151	02061 (1 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #4</a>
Algebra/Geometry/Algebra II, 3-yr. Sequence, Course II	3152	02061 (2 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #4</a>
Algebra/Geometry/Algebra II, 3-yr. Sequence, Course III	3153	02061 (3 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #4</a>
<b><i>Courses above the level of Algebra and Geometry</i></b>			
Algebra, Functions, and Data Analysis	3134	99001	None
Algebra II	3135	02056	<a href="#">Footnote #3</a>
Computer Mathematics	3184	02156	None
<b><i>Courses above the level of Algebra II</i></b>			
Mathematics Capstone Course <sup>4</sup>	3136	99002	None
Algebra II and Trigonometry	3137	02106	<a href="#">Footnote #3</a>
Trigonometry (one semester)	3150	02103	None

Advanced Placement Computer Science A	3185	10157	None
Advanced Placement Computer Science AB	No Virginia Code	10158	None
Probability and Statistics	3190	02201	None
Advanced Placement Statistics	3192	02203	None
Discrete Mathematics	3154	02102	None
Advanced Mathematics	3160	02057	None
Mathematical Analysis/Pre-Calculus	3162	02104	None
Elementary Mathematics Functions	3163	02109	None
Advanced Placement Calculus AB	3177	02124	None
Advanced Placement Calculus BC	No Virginia Code	02125	None
Analytic Geometry	3176	02073	None
Multivariate Calculus	3178	02122	None

<sup>1</sup>A personal living and finance course (3120/02003) has been approved to meet a mathematics requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma. This personal living and finance course may not be used to satisfy the mathematics requirement for the Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma. For the purpose of satisfying the requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma, a locally developed personal living and finance course may be based on 1) the [Objectives for Personal Living and Finance](#) approved by the Board of Education in April, 1999, and revised in 2006; or 2) the 2006 [Economics Education and Financial Literacy: Objectives and Correlations to Mathematics and History and Social Science Standards of Learning and Career and Technical Education Competencies](#); or 3) the 2009 [Economics and Personal Finance Standards of Learning](#). Economics and Personal Finance (6120/22210) may also meet a mathematics requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma.

<sup>2</sup>Students may earn one mathematics credit for the Modified Standard Diploma by successfully completing this course.

<sup>3</sup>Students who are enrolled in a course that requires an end-of-course SOL test must take the test, but they do not have to pass the SOL test to satisfy the requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma.

<sup>4</sup>Students will take the Algebra I, Geometry, and/or Algebra II SOL test(s) when they have completed the appropriate SOL content, as determined by the local school division, but they do not have to pass the test(s) to satisfy the requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma. Prerequisites for the 12<sup>th</sup> grade (senior level) course include earning at least two verified credits in mathematics, and satisfactory completion of either Algebra,

Functions, and Data Analysis or Algebra II. Students seeking the Advanced Studies Diploma, whose course sequences include the Mathematics Capstone course, must also take Algebra II.

### Science

Science Course Title	Virginia Course Codes	SCED Codes	SOL Test
<i>Courses that will satisfy the science requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma shall include content from at least two of the following: applications of earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics.</i>			
<b><i>Courses at or above the level of Earth Science</i></b>			
Earth Science I, 2-Year Sequence, Part I <sup>1</sup>	4200	03049 (1 of 2)	None
Earth Science I, 2-Year Sequence, Part II	4201	03049 (2 of 2)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Earth Science I	4210	03001	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Earth Science II – Advanced Survey of Earth Science Topics	4220	03049	<a href="#">Footnote #3</a>
Advanced Placement Environmental Science	4270	03207	<a href="#">Footnote #3</a>
Earth Science II – Geology	4240	03002	None
Earth Science II – Oceanography	4250	03005	None
Earth Science II – Astronomy	4260	03004	None
<b><i>Courses at or above the level of Biology</i></b>			
Biology I, 2-Year Sequence, Part I <sup>1</sup>	4300	03099 (1 of 2)	None
Biology I, 2-Year Sequence, Part II	4301	03099 (2 of 2)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Biology I	4310	03051 (1 of 1)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Biology II – Advanced Survey of Biology Topics	4320	03052	<a href="#">Footnote #3</a>

Advanced Placement Biology	4370	03056	<a href="#">Footnote #3</a>
Biology II – Anatomy/Physiology	4330	03053	None
Biology II – Ecology	4340	03063	None
Biology II – Genetics	4350	03059	None
<b><i>Courses at or above the level of Chemistry</i></b>			
Chemistry I, 2-Year Sequence, Part I <sup>1</sup>	4400	03149 (1 of 2)	None
Chemistry I, 2-Year Sequence, Part II	4401	03149 (2 of 2)	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Chemistry I	4410	03101	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Advanced Placement Chemistry	4470	03106	<a href="#">Footnote #3</a>
Chemistry II	4420	03102	None
<b><i>Courses at or above the level of Physics</i></b>			
Physics I	4510	03151	None
Advanced Placement Physics B	4570	03155	None
Advanced Placement Physics C	4571	03156	None
Physics II	4520	03152	None
Principles of Technology I <sup>1</sup>	9811	10153 (1 of 2)	None
Principles of Technology II	9812	10152 (2 of 2)	None
<b><i>Integrated Sciences - Earth Sciences/Biology/Chemistry</i></b>			
Integrated Science, 3-Year Sequence, Course 1	4211	03201 (1 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #4</a>
Integrated Science, 3-Year Sequence, Course 2	4311	03201 (2 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #4</a>

Integrated Science, 3-Year Sequence, Course 3	4411	03201 (3 of 3)	<a href="#">Footnote #4</a>
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<sup>1</sup>Students may earn one science credit towards the Modified Standard Diploma by successfully completing this course.

<sup>2</sup>Students who are enrolled in a course that requires an end-of-course SOL test must take the test, but they do not have to pass the SOL test to satisfy the requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma.

<sup>3</sup>Students who have not already taken a course in this discipline where a SOL test is required will take the SOL test associated with this discipline, but they do not have to pass the test to satisfy the requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma.

<sup>4</sup>Students will take the Earth Science, Biology, and Chemistry test(s) when they have completed the appropriate SOL content, as determined by the local school division, but they do not have to pass the test to satisfy the requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma.

### History and Social Science

History and Social Science Course Title	Virginia Course Codes	SCED Codes	SOL Test
<i>Courses that will satisfy the history and social science requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma shall include one unit of credit in U.S. and Virginia History and one unit of credit in U.S and Virginia Government.</i>			
<i>Courses at or above the level of U.S. and Virginia History</i>			
U.S. and Virginia History, 2-Year Sequence, Part I <sup>1</sup>	2361	04102	None
U.S. and Virginia History, 2-Year Sequence, Part II	2362	04103	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
U.S. and Virginia History	2360	04101	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
American Civilization (must include the SOL for U.S. History)	2376	04149	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
Advanced Placement U.S. History	2319	04104	<a href="#">Footnote #2</a>
<i>Courses at or above the level of U.S. and Virginia Government</i>			
U.S. and Virginia Government	2440	04151	None

Advanced Placement Government and Politics: United States	2445	04157	None
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<sup>1</sup>Students may earn one credit in U.S. and Virginia History for the Modified Standard Diploma by successfully completing this course. This course may be treated as a survey course of U.S. and Virginia History topics in the SOL.

<sup>2</sup>Students who are enrolled in a course that requires an end-of-course SOL test must take the test, but they do not have to pass the SOL test to satisfy the requirement for the Modified Standard Diploma.

## Electives

**Sequential Electives** – Effective with the graduating class of 2003, students who wish to receive a Standard or Modified Standard Diploma must successfully complete two sequential electives. On February 5, 2002, the Board of Education approved *Guidelines for Sequential Electives for the Standard and Modified Standard Diploma*. These guidelines are available at: <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml>.

**Fine Arts and Career and Technical Education** - The Standard, Advanced Studies, and Modified Standard Diplomas each contain a requirement for one standard unit of credit in Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education. The Standards of Accreditation do not require that courses used to satisfy the requirement of Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education be approved by the Board. Therefore, local school officials should use their own judgment in determining which courses students take to satisfy the requirement of a unit of credit in Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education for the Standard, Advanced Studies, and Modified Standard Diplomas.

**Foreign Language** - The Advanced Studies Diploma contains a requirement for either three years of one foreign language or two years of two languages. In March 1998, the Board of Education approved the provision of three years of instruction in American Sign Language (ASL) for foreign language credit toward an Advanced Studies Diploma; other foreign languages will satisfy this requirement as well. Details of this action are available in Superintendent’s Memorandum, Interpretive, No. 1, June 12, 1998 [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents\\_memos/1998/int001.html](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/1998/int001.html).

## For Further Information

Further information about graduation requirements for Virginia public schools is available in the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* found at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/boe/accreditation/index.shtml> or from the Office of Standards, Curriculum and Instruction at (804) 225-2880.