

# Westside High School – Graduation Requirement/Core Course Selection Overview

Dear Student,

Every student is required to successfully complete specific courses and earn a certain number of credits. Each student must also pass all state-mandated STAAR/EOC exams to earn a high school diploma. The Texas Education Agency has changed graduation requirements several times in the past few years; however, your graduation requirements will always be based on the year **you entered high school**. Your Dean here at Westside will meet with you to ensure you are on track to graduate on time! The information below is simplified to help students get started on their course preferences. This reference sheet is a summary taken from TEA and HISD graduation requirement information.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS			
AREA	Foundation + Endorsements	Distinguished Level of Achievement	Additional Course Offerings
<b>ENGLISH</b>	English I, II, III, IV (Ask your dean about authorized courses that can replace English IV)	English I, II, III, IV (Ask your dean about authorized courses that can replace English IV)	Creative Writing, Debate, Journalism, Broadcast Journalism, Analysis of Visual Media, Media
<b>MATH</b>	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, <b>AND</b> required additional authorized Math	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, <b>AND</b> required additional authorized Math	Pre-Calculus, AQR, Algebraic Reasoning, College Algebra and Finite Mathematics (HCC), AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB, AP
<b>SCIENCE</b>	Biology, IPC <b>OR</b> Chemistry <b>OR</b> Physics, <b>AND</b> required additional authorized Science	Biology, Chemistry, Physics, <b>AND</b> required additional authorized Science	IPC, Principals of Technology, Earth & Space Science, Environmental Systems, Aquatic Science, Urban Agriculture, AP Environmental
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	World Geography or AP Human Geography, World History, US History, US	World Geography or AP Human Geography, World History, US History, US	AP Macro Economics, AP European History,
<b>WORLD LANGUAGE</b>	2 credits in one of these: Latin, Chinese, French, Spanish, American	2 credits in one of these: Latin, Chinese, French, Spanish, American	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , and 5 <sup>th</sup> Levels are in available in some languages (Ex.: AP Latin III, AP Chinese, AP
<b>FINE ARTS</b>	1 credit in one of these	1 credit in one of these	Technical Theatre, Theatre Production, Playwriting,
<b>HEALTH/ PHYSICAL FITNESS</b>	1 credit in PE, Athletics, ROTC, PE Marching Band, PE Drill Team, and/or PE	1 credit in PE, Athletics, ROTC, PE Marching Band, PE Drill Team, and/or PE Cheer. CoEd	Cheerleading, Pride
<b>PATHWAY/ ENDORSEMENT</b>	3 or more credits in same Pathway (Endorsement Pathway Dependent)	3 or more credits in same Pathway (Endorsement Pathway Dependent)	Additional Pathway Courses <b>OR</b>

## AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Students who earn 3+ on both AP Seminar/ AP Research courses and on 4 additional AP Exams will receive the distinguished AP Capstone Diploma!  
Contact Mr. Ben Powers (rm S224) and/or visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for info!

**MANDATORY!** ALL Magnet & CTE Transfer students **MUST** be enrolled in their approved pathway for all 4 years.