

Welcome to Freshmen and Sophomores
College Information Night

November 2, 2010

VCCHS School Code: 053-593

Welcome and Open in Prayer

Sharing the role of College Counselor
Mrs. Janet Fogh at JFogh@go-vcs.com
Mr. Joseph Rowland at JRowland@go-vcs.com

College Resource Center, room 202

- Books, brochures, resources, & more!
- College recruiters come to us. 😊

Handouts and Overview

At the Beginning of the Process, but Every Year Important!

Grades to meet A-G Course Requirements

GPA Calculation for various universities

SAT / ACT Test Information

UC and CSU Important Facts

CSU vs. UC Comparison of Eligibility

Requirements Timeline for College Admissions

CSU Information

UC Information

Defining Who You Are

- ▣ Who Are You / Who Are You Becoming?
- ▣ What are you passionate about?
- ▣ Develop those interests, talents, abilities.
- ▣ The importance of clubs, sports, community service, leadership, developing the whole person...
- ▣ Examples
- ▣ Develop a Passion! Get involved!
- ▣ You will be writing essays that ask who you are.

4 Categories of Colleges/ Universities

Community Colleges

<http://www.cccco.edu>

California State Universities
(CSU)

www.csumentor.edu

University of California (UC)

www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

Private / Highly Competitive
Universities

<https://www.commonapp.org>

Christian / Private

Individual university websites

Military Academies

Specialty colleges (i.e.:
Art, Culinary, etc...)

California's A-G Requirements

A-G Categories	VCHS' Grad. Req.	Minimum for CSU	Minimum for UC
"a": History/ Social Sciences	3 years	2 years including one year of US History or one semester of US History and 1 semester of American Govt., <u>and</u> 1 year of history/social science from either the "a" or "g" area.	2 years including one year of US History or one semester of US History and 1 semester of American Govt., <u>and</u> 1 year of World History.
"b": English	4 years	4 years	4 years
"c": Mathematics	3 years	3 years	3 years, (4 yrs. Recommended)
"d": Science	2 years	1 yr. Physical Science / 1 year Biological Science, one from "d" and one from either "d" or "g" area.	2 years from "d" area classes. (3 years recommended)
"e": World Languages	Highly recommended / For class of 2013 & afterwards, 2 years.	2 years	2 years, (3 years recommended)
"f": VPA/Fine Arts	1 year	1 year	1 year
"g": College Preparatory Elective	1 year Practical Arts 60 cred. / 40 cred.	1 year	1 year

Some of these requirements, specifically the timing for them being accomplished, has changed starting with the class entering in the Fall of 2012 (this year's juniors.) These changes do not affect this year's seniors.

Grade Requirement to Meet A-G Requirements

- ▣ Preparation for the CSU/ UC Schools
- ▣ It is important to be aware that for the UC / CSU schools to count a class as having met their “a-g” requirements for college admission, the semester grade must be a C (70%) or above.
- ▣ VCS students are highly encouraged to remediate any course grade less than a C if it is one required under the “a-g” coursework as listed below, in order to ensure eligibility at a CSU or UC campus.

For Course Scheduling

- ▣ New requirement for the UC track: If you're applying for admission for fall 2012 or beyond, you must complete 11 of the 15 "a-g" courses prior to your senior year.

Validating a Course Grade

- ▣ **Validation Changes.** The University of California system uses a process known as validation to allow students to clear, or validate, a course omission or "D" or "F" grade in certain subject areas. In 2004, UC faculty clarified a couple of validation rules: (a) a passing grade in the second semester of chemistry will no longer validate a "D" or "F" grade in the first semester, and (b) statistics will no longer validate geometry, but will continue to validate beginning and intermediate algebra.

Grades Matter

- ▣ Required “A-G” courses must be completed with a grade of C or better.
- ▣ Courses in which grades of D are earned must be repeated, except in the areas of math and language (other than English), where grades of D can be validated by successful completion of higher-level coursework (see details).
- ▣ At VCS, we require that all Math and World Language courses be completed with a grade of C or better in order to progress to the next course.

GPA Calculations Vary

- ▣ All Courses, all Grades
- ▣ Sophomore grades and above
- ▣ Weighted vs. Unweighted
- ▣ A-G courses only (UC system)
- ▣ Important Take Home Message: Every year, every course, every grade counts! 😊

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

14 Approved Advanced Placement Courses

- ▣ Studio Art: 2-D Design
- ▣ Studio Art: Drawing
- ▣ European History
- ▣ Microeconomics
- ▣ U.S. Government and Politics
- ▣ Calculus AB
- ▣ Statistics
- ▣ United States History
- ▣ Biology
- ▣ English Literature and Composition
- ▣ Chemistry
- ▣ Psychology
- ▣ English Language and Composition
- ▣ Spanish Language

Why Take an AP Class?

- ▣ A College Level class (more expected) / Will challenge you! Expect more homework and studying to be required.
- ▣ Shows readiness at a more advanced level
- ▣ Grade point advantage
- ▣ Summer requirements
- ▣ AP Test in May – roughly \$86 each
- ▣ Universities look to see if top students are taking advantage of more advanced courses.

SAT/ ACT

- ▣ Required by almost all 4-year Universities
- ▣ Take the first time by the Spring of Junior year. (Some Sophomores will take it near the end of Sophomore year for practice, especially if looking for a very competitive university.)
- ▣ Take the second time the end of Junior year, but definitely before December of Senior year.
- ▣ Community colleges use results for placement
- ▣ Student should check w/ colleges to see what specific tests they require.
- ▣ www.collegeboard.com for SAT
- ▣ www.actstudent.org for ACT
- ▣ On these websites:
 - Daily Practice questions
 - Interest Inventories for careers and majors
 - College comparisons

Changes for Freshmen applicants for the Fall of 2012

- ▣ UC's will no longer require Subject Area tests.

Important Info about CSU/ UC Grade Calculations

- ▣ Calculate GPA using only "A-G" approved courses taken after the 9th grade.
- ▣ You do count A-G course completion using courses taken in 9th grade.

California Community Colleges

- ▣ Minimum Eligibility: High School Diploma
- ▣ Complete an application during the spring semester
- ▣ Value of taking the SAT or ACT
- ▣ Transfer programs to CSU / UC schools

California State Universities (CSU)

- ▣ Minimum Eligibility
- ▣ - High School Diploma
- ▣ - Meet Eligibility Criteria
- ▣ - Min. of 2.0 GPA
- ▣ - A-G Required Classes all completed w/ a C or greater.

- ▣ SAT or ACT
- ▣ Sliding table of GPA vs./ test scores. **(3.0 or above is Good!)**
- ▣ Seniors submit applications between October 1st and November 30th.
- ▣ Impacted programs have additional admissions criteria above the minimum CSU standards
- ▣ **Sacramento State and Sonoma State priority entrance!**
- ▣ Admits roughly the top 30% of HS graduates.

University of California (UC)

- Minimum Eligibility
- - High School Diploma
- - Meet Eligibility Criteria
- - Minimum of 3.0 GPA
- - A-G Required Classes all completed w/ a C or greater.

- Application including Essay
- SAT Reasoning or ACT + writing
- 2 Subject Area Tests (not for your class)
- Sliding table of GPA vs./ test scores. (3.5 to 4.15 are average GPA)
- Application website opens Oct. 1st
- Seniors submit application between Nov. 1 and Nov. 30th
- Roads to Admission
- Admits roughly the top 12.5% of HS graduates.

Private / Highly Competitive Universities

- ▣ Christian Universities
- ▣ Private Universities
- ▣ Military Academies – Start Spring of Junior Year
- ▣ Specialty Colleges (Culinary, Arts, etc...)

- ▣ Apply via University's website
- ▣ Common Application
- ▣ Teacher and/or Counselor Recommendations

How Many? Which Ones?

- ▣ 3-Tier Planning
- ▣ What are you looking for?
- ▣ Specialties of programs / Expertise of University
- ▣ Environment
- ▣ Location
- ▣ College Visits
- ▣ Feasibility (Cost, qualifications)

Three Tiers of Colleges

Clearly Within My Reach / Sure Thing

Reasonably Likely / Possible / My Desire!

My Absolute Dream!



Naviance



- ▣ <http://connection.naviance.com/vchs>
- ▣ User name / email is your student's PowerSchool ID
- ▣ Password is your student's web password w/ an X at the end.

- ▣ Track college interest, college applications, application status
- ▣ College search, career survey, request for transcripts, and graduation surveys

How UC Applications Are Reviewed

UC Schools consider each individual application - and rest assured, UC schools do consider each one - they look beyond grades and test scores.

UC schools spend time evaluating your academic achievements in light of the opportunities available to you and your demonstrated capacity to contribute to the intellectual life at UC.

The 14 factors they weigh are on your handout or online at:

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/how-applications-reviewed/index.html>

What Should I Be Doing Now?

Freshmen

- ▣ Diligent in your studies
- ▣ Mock SAT and/or PSAT
- ▣ **Visit the College Resource Center – rm. 202!**
- ▣ Begin researching potential colleges
- ▣ Visit with College Reps who come through
- ▣ Get involved in school organizations/ clubs/ service organizations/ leadership roles. It's better to have 2-3 major areas that you've consistently been involved in, instead of 10 you were sporadically involved in or just briefly involved in.

Sophomores

- ▣ Consider taking SAT/ACT test for first time. You will definitely want to take these tests again in the Spring of your Junior year.
- ▣ Earn your best grades.
- ▣ Continue w/ service/ leadership activities
- ▣ Use Naviance and compare universities
- ▣ Map out which colleges you want to visit.

Summer

- ▣ More college visits
- ▣ Lots of research on universities.

Everyone!

- ▣ College visits!
- ▣ Keep your academics as a top priority.
- ▣ If interested in a military academy – the application process begins much earlier.
- ▣ Begin planning what course load you desire for the next school year that will best help you to achieve your objectives college-wise.
- ▣ Look for service/ leadership opportunities for next year (ie: student council, youth group, clubs, etc...)

Q & A

- ▣ What questions do you have?

***Check out the New College
Resource Center in room 202!***

Agenda for Freshmen and Sophomores' College Information Night
Tuesday, November 2, 2010
6:30 pm in the HS Computer Lab

<p>Welcome and Open in Prayer</p>	<p>Sharing the role of College Counselor Mrs. Janet Fogh at JFogh@go-vcs.com Mr. Joseph Rowland at JRowland@go-vcs.com</p> <p>College Resource Center, room 202</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Books, brochures, resources, & more! • College recruiters come to us. ☺
<p>Handouts and Overview</p> <p>VCHS School Code: 053-593</p>	<p>At the Beginning of the Process, but Every Year Important!</p> <p>Grades to meet A-G Course Requirements GPA Calculation for various universities SAT / ACT Test Information UC and CSU Important Facts CSU vs. UC Comparison of Eligibility Requirements Timeline for College Admissions CSU Information UC Information</p>
<p>Defining Who You Are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating an Identity - Working Toward the College Application Process (see How UC Applications are Reviewed, below) 	<p>Who Are You / Who Are You Becoming? What are you passionate about? Develop those interests, talents, abilities. The importance of clubs, sports, community service, leadership, developing the whole person... Examples Develop a Passion! Get involved! You will be writing essays that ask who you are.</p>
<p>4 Categories of Colleges/ Universities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Colleges California State Universities University of California (UC) Private / Highly selective Universities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christian and Private Military Academies Specialty colleges (i.e.: Art, Culinary, etc...) 	<p>http://www.cccco.edu www.csumentor.edu www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply https://www.commonapp.org</p>
<p>California's A-G Requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Handout • VCHS Graduation Requirements are

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS, BY SUBJECT AREA

The "a-g" requirements can be summarized as follows:

(a) History / Social Science – Two years, including one year of world history, cultures, and historical geography **and** one year of us history or one-half year of us history and one-half year of civics or American government.

(b) English – Four years of college preparatory English that include frequent and regular writing, and reading of classic and modern literature.

(c) Mathematics – Three years of college preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry.

(d) Laboratory Science – Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of these three disciplines: biology, chemistry, and physics.

(e) Language Other Than English – Two years of the same language other than English.

(f) Visual & Performing Arts – One year, including dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art.

(g) College Preparatory Elective – One year (two semesters), chosen from additional "a-f" courses beyond those used to satisfy the requirements above, or courses that have been approved solely for use as "g" electives.

designed to meet A-G Requirements

- **Preparation for the CSU/ UC Schools**

It is important to be aware that for the UC / CSU schools to count a class as having met their "a-g" requirements for college admission, the semester grade must be a C (70%) or above. From their website: "Earn a GPA of 3.0 or better (3.4 if you're a nonresident) in those courses, with no grade lower than a C." VCS students are highly encouraged to remediate any course grade less than a C if it is one required under the "a-g" coursework as listed below, in order to ensure eligibility at a CSU or UC campus.

For Course Scheduling: New requirement for the UC track: If you're applying for admission for fall 2012 or beyond, you must complete 11 of the 15 "a-g" courses prior to your senior year.

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/reshman/applying-fall-2012/index.html>

Validation Changes. The University uses a process known as validation to allow students to clear, or validate, a course omission or "D" or "F" grade in certain subject areas. In 2004 UC faculty clarified a couple of validation rules: (a) a passing grade in the second semester of chemistry will no longer validate a "D" or "F" grade in the first semester, and (b) statistics will no longer validate geometry, but will continue to validate beginning and intermediate algebra. <http://www.ucop.edu/a-gGuide/ag/a-g/welcome.html>

<p>GPA Calculation for various universities</p> <p>While many universities use a straight GPA for all HS classes, some use only specific classes to calculate your GPA, and others use only certain grade levels. Some universities accept weighted grades, some recalculate grades so there is no weighting.</p> <p>Key take out: Every year, every course, every grade matters.</p>	<p><u>For the UC's:</u> Grade point average (GPA) calculated on all academic coursework completed in the 10th and 11th grades in the subject areas specified by the university eligibility requirements ("a-g" subjects), weighted for up to eight additional semesters of university-certified honors courses*, capped at 4.50 Then, evaluation of senior year, first semester report card grades.</p> <p>http://admissions.ucdavis.edu/admissions/fr_select_ion_process.cfm</p>
<p>Advanced Placement (AP) Classes</p> <p><u>14 Approved Advanced Placement Courses</u></p> <p>Studio Art: 2-D Design Studio Art: Drawing European History Microeconomics U.S. Government and Politics Calculus AB Statistics United States History Biology English Literature and Composition Chemistry Psychology English Language and Composition Spanish Language</p>	<p><u>Advantages of an AP Class</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A College Level class (more expected) • Shows readiness at a more advanced level • Grade point advantage • Summer requirements • AP Test in May – roughly \$86 each • Universities look to see if top students are taking advantage of more advanced courses.
<p>PSAT / SAT/ ACT / Subject Area Tests</p> <p><u>On the websites:</u> Daily Practice questions Interest Inventories for careers and majors College comparisons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components of each test • Subject Area Tests will no longer be required for incoming freshmen in the fall of 2012. • SAT or ACT Required by almost all 4-year Universities • Community colleges use results for placement • Student should check w/ colleges to see what specific tests they require. • www.collegeboard.com for SAT / Subj. Area • www.actstudent.org for ACT

<p>California Community Colleges</p> <p>Requirements for Admission: - High School Diploma</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete an application during the spring semester • Value of taking the SAT or ACT • Solano CC assessment coordinator and counselor will visit VCHS in the spring.
<p>California State Universities (CSU)</p> <p>Minimum Eligibility - High School Diploma - Meet Eligibility Criteria - Min. of 2.0 GPA - A-G Required Classes all completed w/ a C or greater.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAT or ACT • Sliding table of GPA vs./ test scores. • Application website opens October 1st. • Impacted programs have additional admissions criteria above the minimum CSU standards • Sacramento State and Sonoma State priority • Admits roughly the top 30% of HS graduates.
<p>University of California (UC)</p> <p>Minimum Eligibility - High School Diploma - Meet Eligibility Criteria - Minimum of 3.0 GPA - A-G Required Classes all completed w/ a C or greater.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application including Essay • SAT Reasoning or ACT + writing • Sliding table of GPA vs./ test scores. • Application website opens Oct. 1st • Roads to Admission • Admits roughly the top 12.5% of HS graduates.
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<p>Naviance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://connection.naviance.com/vchs • User name / email is your PowerSchool ID • Password is your student’s web password w/ an X at the end. • Track college interest, college applications, application status • College search, career survey, request for transcripts, and graduation surveys
<p>How UC applications are reviewed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic grade point average in all completed "a-g" courses, including additional points for completed UC-certified honors courses.

UC Schools consider each individual application - and rest assured, UC schools do consider each one - they look beyond grades and test scores.

UC schools spend time evaluating your academic achievements in light of the opportunities available to you and your demonstrated capacity to contribute to the intellectual life at UC. The 14 factors they weigh are:

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- Scores on the ACT With Writing or SAT Reasoning Test and two SAT Subject Tests. (SAT Subject Tests will not be required for freshman applicants applying for fall 2012 or later.)
- Number of, content of and performance in academic courses beyond the minimum "a-g" requirements.
- Number of and performance in UC-approved honors and Advanced Placement courses.
- Identification by UC as being ranked in the top 4 percent of the your high school class at the end of your junior year (Eligible in the Local Context, or ELC). Freshmen entering in fall 2012 or beyond will need to be ranked in the top 9 percent of their high school class to be ELC-eligible.
- Quality of your senior-year program as measured by the type and number of academic courses in progress or planned.
- Quality of your academic performance relative to the educational opportunities available in your high school.
- Outstanding performance in one or more academic subject areas.
- Outstanding work in one or more special projects in any academic field of study.
- Recent, marked improvement in academic performance as demonstrated by academic GPA and the quality of coursework completed or in progress.
- Special talents, achievements and awards in a particular field, such as visual and performing arts, communication or athletic endeavors; special skills, such as demonstrated written and oral proficiency in other languages; special interests, such

	<p>as intensive study and exploration of other cultures; experiences that demonstrate unusual promise for leadership, such as significant community service or significant participation in student government; or other significant experiences or achievements that demonstrate the student's promise for contributing to the intellectual vitality of a campus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of special projects undertaken in the context of your high school curriculum or in conjunction with special school events, projects or programs.• Academic accomplishments in light of your life experiences and special circumstances.• Location of your secondary school and residence.
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What Should I Be Doing Now?



It's Sooner than You Think!

Freshmen

- Diligent in your studies
- Mock SAT and/or PSAT
- **Visit the College Resource Center – rm. 202!**
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Time for Questions / Answers

Your Questions????