

GACollege411 High School Course Plan Transcript

Hi and welcome to the 'GACollege411' tutorial for high school course planning. Over the next couple minutes you'll learn how to create a high school course plan to help you work towards achieving your post-secondary and career goals. I'll also discuss next steps after you've completed your high school plan.

So first, it's important that you already have an idea of what career pathway you plan to pursue. You should start by taking the 'Interest Profiler' assessment in the 'Learn About Yourself' section to find which career clusters suit you best. Career clusters are groupings of careers that require similar knowledge and skills. Once you've chosen a career cluster, you can then dive a little deeper and determine what pathways interest you most. Pathways are smaller, more focused groups of careers. For instance, in the 'Arts and Humanities' cluster, you'll find four pathways: Foreign Language, Journalism, Performing Arts and Visual Arts. Once you have a good idea of which pathway you'd like to pursue, you should review its recommended plan of study. If it looks good to you, click on 'Use this pathway for your plan of study'. This will take you right into the 'High School planning' section of 'GACollege411'.

Another way to start building your high school plan is by going directly to the 'High School Planning' page and clicking on 'Your Plan of Study'. Once again, step one will require you to select a career cluster that you're interested in and then choose which career pathway you want to base your plan on. Click 'learn more' to find out about a particular pathway and then when you've made a decision, click on 'use this career pathway to build your plan'.

Step two requires you to choose your graduation requirements. If you want to learn more about Georgia's graduation requirements, click 'see details' for info about the number of course credits you'll need in order to graduate. When you're ready, click 'Continue'. Step three allows you to edit your plan of study. Here you'll need to enter which courses you've already taken. To do this, just click on the relevant class beneath each grade. For example, click on 9th grade English and you'll see that we are taken to a new page. Now, beneath 'status' choose whether you are planning to take this course, if you are currently enrolled in it or if you have completed it. When you've completed a course, you also have the option to include the grade you received. If there are other courses you have taken which are not included in your plan of study, you can add them as well by either typing in or selecting the course name from the pull-down menu and then enter the number of credits received, the status and, if you want, your grade. Once you've edited or added course information, click on 'Save' to be taken back to your course plan. As you can see, course cells will turn light indicating that they have been updated. Then this last column on your course plan is what makes it easy for you to ensure that you're meeting Georgia graduation requirements. Here you'll find a list of your total credits for each subject and the number of credits the state of Georgia requires for you to graduate. If you follow your course plan as outlined and pass all your classes, then you've got nothing to worry about; you'll easily meet your grad requirements.

Now, if you already have a college in mind, you can check here to see if its entrance requirements are available and ensure that you're taking the courses you need to get in. So, for example, let's type in Georgia College and State University, and then you can see here your

completed courses compared to the number of course credits they require and recommend that you have. When you're done creating your plan of study, scroll to the bottom of the page and choose to make this your current plan. Whenever you want to check out your high school course plan you can just go to your portfolio and click on 'High School Planning'. Also, to ensure that you're staying on track, GAcollge411 has provided a variety of helpful timelines that you can reference every year from the 7th grade until you're a college freshman. Check out the 'High School Planning' timeline in the 'High School Planning' section. Then, there's the 'college planning timeline' on the 'Prepare for College' page in the 'College Planning' section. And, finally, the 'Financial Aid Planning Timeline' on the 'Build a Financial Aid Plan' page in the 'Financial Aid Planning' section. While some of the tips overlap between all three checklists, it never hurts to reference all three of them now and again to ensure that you're on track for success.

To take the next step towards achieving your goals, I recommend you also check out the following GAcollge411 tutorials: Searching for Colleges, Applying to College and Financial Aid Planning.