9th Grade Course Catalogue
School Year 2020-2021

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Graduation Requirements

Girls Global Academy Public Charter School Graduation Requirements

Girls Global Academy Public Charter School ("Girls Global Academy PCS") will meet standard graduation requirements set by District of Columbia Public Schools. Girls Global Academy PCS offers IB, AP, and CTE courses in the student's regular schedule. All Girls Global Academy students will have the same promotion requirements. If a student is recommended for retention, the Success team, led by the College and Career Readiness Counselor, will review and revise the Personalized Learning Plan, meet with the parent/guardian and student, and articulate the path forward for credit recovery which may include summer school sessions.

Students in Washington, D.C. are required to take at least 2.0 credits of their 24.0 credits in college level or career preparation approved courses to include AP, IB, and CTE courses. Girls Global Academy students will meet the community service requirement of 100 hours through service learning during LEADership academy and out of school service projects. Paid experiences **do not** count for service learning. Students at Girls Global Academy PCS will participate in a variety of service learning experiences each year they are enrolled.

Credits: A minimum of 25.5 credits must be obtained as a student at Girls Global Academy PCS. Please see breakdown below.

Girls Global Academy PCS Graduation Requirements

English 4 credits	1 credit in English 9* 1 credit in English 10* 1 credit in English 11* 1 credit in English 12*
Mathematics 4 credits	1 credit in Algebra 1* 1 credit in Geometry* 1 credit in Algebra II* 1 credit in upper level course*
Social Studies 4 credits	1 credit in World History I* 1 credit in World History II* 1 credit in US History* .5 credit in US Government* .5 credit District of Columbia History* .5 credit Women's Studies IB Psychology HL, AP World History, AP US History, AP US Government can replace same name non AP/IB course
Science	1 credit in Biology*

4 credits 3 credits in lab sciences and 1 additional science course	1 credit in Chemistry 1 credit in Environmental Science 1 credit in Physics IB Environmental Systems and Societies SL, AP Biology can replace same name non AP/IB course
Physical Education and Health 1.5 credits	.5 credit Physical Education I* .5 credit Physical Education II* .5 credit in Health* Physical education credit can be earned through a school sanctioned sports program
Fine Arts 1 credit	.5 credit in Art A/B* .5 credit in Music* IB Art HL can replace same name non AP/IB course
Pathways and CTE options 2 credits 3 total credits for qualifying courses in the chosen engineering or business pathway for the Certificate	1 credit Engineering Design* 1 credit Leadership* & Wealth Management* - Principles of Engineering* (mandatory for Engineering pathway only), Environmental Sustainability, Civil Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, Engineering Design and Development - Principles of Business* & Business Economics*(mandatory for Business pathway only), Principles of Marketing & Principles of Finance, Principles of Management & Business Strategies
World Languages 2 credits	1 credit in World Language 1 1 credit in World Language 2
Electives 3 credits	Any elective course listed will count as an elective. Credits earned over the minimum requirements will count toward elective
Service Learning	100 hours
Total Credit Hours	25.5

*indicates required course for graduation

GGA will admit new grade 11 students; however, these students may not qualify for the pathways certificate as a result of their entry grade. The grade 9 pathway coursework (Introduction to Engineering Design and Leadership & Wealth Management) will be waived for grade 11 transfer students. Girls Global Academy will provide students with the pathways course progression in order to qualify for the CTE certificate option as a transfer student. Students enrolled in grade 11 as a transfer student will choose a Pathway, either Engineering or Business and be placed in the required course (Principles of Engineering or Principles of Business and Business Economics). Students will take as many courses as possible in the Engineering or Business pathway prior to graduation. The placement in multiple pathways courses during grade 12 is dependent on a student's unique scheduling needs. Grade 11 transfer students will also be given a world language placement exam if there are no transferring world language credits to determine scheduling needs. Students that enroll in grade 9 with advanced world language credits will be enrolled in advanced language courses.

GGA will **not** admit new grade 12 students, as they would not have the requisite Career Pathways and IB coursework needed for graduation. Transferring students must present their grade transcript at the time of enrollment. Upon review of transfer student transcripts, GGA will honor the credits that have been earned by students from other schools for the same course. Thereafter, the GGA grading policy and graduation requirements are followed. Credit recovery will be offered to students who have not received a credit in core subject areas of English, Math, Science, and Biology. Credit recovery will not be for first-attempt credits.

Students may apply for a waiver to these graduation requirements, particularly in the event that they are transferring from another school. Waivers will be granted at the administration's discretion, only with significant cause, and with an eye toward preserving as much of the full GGA graduation requirements for each student as possible.

In particular, transfer students may apply for a waiver from Pathways courses. Waivers for Pathways courses will be granted only if completion of the Pathways/CTE courses impedes a student's ability to complete other graduation requirements.

GGA will **not** grant waivers for 11th grade IB coursework, so any transferring 12th grader must be able to transfer sufficient IB course credits to meet these graduation requirements.

Course Name: English Language Arts 9	
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	English Language Arts 9 is an exploration of genres through a diverse group of classic and contemporary writers represented from around the globe. Through novels, poems, stories, and plays, students learn more about their own personal identity and the identity of others. Critical reading/literary analysis is balanced with open-ended engaging projects which are both essential to supporting students in college and career readiness standards.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Name: Algebra I	
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	The Algebra I course begins with connections back to earlier work to review concepts that students have already studied while at the same time moving them forward into high school standards. Students contrast exponential and linear functions as they explore exponential models using the familiar tools of tables,graphs, and symbols to tackle and analyze real-world data and issues from around the world. Finally, they apply these same tools to a study of quadratic functions. Throughout, the course students are given multiple entry points to model and make sense of mathematical concepts.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Name: Geometry	
Prerequisite Course (s): Algebra I	Course Description: Students have learned how to use algebraic functions to describe various situations in addition to learning skills that help with the usage of algebraic expressions to solve problems. In Geometry, students will continue to use their algebraic skills and apply them to geometric problems. Geometry is the branch of mathematics that deals with the shape and size of objects that we find all around us. As students study geometry, they will discover and use relationships among geometric shapes.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Name: Biology	
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	The Biology course focuses on scientific inquiry, engineering, and STEM practices through phenomena and problems that are presented in the form of an essential question to answer at the end of each unit. Students explore what this problem looks like in another part of the world while engaging a similar problem in the local context through science labs and case studies. Topics studied include the nature of life, ecology, cells, genetics, evolution, and biodiversity.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Name: Spanish One	
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	The Spanish One course immerses students in authentic cultural experiences through engaging theme-based learning to include culture, health, technology, and travel. Reading, writing, listening and speaking proficiency are emphasized to support students in language proficiency to communicate about themselves and their world.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Name: Spanish Two	
Prerequisite Course (s): Spanish One	**T**he Spanish two course continues to immerse students in authentic cultural experiences through engaging theme-based learning on engaging topics. There is a continued emphasis on reading, writing, listening and speaking proficiency are emphasized to support students in language proficiency to communicate about themselves and their world.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Number: CHI1	**Course Name: Chinese One**
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	**T**he Mandarin One course immerses students in authentic cultural experiences through engaging theme-based learning to include culture, health, technology, and travel. Reading, writing, listening and speaking proficiency are emphasized to support students in language proficiency to communicate about themselves and their world.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

****Girls Global will do its best to accommodate students and ensure continuity with world languages students may have started prior to their attendance at Girls Global.**

Course Number: WRH9	**Course Name: World History**
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	The World History course course engages students through stories and eventful times to conduct historical investigation and analysis of both primary and secondary sources. Students are challenged to think more deeply about personal, national, and global identity by assuming roles, participating in decision trees, and simulations to develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening proficiencies.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Number: PHE9	**Course Name: Physical Education**
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	Curriculum is designed to engage high school students specifically using conceptual knowledge and high engagement activities that connect to the real world. Role-playing, decision-making, leadership,creation, and communication are embedded through character education to develop transferable personal and professional skills with the option to become Spark Fitness Instructor Certification.
Credits:½ Credit	
Course Length: ½ Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Number: HED9	**Course Name: Health Education**
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	The Health Education course is designed to assist students in developing lifelong positive attitudes and behaviors to make wise decisions related to their personal health. Students study a variety of health topics to include community health, mental and emotional wellness, safety, nutrition, injury prevention, and sexual health. Students will have a clear understanding of how overall wellness is a part of their personal right and responsibility.
Credits:½ Credit	
Course Length: ½ Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Number: ENG9	**Course Name: Engineering Essentials**
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	Engineering Essentials is a brand new course designed as a first-exposure experience to inspire students of all backgrounds to explore the breadth of engineering-related career opportunities. Throughout the course, students explore global engineering challenges and sustainability goals, the impact of engineering, and the variety of career paths available to them.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Number: BUS9	**Course Name: Wealth Management**
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	This project-based financial literacy and investment course develops student understanding and skills in such areas as personal finance, types of investment, the stock market, and stock valuation. Students acquire an understanding and appreciation of the need for personal financial management and investing. To encourage immediate implementation of financial literacy and investment skills, Wealth Management utilizes an on-going investment project for course delivery and reinforcement. The course content is sequenced for students to develop a diversified, balanced investment portfolio based both on their interest in products and companies and on fundamental analysis. Throughout the course, students are presented with problem-solving situations for which they must apply academic and critical-thinking skills.
Credits:1 Credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

Course Name: Advisory Year One	
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	Advisory is an opportunity for students to explore academic, social, and college/career topics in safe and brave spaces with a smaller cohort of students. Facilitated by an instructional staff member, the focus is on positive student to student and student to adult relationships developed through discussions, activities, and mini-projects.
Credits: ½ credit	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement:	

Course Name: LEADership Academy	
Prerequisite Course (s): N/A	LEADership Academy is the experiential learning component on Wednesdays at Girls Global Academy where students learn about important community issues, engage with people around the community issues, take action through awareness, service, advocacy, and/or philanthropy, and demonstrate impact through student-driven service-learning projects.
Credits: Earn Service Hours	
Course Length: 1 Year	
Graduation Requirement: YES	

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Course Name: Community Meeting</td></tr>
<tr><td>Prerequisite Course (s): N/A</td><td rowspan="4">At Girls Global Academy, we believe that voice and choice happens in a variety of settings. Community Meetings at Girls Global Academy are student-led and provide an opportunity for all stakeholders (students, staff, parents, and community members) to come together to greet and get to know each other better, participate in team-building activities that develop academic and social emotional learning, and disseminate important announcements. Student groups take turns in their advisory cohorts leading the meetings with the support of their advisor as a facilitator and guide.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Credits: N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td>Course Length:</td></tr>
<tr><td>Graduation Requirement:</td></tr>
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