# Pioneer Valley High School <br> Academic Planning Guide <br> 2017-18 



## Table of Contents

Welcome Letter ..... 1
Counselor Caseload
Selecting the Right Courses. ..... 2
Class Changes
Student Grades
What to Expect the Next Four Years ..... 3
Academic Support ..... 4
TutoringAfter School On-Track Credit Recovery (OTCR)Summer OTCR
Advanced Placement Courses ..... 5
Expectations of AP Courses
Advanced Placement Courses Offered
College Now! ..... 6
Hancock Concurrent Courses
UCSB Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP) ..... 7
NCAA \& Career Exploration
Career Pathways ..... 8
Graduation Requirements ..... 9
Academic Scholar Seal
Four-Year Plan ..... 10
A-G Course List ..... 11
California State University (CSU) and
University of California (UC) A - G Requirements ..... 12
College \& Military Entrance Exams ..... 13
PSAT/NMSQT/ACT/SAT/ASVAB
Calculating Your University GPA ..... 14
How to Read Your Transcript ..... 15

## Pioneer Valley High School

Dear Student and Parent,
Welcome to Pioneer Valley High School! This school year promises to be an exciting year. All students will have six classes with additional options for a seventh period. This schedule provides students with year-long instruction in all of their classes. All students have been assigned to a counselor who will assist them in planning their academic four-year plan.

We also have three guidance technicians to support our students and counselors in various areas.

Sandra Arreguin<br>Vicky Ramos<br>Robin Rocco

The information included in this academic planning guide will assist you in registering on-line for your classes for the upcoming school year. We encourage you to familiarize with the information. Counselors will be visiting all classes to go over important dates and procedures prior to meeting with each student.

If you have further questions or would like to meet with your counselor, please contact us at 922-1305. We look forward to working with you.

| NINTH GRADE COUNSELORS |  | TENTH GRADE COUNSELORS |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NADIA VENTURA Ext. 5767 | MIRIANA DEL TORO Ext. 5754 | CHRISTOPHER CARRILLO <br> Ext. 5198 | SUSAN AVRIT Ext. 5775 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { A - LI } \\ \text { Panther Pack } \end{gathered}$ | Lo-Z | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{Li} \\ \text { Panther Pack } \end{gathered}$ | Lo-Z |
| ELEVENTH GRADE COUNSELORS |  | TWELFTH GRADE COUNSELORS |  |
| SANDRA GONZALEZ Ext. 5765 | REBECCA LEADBETTER Ext. 5766 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { SAIRA DIAZ } \\ \text { Ext. } 5768 \end{gathered}$ | HEIDI LEAL Ext. 5763 |
| A-Li | Lo - Z <br> Alternative Ed Referrals | A-L | M-Z |

## Selecting the Right Courses

College and career readiness requires thoughtful planning. It is important for students to work with their counselors in selecting their courses prior to registration each year. Students are encouraged to review the files located on the guidance page of the school website for information regarding course and pathway offerings.

Here are some important things to consider when selecting the right courses:

- Does the course meet the graduation requirements that I need?
- Do courses selected meet my career and educational goals?
- Is the course A-G approved?
- Have I taken the prerequisite courses?

Students are strongly encouraged to get involved by participating in clubs, student government (ASB), sports and community service. These are all important activities which are highly valued and considered during the selection process by universities and scholarship committees.

## Class Changes

All course changes must begin and end with your counselor. It is important that students choose their classes wisely. Students are encouraged to select alternate courses when choosing their electives. It is difficult to accommodate requests for changes after the school year has started. Teacher preferences or period preferences are not considered a sufficient reason for making a class change. All adds and/or drops must be made within the first 20 days of the semester to avoid an " $F$ drop" penalty, and loss of credit in the new course. Students are responsible for making up all work in the new course when changes are made. Parent permission is required when dropping an A-G course.

## Student Grades

Progress reports are issued at six-weeks and twelve-weeks each semester. Final semester report cards are issued at the end of each semester. Both progress reports and report cards are mailed home.

## Incomplete Grade (I)

An incomplete grade is given only when a student's work is not finished because of illness or other excused absence. If not made up within six-weeks, the incomplete will become an "F" (AR 5121).

## What to Expect the Next Four Years . . .



## Freshmen

Freshmen year is a huge transition. It is an opportunity to make new friends, get involved in sports, clubs and other activities. It is critical for students to understand the academic expectations and the importance of keeping up with school work. Two orientations will be held prior to the beginning of the year to help make the transition go smoothly. A parent information night in the fall will review graduation and A-G university requirements. In the spring, counselors will work with students to develop a fouryear plan. Freshmen will begin exploring interests through the Career Cruising program. College bound students will be encouraged to prepare for placement exams by taking the PSAT. Counselors will make contact with parents and teachers during the year to further support student success.

## Sophomore Year

This is a year of self-discovery where students explore career interests and will choose a pathway. Counselors meet with parents and students to discuss academic progress and post-secondary plans. Students will take a Career Cruising inventory test to help identify areas of interest. Counselors will assist students in selecting courses for junior year. Information nights will be held for parents and students regarding college/university requirements, the application process, and entrance exams. Students will be encouraged to begin preparing for exams by taking the PSAT and possibly enrolling in Hancock College Now! and/or concurrent classes during their junior year to earn college credit.

## Junior Year

Counselors will meet with all students to review graduation and university admissions requirements. Students will receive a copy of their transcript to assess their progress. Counselors will provide guidance in selecting courses for senior year. A parent information night will be held in the spring to explain the university/community college requirements, preparation for admissions and other post-secondary options. Students should begin searching for prospective colleges and universities. Students will be encouraged to begin preparing for college admissions testing (PSAT/SAT/ACT/START).

## Seniors

Senior year can be both an exciting and stressful time. Counselors will meet with students during the year to monitor academic progress and post-secondary plans. Parents will be informed of their student's senior status via letters mailed home in the fall and the spring. Counselors will provide students with information regarding college admissions, deadlines, scholarship/financial aid opportunities, and other important events. Parents and students are encouraged to check the school website for all senior events and deadlines.

## Academic Support

## Tutoring

Tutoring is offered after school in the library from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday, excluding minimum days. Certificated teachers are available to provide additional assistance in most subject areas, including math. Tutoring is voluntary for any student who needs extra help, or just a quiet place to study and/or do homework. A sign-in sheet is kept of all students who attend.

## After School On-Track Credit Recovery (OTCR)

The OTCR Program runs during the school year Monday through Thursday from 3:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., excluding minimum days. Students may begin working on making-up courses they failed. OTCR is a web-based program that allows students to work independently in the computer lab under the direction of a teacher. International Languages and most advanced courses such as AP/Honors and most electives are not offered. Students are required to be in the lab at least three hours a week in order to successfully complete a course. All pre-tests and mastery tests must be completed in the lab under the direction of a teacher. For more information, please contact your counselor. Courses not completed during the school year must be finished in the summer program.

## Summer On-Track Credit Recovery

Summer OTCR is held four-weeks during the summer for students who need to make-up a course(s) that they failed. Students are required to complete at least four hours in the lab each week, as well as additional work at home. All pre-tests and mastery tests must be completed in a lab under the direction of a teacher. For more information, please contact your counselor. Sign-ups begin in May with upper classmen given first priority.


## Advanced Placement Courses (AP)

Most students begin taking Advanced Placement Courses (AP) during their sophomore year. AP courses are designed to prepare students for the rigors of university level work. After the student completes the course for which they receive high school credit, they can take the AP exam. The AP exams take place every year in May.

Exam fees are determined by the College Board each year. Please refer to the exam order form for current school year fees. Some students may qualify for a fee reduction through state and federal funds which would reduce the fee per exam. Students may see Araceli Mandujano, Community Liaison for the fee reduction form.

Student exams receive a score from 1 to 5. A score of 5 is equivalent to "A" level university work. Many universities will accept scores from 3-5. Some selective schools will only accept scores of 4's and 5's. Students who are interested in taking an AP course should see their counselor prior to registering for their junior classes.

## Expectations of AP Courses

1. Intense reading and writing assignments.
2. Additional summer reading, writing and project work.
3. A student's desire and ability to work independently and to push themselves beyond, both academically and intellectually.
4. Engagement in the subject area beyond just learning the facts.

## Advanced Placement Courses Offered

| English | Math | Science | Social Science | International <br> Languages |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| AP English <br> Language | AP Statistics | AP Environ. <br> Science | AP World History |  <br> Culture |
| AP English <br> Literature | AP Calculus AB | AP Biology | AP U. S. History |  <br> Culture |
|  |  |  |  <br> Politics | AP French |

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## College Now!

The College Now! Program gives high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to attend Allan Hancock College classes concurrently while attending Pioneer Valley High School. The cost for tuition is waived for high school students. Students are required to pay a health fee, student photo ID (optional), and any fees for books, class materials, or lab fees.

## College Now! Requirements include the following

> Complete the online application for admission to Hancock College
$>$ Be a junior or senior in high school
$>$ Have a minimum high school unweighted GPA of 2.5
$>$ Students who previously attended AHC must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA at AHC to continue
> Obtain your PVHS counselor's signature
$>$ Take the START test if required for the course
$>$ May enroll in a maximum of six units per semester

## Hancock Concurrent Courses

Concurrent courses are an excellent way for students to get a head start on their college education. Enrollment in these classes will satisfy the district's graduation requirements, AND with successful completion will guarantee transferrable college units to a California State University (CSU), University of California (UC), Hancock and/or private college. Students save time and money as they are able to simultaneously earn both high school and college credit during a regular school day at their high school. There are no fees for books or tuition. Grades/units earned will post to the students' college AND high school transcript. Students also receive an extra GPA point for taking college courses.

Students must enroll at Hancock and/or take the START placement test as required for some courses. For more information, students should talk with their counselor. See below for courses offered.

| Proposed Hancock <br> Concurrent Courses For <br> 2017-2018 | College <br> Units | Meets HS <br> Graduation <br> Requirement | START <br> Test <br> Required | UC/CSU <br> Transfer |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Physical Geography 101/ <br> Human Geography 102 | $3 / 3$ | Physical Sci. Elective <br> (two semesters) | No | Yes |
| History 107/History 108 | $3 / 3$ | US History A/B <br> (two semester) | No | Yes |
| Political Sci. 103 American Govt. | 3 | Government | No | Yes |

## UCSB Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP)

The Early Academic Outreach Program is a non-profit, college preparatory program from the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) that helps students learn about their options for continuing their education after high school. EAOP's mission reflects the views of the University of California to raise student achievement and close achievement gaps. Its vision is that it will strengthen California's educational system in ways that will promote a vibrant economy by building a highly skilled and creative workforce. EAOP's objective and purpose is to increase the number of students who have the opportunity to achieve a postsecondary education. EAOP offers both cohort and schoolwide services, such as Transcript Evaluations, College System Information, College Application Assistance, Financial Aid Assistance, College Going Initiative for $9^{\text {th }}-12^{\text {th }}$ Grade Students, University Tours, and many more that allow us to distribute necessary and correct information to students and parents. For more information about the EAOP Program, students may contact Fatima Zarate, College Counselor in the College and Career Center.

## NCAA

The NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) is the governing body that develops the rules and guidelines for potential athletes' eligibility for each of the three NCAA divisions. Students who wish to participate in university level sports during their first year of enrollment in college must register with the clearinghouse at www.eligibilitycenter.org. Please see your Counselor for additional information.


## Career Exploration

Career Cruising is a self-exploration web-based program that helps students to learn about their interests, skills and career pathway aspirations. Students can learn about career possibilities and educational pathways through a variety of fun interactive activities. Students will engage in grade level self-inventories administered through their English classes so, that they can begin to create career goals. For more information, students may contact their counselor, or drop by the College \& Career Center for assistance using the program.

## Technical Career Pathways

Career Pathways are an exciting way for students to explore a specific field of study for a post-secondary degree and/or technical career. Students who chose a pathway will complete the regular course of study for a high school diploma while meeting the A-G university college requirements. Electives in the pathways provide students with engaging and real-world applications to a specific industry sector.

## Career Technical Pathways



## Graduation Requirements

| SUBJECT AREA | GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (BP 6146.1) |
| :---: | :---: |
| *English (4 years) | 40 Units <br> English 4 or other senior English must be taken in the senior year. English requirements for English Leaners: Effective with the Class of 2009, English Leaners may earn a maximum of 30 English credits from English Language Development ELD) and remediation courses. The remaining English credits must be earned from L2 or mainstream English courses. Students taking intervention classes many earn a maximum of 20 credits in district approved intervention courses and must earn an additional 20 units in Regular English classes. |
| **Math (2 years) | 20 Units Total <br> Must include 10 credits of Algebra or 20 credits of 2-Year Algebra. At least one mathematics course, or a combination of the two mathematics courses required to completion in grades $9-12$, shall meet or exceed state academic standards for Algebra I. Students must satisfy the Algebra I course requirement prior to grade 9 . |
| Science (2 years) | 20 Units Total <br> 10 credits of Physical Science and 10 credits of Biological Science. |
| Social Studies (3 years) | 30 Units Total <br> 10 credits of Modern World History, 10 credits of US History, and 5 credits of Government and 5 credits of Economics. |
| Visual and Performing Arts, Foreign Language, or American Sign Language (1 year), or CTE courses | 10 Units Total |
| Physcial Education (2 years in grades 9 \& 10) | 20 Units Total <br> No more than five credits may be earned in non-physical education classes and applied towards the 20 -unit physical education requirement. Non-physical education courses approved by the site in excess of the five credits will earn elective credit. |
| Health | 5 Units Total |
| Electives | 75 Units Total <br> Starting with the Class of 2012, a maximum of 10 credits of any combination of teacher aide/student clerk may be applied towards completion of graduation requirements. |
| Total Units 220 |  |
| ACADEMIC SCHOLAR DIPLOMA SEAL |  |
| The Board of Education encourages students to take academically challenging courses and to go beyond the minimum local and State Graduation requirements. To recognize students who avail themselves of this academically enriched course of student, the Board of Education will bestow the Academic Scholar Diploma Seal to those students enrolled at the comprehensive high schools who have successfully completed the following requirements: <br> 1. Achievement of a cumulative grade point average (non-weighted) of 3.5 or above from the beginning of the ninth grade year to the end of the first semester and/or second term of their senior year. <br> 2. Completion of the minimum University of California (a-G) requirements for college admission. <br> 3. Completion of 230 or more credits. |  |

4-YEAR PLAN Pioneer Valley High School

Student Name:

Counselor:

Educational Goal:

| Freshman Year |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Course |  | Fall Semester |  | Spring Semester |  |
|  |  | Credit | Grade | Credit |  |
| 1. English |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Math |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Science |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. PE 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Health / Wheel |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Total Credits: | Total Credits: |  |  |  |
| Total Credits Freshman Year: |  |  |  |  |  |


| Junior Year |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Course |  | Fall Semester |  | Spring Semester |  |
|  |  | Credit | Grade | Credit |  |
| 1. English |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. US History |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Credits Junior Year: |  |  |  |  |  |



## Pioneer Valley High School A-G Course List

All courses listed below fulfill the "A-G" subject requirements for freshman admission to the University of California and California State University.
A. History/Social Science -2 years required

Ancient History/Medieval History AP Government \& Politics AP United States History, US Govt.

AP World History, World History (Cyber High)
Modern World History
US History , US History (Cyber High)

English (H) 1 \& 2
English 1, 2, 3 \& 4
English 1, 2, 3 \& 4 (Cyber High)
Expository Reading \& Writing (EAP)

AP English Language \& Composition
AP English Literature \& Composition
British Literature
Classic Fiction \& Film

## C. Mathematics-3 years required/4 recommended

2-Year Algebra 1 C/D Algebra $1 \& 2$
Algebra 1 \& 2 (Cyber High)
AP Calculus

AP Statistics
Geometry
Mathematical Analysis

## D. Laboratory Science-2years required/3 recommended

Agriculture Chemistry
AP Environmental Science
AP Biology, Biology
Chemistry

Integrated Agriculture Biology
Physiology and Anatomy, Physics
Sports Medicine Kinesiology (ROP)
Veterinary Medicine
E. Language other than English- 2 years required/3 recommended

AP French Language \& Culture
AP Spanish Language \& Culture
AP Spanish Literature \& Culture

French 1, 2, $3 \& 4$
Spanish 1, $2 \& 3$
Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1, $2 \& 3$

## F. Visual \& Performing Arts-1 year required

Concert Choir
Digital Art 1
Guitar 1
Intermediate Drawing Introduction to Art
Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Choir

## G. Elective-1 year required

Accounting \& Finance
Agricultural Science 1
American Economics-Agriculture
American Literature (Cyber High)
Animal Science
AP Microeconomics
AVID 9-12
Business Economics
Communication Technology (ROP)
CDE Plant \& Soil Science
Developmental Psychology of Children
Earth Science
Economics (Cyber High)
Emergency Medical Responder
Medical Assisting (CTE)

Music History, Music Theory
Painting
Publications
Songwriting \& Music Production
The Art \& History of Floral Design
Theater Arts $1 \& 2$
Theater History, Technical Theater

Empowering Entrepreneurs
Forensic Science
Gaming Technology, Intro. to Business
Journalism 1 \& 2
Leadership ASB
Medical Science / Health Careers
Ornamental Horticulture
Prof. Business Communication (ROP)
Psychology
Sociology, Sociology (Cyber High)
Sports Medicine (ROP)
US Economics
Web Design
Writing Composition (Cyber High)

# CSU / UC A-G Requirements 

| A History | Two years Required <br> 1 year of World History (P) AND 1 year of US History (P), or half a year of US History AND Half a year of Government (P). |
| :---: | :---: |
| B <br> English | Four Years Required <br> 4 years of English (P) composition and literature. |
| C <br> Mathematics | Three Years Requires/ Four Years Recommended 3 years of mathematics, including Algebra 1 (P), Geometry $(\mathrm{P})$, Algebra $2(\mathrm{P})$, or higher. |
| D Lab Science | Two Years Required/ Three Years Recommended 2 years of laboratory science, including 1 year of a biological science ( P ), and 1 year of a physical science ( P ). |
| E <br> Foreign <br> Language | Two Years Required/ Three Years Recommended 2 years of the same foreign language ( P ). |
| F <br> Visual \& Performing Arts | One Year Required 1 Year of a VPA (P) |
| G <br> College <br> Preparatory Elective | One Year Required <br> 1 year additional college prep elective ( P ) |

The University requires a minimum of 15 "A-G" courses for admission as a first time freshman. A grade of $\mathbf{C}$ or better is required for each college preparatory course used to meet any subject requirement.

## College \& Military Entrance Exams

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT/NMSQT) measures verbal (vocabulary and reading comprehension) and math abilities. The test is an excellent exposure to pre-college testing and when taken in the junior year is the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship competition. This test is administered once a year to any interested freshman, sophomores and juniors. Students may contact their counselor for more information regarding sign-ups and test dates.


American College Test (ACT) is an achievement test emphasizing analytical thinking and problem-solving skills. Scores are given in English, math, reading, and science reasoning. The test is administered six times a year. This is a college admission test taken in the spring of the junior year or the fall of the senior year. Students may go to actstudent.org for more information.

Scholarship Aptitude Test (SAT) measures verbal, writing, and mathematics abilities. This college admission test is given seven times a year. Students may go to collegeboard.org for more information.

SAT Subject Tests - there are twenty subject tests in five core areas (English, social science, math, science, and foreign language). Many competitive colleges require tests in three areas (writing, mathematics, and the third of the student's choice). Check college catalogs to determine which subject tests are required. Up to three tests may be taken on one date, but the subject tests cannot be taken on the same day that a student takes the SAT. This is best taken upon completion of the related course. Students may go to sat.org or collegeboard.org for more information.


#### Abstract

ASVAB The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, is a timed exam developed by the Department of Defense that measures four critical areas- Arithmetic Reasoning, Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension, and Mathematical Knowledge. Your score in these areas will determine how qualified you are for certain military occupational specialties, and help predict future academic and occupational success. The ASVAB is administered annually to high school and post-secondary students.


## Calculating Your University GPA

## Tips

1. Freshmen year does matter, even if it is not calculated into your university GPA only A-G courses are used to calculate your university GPA (Ex. P.E. and health are not included).
2. Grades received in A-G courses during 10th-11th grades will be calculated in the GPA. This includes any classes taken during the summers after sophomore and junior year.
3. Your 10th-11th GPA will also make a huge difference in a possible scholarships awarded by the State of California called the Cal Grant.
4. Every class at PVHS is worth 5 credits a semester. If a student completes both semesters of a class with a passing grade, the student will receive 10 credits.
5. A passing grade for the universities is no lower than a C , but higher grades will make you more competitive.
6. If a student receives a D or F , they must retake the same part of the course for a better grade. The higher grade will be calculated into the GPA. If a student does not recover that grade, the failing grade will be calculated into the GPA.
7. A maximum of 8 points can be used for approved AP and Honors courses in the GPA calculation.
8. Grade values are as follows:

| Non-AP or Honors | AP or Honors |
| :---: | :---: |
| $A=4$ | $A=5$ |
| $B=3$ | $B=4$ |
| $C=2$ | $C=3$ |
| $D=1$ |  |
| $F=0$ |  |

## How to calculate GPA

- Assign points above to grades received in A-G courses during 10th-11th grade
- Add the points and divide by the number of A-G courses taken


## Example

| A-G course | Grade Received | Points | GPA |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| AP World History | A | $* 5$ |  |
| AP English Language | B | $* 4$ |  |
| Math Analysis | C | 2 |  |
| Chemistry | B | 3 |  |
| AP Spanish Language | B | $* 4$ | 3.6 |
| Total |  | 18 points $\div 5$ classes |  |

*Note: The example shown here uses 3 out of 8 points allowed for AP/Honors Courses.

## Visit CSU GPA Calculator

http://www.csumentor.edu/planning/high_school/gpa_calculator.asp

## How to Read Your Transcript



## Proud To Be A Panther!

